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# February 13, 2024 Special Election

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# Official Local Voters' Pamphlet

## For Franklin County



**Your ballot will be mailed by January 26**

No postage is needed when returning your ballot by mail

# 2024

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION



Published by the Franklin County Auditor's Office  
(509) 545-3538 | [www.franklincountywa.gov/elections](http://www.franklincountywa.gov/elections)

Español al otro lado

# February 13, 2024 Special Election

## Message from the Auditor

Dear Voter,

This pamphlet is a great resource. Please use it as a beginning point in your search for the information you will need to make an informed vote.

If you need additional information, please call us at (509) 545-3538. The Franklin County Auditor's Office is available to answer your questions and assist with your election needs. We work hard to provide secure, accountable and transparent elections.

Please vote and return your ballot as soon as possible. If you are unable to mail your ballot **a week before Election Day**, it is recommended that you take the ballot inside the Post Office and ask staff to hand-cancel the ballot before placing it in a mailbox or that you use one of our ballot drop boxes to deliver it directly to Franklin County Elections. Check your ballot status at [www.votewa.gov](http://www.votewa.gov).

We all bring different experiences and perspectives to our communities. When we vote individually, the collective outcome carries a mandate for action. Your vote matters, it is an effective and powerful way for citizens to shape our government.

Vote it, Sign it, Send it.



Matt Beaton, Franklin County Auditor

## Ballot Box Locations

Ballot boxes are available by January 26, 2024 - February 13, 2024, Election Day.

<p><b>1</b> Franklin County Auditor's Office 1016 N 4th Ave, Pasco</p>	<p><b>2</b> HAPO Center (TRAC) 6600 Burden Blvd, Pasco</p>
<p><b>3</b> Mesa City Hall 103 Franklin St, Mesa</p>	<p><b>4</b> Connell PUD Shop 619 W Clark St, Connell</p>
<p><b>5</b> Fire Protection District 2 115 N Violet Ave, Kahlotus</p>	

### Using a ballot drop box?

No stamp required. Drop off your ballot by 8pm, February 13, 2024

### Mailing your ballot?

Postage is prepaid. Must be postmarked by February 13, 2024

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## Elections Department Contact Information

**Voter registration, ballot requests and accessible voting:**

1016 N 4th Ave, Suite A206  
Pasco, WA 99301

Monday through Friday, 8:30am - 5:00pm, open until 8pm on Election Day.

**Ballot processing:**

116 N 3rd Ave  
Pasco, WA 99301

**Contact Us:**

Phone: (509) 545-3538

Email: [elections@franklincountywa.gov](mailto:elections@franklincountywa.gov)

Website: [www.franklincountywa.gov/elections](http://www.franklincountywa.gov/elections)

### Who donates to campaigns?

View financial contributions for candidates and measures:

### Public Disclosure Commission

[www.pdc.wa.gov](http://www.pdc.wa.gov)

Toll Free (877) 601-2828



**Statements printed are the opinions of the authors and have not been checked for factual or grammatical accuracy by the Elections Department.**

## Kahlotus School District No. 056

### Proposition No. 1 Kahlotus School District No. 56 Replacement of Expiring Educational Programs and Operation Levy

The Board of Directors of Kahlotus School District #56 adopted Resolution #24-01, proposing replacement of the expiring educational funding levy. This proposition would authorize the District to levy the following excess taxes, in place of an expiring levy, upon all taxable property within the District, for support of the District's General Fund educational programs and operations expenses not funded by the State:

<u>Levy Collection Year</u>	<u>Approximate Levy</u>	
	<u>Rate/\$1000</u>	<u>Levy Amount</u>
2025	\$1.70	\$140,000
2026	\$1.65	\$140,000

Should this proposition be approved?

- Levy Yes  
 Levy No

### Explanatory Statement

This Proposition would allow Kahlotus School District to replace an existing educational programs and operation levy that will expire after calendar year 2024. The proposed two-year replacement of expiring educational programs and operation levy would authorize collection of taxes to provide \$140,000 in 2025 and \$140,000 in 2026. The tax levy rate required to produce these levy amounts is estimated to be approximately \$1.70 per \$1,000 of assessed value. Taxes collected by the proposed levy will provide approximately 3% of the District's General Fund budget.

### Statement in Favor

No statement submitted.

### Statement in Opposition

No statement submitted.

## North Franklin School District No. J51-162

### Proposition No. 1 North Franklin School District No. J51-162 Replacement of Expiring Educational Programs And Operation Levy

The Board of Directors of North Franklin School District No. J51-162 adopted Resolution No. 528, concerning a proposition to finance educational programs and operation expenses. This proposition would authorize the District to meet the educational needs of its students by levying the following excess taxes, in place of an expiring levy, on all taxable property within the District, for support of the District's educational programs and operation expenses not funded by the State of Washington:

<u>Collection Year</u>	<u>Estimated Levy</u>	
	<u>Rate/\$1,000</u>	<u>Levy Amount</u>
2025	\$1.57	\$2,425,000
2026	\$1.57	\$2,500,000

all as provided in Resolution No. 528. Should this proposition be approved?

