Official Machine Ballot

Special School Election

Tuesday, March 12, 2019, Somerset County, New Jersey

Township of Hillsborough School District



Steve Peter
Somerset County Clerk

PUBLIC QUESTION TO BE VOTED UPON The Board of Education of the Township of Hillsborough There shall be raised an additional \$8,094,108 for General Funds in the 2019-20 School Year. These taxes will be used to provide funds to maintain levels of programs and class size. The taxes will also be used to implement a full day Kindergarten program, including the employment of additional personnel, the acquisition of supplies, and the payment of the initial set up and lease of temporary classrooms. Approval of these taxes will result in a permanent increase in the District's tax levy. The additional taxes authorized herein will be used exclusively for purposes described herein and to finance expenditures that are in addition to those necessary to achieve the New Jersey Student Learning Standards. State funding for Hillsborough Township Public Schools is expected to decrease by \$5,346,508 over 6 years. The reduction in State funding coupled with rising costs outside of the Board's control will have a negative impact on instructional programs. Passing the referendum will allow the District to maintain current programs and class size. In addition, the District would implement a full day Kindergarten program. Teachers, supplies, and the initial set up and lease of temporary classrooms will be funded, so that full day Kindergarten will begin in the fall of 2019. Approximately 90% of districts in New Jersey offer full day Kindergarten. Meeting the State Standards for Kindergarten is much more challenging in a half day versus a full day program. The State aid formula calculates funding full day Kindergarten programs at twice the amount as a half day Kindergarten program. If not passed, the School District would need to consider reducing teachers and staff, increasing class size, increasing fees for students to participate in athletics and co-curricular activities, increasing fees for technology, and eliminating programs that the Board could no longer afford. These negative programmatic impacts would continue in future years as State funding is scheduled to be decreased by \$5,346,508 over 6 years. No Yes

INSTRUCTIONS FOR VOTING

- **1** To vote in favor of the proposal, press the square □ to the right of the word "Yes." To vote against it, press the square □ to the right of the word "No." A green arrow will appear next to your selection.
- **2** To change your selection, press the square \Box again. The green arrow will disappear and you may make a new selection.
- **3** After you have completed your selection, press the cast vote button located in the lower right hand corner of the machine. This electronically records your vote.
- **4** Part the curtains and exit the voting booth.

WARNING:

DO NOT PRESS THE "CAST VOTE" BUTTON UNTIL YOU HAVE MADE ALL DESIRED SELECTIONS. CAST VOTE BUTTON