

**Agenda Item Details**

Meeting	May 24, 2018 - Regular Board Meeting
Category	3. ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS
Subject	A. To Consider, Discuss, Amend if Desired, and if Deemed Advisable, to Adopt a Resolution Ordering and Calling a Special Budget Override Election to be held in and for the District and Declaring the Deadline for Submitting Arguments "For" and "Against" the Election to the Maricopa County School Superintendent
Type	Action, Discussion
Preferred Date	May 24, 2018
Fiscal Impact	No
Budgeted	Yes
Budget Source	M&O
Recommended Action	It is recommended that the Governing Board adopt the Resolution ordering and calling a special budget override election to be held in and for Washington Elementary School District No. 6 of Maricopa County, Arizona, on November 6, 2018 providing for notice of the election, the conduct of the election, the printing of ballots, the canvassing of the election and compliance with the Voting Rights Act. In addition, it is recommended that the Governing Board adopt the informational publications associated with this Agenda item, as well as the non-interactive WESD Web site page on which special budget override-related information is posted. It is further recommended that the Governing Board declare the deadline for submitting arguments "for" and "against" the election to the Maricopa County School Superintendent as August 10, 2018 at 5:00 p.m.

INITIATED BY:	Maintenance &Override Task Force
SUBMITTED BY:	Cathy Thompson, Director of Business Services
PRESENTER AT GOVERNING BOARD MEETING:	Cathy Thompson, Director of Business Services

SUMMARY
 Arizona Revised Statute 15-481 authorizes a public school district governing board to call for a maintenance and operations (M&O) override election to seek voter approval to exceed the district's Revenue Control Limit (RCL) by up to 15 percent.

Washington Elementary School District currently has an M&O Override in place for 15 percent of the RCL. WESD voters approved the District's first M&O Override in February 1990 and reauthorized it in May 1995, May 2001, March 2006, November 2010 and November 2013.

Funding from this override enables the District to:

- provide special programming for students including art, music, physical education, gifted, behavioral and academic intervention;
- provide full-day instruction for kindergarten students;
- provide opportunities for WESD to add teachers or additional support in classrooms when enrollment exceeds classroom maximums;
- helps pay for unfunded mandates such as the minimum wage law that was passed recently, and
- assists with working toward maintaining competitive salaries to attract and retain qualified instructional staff

An Override Task Force was formed and asked to consider a possible M&O override election to take place in November 2018. Task force members, including parents, community members, teachers and other staff members pursued a consensus process that aligned with WESD's decision-making protocol and integrated aspects of interest-based decision making. The Task Force met on April 10, April 24, and finalized their work on May 8. After exploring historical information, funding and taxation data and story related to the student-based programs offered, the group brainstormed and analyzed several options. Ultimately, members reached a consensus decision to recommend calling for a 15 percent M&O override election to take place on November 6, 2018.

The estimated override amount at this time for fiscal year 2019-2020 is approximately \$19,342,879.00 if voters approve. This amount is contingent on any additional budget capacity added to the RCL and the fluctuation in student count. Due to legal requirements, the election pamphlet will include a tax rate of \$1.50 that is reflective of a 10-year trend with an average of zero growth in assessed values. Based on more recent trends in assessed values, the District has estimated the tax rate at closer to \$1.47 for the first year of the proposed override. This would be about \$147.00 for a home valued at \$100,000. The current tax rate is \$1.45 per \$100 of assessed value.

The following attachments are included as part of this Governing Board agenda item:

- *Attachment A - M&O Override Frequently Asked Questions*
- *Attachment B - Resolution Calling for Election*
- *Attachment C - Maricopa County Election Timeline*
- *Attachment D - M&O Task Force Summary*
- *Attachment E - Notes from April 10, 2018 Meeting*
- *Attachment F - Notes from April 24, 2018 Meeting*
- *Attachment G - Notes from May 8, 2018 Meeting*
- *Certificate of Meeting*

[Attachment A_Override FAQs.pdf \(77 KB\)](#)

[Attachment B_Resolution Calling for Election.pdf \(154 KB\)](#)

[Attachment C_Override Election Timeline 2018.pdf \(156 KB\)](#)

[Attachment D_Override Task Force Summary.pdf \(107 KB\)](#)

[Attachment E_Notes from 4.10.18.pdf \(96 KB\)](#)

[Attachment F_Notes from 4.24.18.pdf \(170 KB\)](#)

[Attachment G_Notes from 5.8.18.pdf \(98 KB\)](#)

[Override Presentation_GB 5.24.18 \(002\).pptx \(893 KB\)](#)

[CER - Washington ESD 2018 \(15% OR\) - Cert of Meeting.pdf \(112 KB\)](#)

Motion & Voting

It is recommended that the Governing Board adopt the Resolution ordering and calling a special budget override election to be held in and for Washington Elementary School District No. 6 of Maricopa County, Arizona, on November 6, 2018 providing for notice of the election, the conduct of the election, the printing of ballots, the canvassing of the election and compliance with the Voting Rights Act. In addition, it is recommended that the Governing Board adopt the informational publications associated with this Agenda item, as well as the non-interactive WESD Web site page on which special budget override-related information is posted. It is further recommended that the Governing Board declare the deadline for submitting arguments "for" and "against" the election to the Maricopa County School Superintendent as August 10, 2018 at 5:00 p.m.

Motion by Nikkie Whaley, second by Tee Lambert.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Bill Adams, Tee Lambert, Larry Herrera, Nikkie Whaley