- Levy Yes  
 Levy No

### Explanatory Statement

This proposition would allow North Franklin School District to replace an expiring educational programs and operation levy. The proposed levy would authorize collection of taxes to provide up to \$2,425,000 in 2025 and \$2,500,000 in 2026. The tax rate required to produce these amounts is estimated to be \$1.57 per \$1,000 of assessed value. Taxes collected by the proposed levy, together with State levy equalization money that is contingent upon passage of the levy, will provide approximately 9% of the District's General Fund budget. Exemptions from taxes may be available, call your county assessor.

### Statement in Favor

No statement submitted.

### Statement in Opposition

No statement submitted.

## Franklin County Fire Protection District No. 2

### Proposition No. 1

#### Franklin County Fire Protection District No. 2 Bonds To Construct New Fire Station

The Board of Fire Commissioners of Franklin County Fire Protection District No. 2 adopted Resolution No. 005-23, concerning firefighting facilities to protect public health, life and property. This proposition would authorize the District to: construct a new fire station sized to meet current and future emergency response needs, replacing the existing station, and located on District-owned land in Kahlotus on Violet Avenue; issue no more than \$525,000 of general obligation bonds maturing within 15 years; and levy annual excess property taxes to repay the bonds, all as provided in Resolution No. 005-23. Should this proposition be:

Approved

Rejected

### Explanatory Statement

Franklin County Fire Protection District No. 2 provides fire, rescue and emergency response services to protect public health, life and property in east Franklin County.

The Fire Commissioners have determined that the inadequate size and aging and outdated facilities of the District's existing fire station, and the need to improve community and firefighter safety, require the District to construct a new fire station.

This proposition authorizes up to \$525,000 of general obligation bonds to be repaid from annual excess property not to exceed 15 years. Exemptions from taxes may be available, contact the Franklin County Assessor 509-545-3506.

### Statement in Favor

The Fire District's current building is outdated and undersized. While the Fire District has secured some funding through the county and ARPA, this bond will allow the District to build a more capable building. Our current building only holds two fire engines, a brush truck, and a command vehicle. The larger building will accommodate six fire engines to be stored out of the weather and full of water, ready to respond to emergencies across the 275 square miles of the District. More engines stored inside the fire hall will greatly reduce response time in winter months when most of the District's vehicles are drained and stored throughout the District. This new building will have an office, as well as bathrooms which the current building does not have. The larger space will also provide District volunteers adequate space to work on equipment that the current building lacks. The District currently relies on trucks being repaired at volunteers' personal shops throughout the District, so timeliness of repairs is dependent on when a volunteer is willing to donate shop space. Overall, a new fire hall will allow us to adequately house and maintain more of our current fleet of equipment, be more efficient with our time and tax dollars, and better serve the citizens of our Fire District.

Please vote yes.

#### Statement Submitted by the Committee in Favor:

Gregory Moore, Bill Harder Jr, Ben Cochrane  
Contact: farmshopkahlotus@gmail.com

### Statement in Opposition

No statement submitted.

## Elections and Voter Registration

### How do I register to vote in Washington?

#### Qualifications

A United States citizen; A Washington state resident that meets the requirements for voting mandated by state law; At least 18 years old on election day, or 17 years old at the primary and 18 years old by the day of the November general election; Not serving a sentence of total confinement under the jurisdiction of the Department of Corrections for a Washington felony conviction or currently incarcerated for a federal or out-of-state felony conviction; Not disqualified from voting due to a court order.

#### #Future Voter

**If you are 16 or 17, become a Future Voter!** 16- and 17-year-olds can use the Voter Registration form to sign up as Future Voters and be automatically registered to vote when they turn 18.

Every January on Temperance and Good Citizenship Day, high school students 16 and older are given the opportunity to complete a voter registration in class.

#### Registration deadlines

**By mail or online:** Your application must be received no later than February 5.

**In person:** Franklin County Elections Department, 1016 N 4th Ave in Pasco, no later than 8 p.m. on February 13.

#### How do I register to vote?

**Online:** Register at [VoteWA.gov](http://VoteWA.gov)

**By mail:** Request a paper form be mailed to you by calling (509) 545-3538 or print your own at [sos.wa.gov/elections](http://sos.wa.gov/elections).

**In person:** Visit the elections department at 1016 N 4th Ave, in Pasco.

#### Moved? Update your voting address

Contact the elections department to request a ballot at your new address.

**By February 5:** Have your application received by mail or updated online.

**Or By February 13:** Visit the elections department in person at 1016 N 4th Ave, Pasco.

## How do I cast a ballot?

- Vote your ballot and sign your return envelope.** You are not required to vote every race on your ballot. We encourage using this pamphlet to help you decide.
- Return your ballot by mail, no stamp needed.** If mailed, your ballot must be postmarked by **February 13**. A late postmark could disqualify your ballot. The USPS recommends that you mail a week before Election Day.

Or

**Return your ballot to an official ballot drop box, no stamp needed.** Drop boxes are open until 8pm on **February 13**. Find drop box locations at [VoteWA.gov](http://VoteWA.gov).

**If you cannot personally return your ballot, let only people you trust deliver it for you.**

- Check the status of your ballot on [VoteWA.gov](http://VoteWA.gov)** to see if it has been received by Franklin County elections.

Election staff will contact you before your ballot is processed if:

- Your signature is missing
- Your signature doesn't match your voter registration record

- View election results online**

After 8 p.m. on election night, tallied results from each county are posted at [sos.wa.gov/elections](http://sos.wa.gov/elections). Results are updated as counties report and unofficial until certification.