



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Unofficial Election Results: TRE Proposal Passes with Voter Approval

San Felipe Del Rio CISD's Tax Ratification Election passed with 4,811 votes in favor of the proposition, according to unofficial election results. The passage of the TRE proposition came after the Election Day results were announced just before 11 p.m. last night, resulting in 250-vote favorable lead from the votes against the proposition. Right after the results were released, Superintendent of Schools Dr. Carlos Rios, SFDR CISD Board of Trustees President, Raymond Meza, and Board Trustee Alfredo "Fred" Contreras provided a live broadcast through the District's Facebook and Public Access Television Channel thanking the community for their support.

"We want to thank all of the voters who cast their ballot for the proposition, who shared the facts about the TRE with their families and friends", stated Dr. Rios. "Having the TRE Proposition on a uniform election day was a difficult challenge, but our District and students prevailed, and we are excited to move forward with the means to make safety improvements to our schools, provide our employees with cost of living increases and insurance benefits in the years to come." Dr. Rios also thanked the Board for their bold action to hold a tax ratification election and their support in making presentations at schools and community meetings.

Board of Trustees President, Raymond Meza, expressed his gratitude to the voters of the community and those who took the time to attend the informational meetings and vote for the TRE proposition. "We can do a whole lot with the additional funds that we will be receiving as a result of the passing of this proposition. It has taken all of us together to get the district to the level of success that it's already achieved, and it'll take that same level of community engagement in order to maintain a district that people want to move to," he said. "We are thankful and grateful to all who voted in favor of this proposition." In presentations with District staff and other groups and organizations across the community, SFDR CISD shared recent news from the Texas Tribune, revealing the Commissioner of Education Mike Morath's announcement of a projected drop in the state's general revenue for public education by more than \$3.5 billion dollars. The approved Tax Ratification Election (TRE) Proposition will generate an estimated \$3.5 million in additional state revenue this year, and an additional \$1.6 million in future years at no additional increase to the \$1.1598 school tax rate each property owner currently pays. With the approval to change its current funding formula, these additional dollars are specifically earmarked to sustain the school district's current expenses.

With the passage of the Tax Ratification Election, Board Trustee Alfredo "Fred" Contreras also thanked the voters for "believing and putting their trust in the District". As a new elected member of the Board, Mr. Contreras expressed the importance of the passing of the TRE to be able to move forward with the planned projects the tax revenue is expected to fund. If the TRE would have failed, SFDR CISD would have to cut an estimated \$3.2 million dollars budgeted for safety and security, technology and maintenance repairs and preservation of our schools this school year, another \$970,000 causing the Board of Trustees to reduce funding for cost of living increases to teachers and staff, health insurance contributions, staffing to maintain smaller class sizes, and funding for some student programs.

San Felipe Del Rio CISD looks forward to providing the best educational opportunities for our students and prepare them in the development of our Del Rio community.