

Chapter 49 Proposition

On the Ballot for Wharton ISD

The Texas Education Code makes provisions for certain school districts to share their local tax revenue with other school districts. These provisions are sometimes referred to as "share the wealth" or "Robin Hood" plan because recaptured funds are redistributed by the school finance system to assist with the financing of public education for all school districts.

Wharton ISD is required to put this proposition on the ballot because Wharton ISD is considered a Chapter 49 district where our local tax revenue level is expected to exceed our entitlement. The law requires taxpayers to approve a method of returning revenue to the State by means of purchasing attendance credits.

The amount of recapture is based on a formula: the value of property within the school district divided by the number of students in weighted average daily attendance (WADA).

Voters will be asked to decide whether to authorize future payments from Wharton ISD to the state by purchasing "attendance credits". The proposition ballot language will read:

"Authorizing the Board of Trustees of Wharton Independent School District to purchase attendance credits from the State with local tax revenues."

What Does This Mean for Wharton ISD Taxpayers?

*A **YES** vote allows the district to keep local property values for the purpose of generating revenue for our annual bond payments. A vote **FOR** the proposition simply gives the Board permission to pay the State the required recapture amount.

*A **NO** vote would trigger the detachment of about \$1 billion worth of property value from Wharton ISD that's used to generate revenue for bond payments. The Texas Education Agency could reassign that property to other school districts in Texas.

Early Voting

Tuesday, October 13-Friday, October 16 (8am-5pm)

Monday, October 19-Friday, October 23 (8am-5pm)

Monday, October 26-Wednesday, October 28 (8am-5pm)

Thursday, October 29-Friday, October 30 (7am-7pm)

Election Day

Tuesday, November 3, 2020 (7am-7pm)