

Ohio School Boards Association

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Primary election voters OK majority of school tax issues

COLUMBUS — Voters across Ohio approved 76 percent of the school tax issues on the May 7 primary election ballot.

The passage of 79 of 104 issues marked an increase from the 2018 May primary election, when voters approved 63 of 92 school tax issues for a passage rate of 68 percent.

Sixty percent of new school tax requests were approved Tuesday, with 31 of 52 issues passing. In last year's May primary election, voters approved 13 of 33 new tax issues for a 39 percent passage rate.

Strong support for renewal school tax proposals continued, with 50 of the 52 issues earning approval Tuesday, a 96 percent passage rate. That was an increase from the 2018 May primary election renewal passage rate of 85 percent. In that election, 50 of 59 renewal issues were approved.

"Yesterday's election showed just how important citizens think their public schools are," said Ohio School Boards Association (OSBA) Director of Legislative Services Jennifer Hogue. "But, most of the issues voters approved were renewals; the passage rate for new funding requests was dramatically lower. That means those districts will face increasing challenges in meeting their students' academic needs and replacing aging and outdated buildings."

While election results are complete, they have not been officially certified by the Ohio secretary of state. For district-by-district details on current and past elections, visit OSBA's online database of school tax issues at <http://links.ohioschoolboards.org/19699>.

In its 64th year, OSBA leads the way to educational excellence by serving Ohio's public school board members and the diverse districts they represent through superior service, unwavering advocacy and creative solutions.