

Illinois School Referenda Results—2008 General Election

There were 24 referenda introduced by 27 Illinois school districts in the November 4, 2008, general election. These school referenda are sorted into three types: tax, bond, and miscellaneous, and each type is further sorted into one of the following categories: build/construct, office term/size, offices/boards/commissions/ school/education, and boundary changes.

Among the 24 referenda, four are tax referenda in the school/education category. Nine of the ten bond referenda are in the build/construct category and one is in the school/education category. The ten miscellaneous referenda fall into four categories: boundary changes, school/education, office term/size, and offices/boards/commissions. A summary of results, obtained on November 5, 2008, from participating school districts and county election boards, is listed in the following table.

SCHOOL REFERENDA RESULTS—GENERAL ELECTION, NOVEMBER 4, 2008						
Referendum Type	Category	Failed		Passed		Total
		#	%	#	%	
Tax	School/Education	3	75	1	25	4
	Subtotal	3	75	1	25	4
Bond	Build/Construct	5	56	4	44	9
	School/Education	0		1	100	1
	Subtotal	5	50	5	50	10
Miscellaneous	Boundary Changes	1	50	1	50	2
	School/Education	0		2	100	2
	Office Term/Size	3	75	1	25	4
	Offices/Boards/Commissions	0		2	100	2
	Subtotal	4	40	6	60	10
Grand Total		12	50	12	50	24

Overall, half of the 24 referenda passed and half did not. Voters did not approve three of the four tax referenda in this election. One unique miscellaneous referendum passed as the first of its kind, authorizing two separate unit districts to jointly operate a cooperative high school. Detailed descriptions of all the school referenda, participating school districts, and the voting results follow.

For further information on this report, please contact the Illinois State Board of Education, Data Analysis and Progress Reporting Division, at 217/782-3950.

2008 General Election -- November 4, 2008

School District	Referenda Type	Category	Result	Description
Aledo CUSD 201/Westmer CUSD 203/New District Established	Miscellaneous	Boundary Changes	Pass	Shall a new community unit school district be created in the territories comprising Aledo Community Unit School District No. 201, counties of Henderson and Mercer, and Westmer Community Unit School District No. 203, counties of Henderson, Mercer, and Rock Island, all in the State of Illinois, the Board of Education of which district shall be elected at large, and with the authority to levy taxes at the rate of 2.70 percent for educational purposes, 0.70 percent for operations and maintenance purposes, 0.20 percent for transportation purposes, and 0.05 percent for fire prevention and safety purposes, each upon the full, fair cash value of all taxable property of the district as equalized or assessed by the Department of Revenue?
Alwood Community Unit School District 225	Tax	School/Education	Fail	Shall the maximum annual tax rate for educational purposes of Alwood Community Unit School District No. 225, Henry, Knox, and Mercer counties, Illinois, be increased and established at 3.45 percent upon all the taxable property of said school district at the value, as equalized or assessed by the Department of Revenue, instead of 2.65 percent, the present maximum rate otherwise applicable to the next taxes to be extended for said purpose?
Bensenville Elementary School District 2	Bond	Build/Construct	Fail	Shall the Board of Education of Bensenville Elementary School District Number 2, DuPage County, Illinois, build and equip two new elementary school buildings on existing school sites, alter, repair, and equip the Blackhawk Middle School building, and issue bonds of said school district to the amount of \$50,000,000 for the purpose of paying the costs thereof?
Bunker Hill Community Unit School District 8	Bond	Build/Construct	Fail	Shall the Board of Education of Bunker Hill Community Unit School District Number 8, Macoupin and Madison counties, Illinois, build and equip an addition to, alter, repair, equip, and improve the site of the Wolf Ridge Educational Center building and alter and repair the Bunker Hill High School building and issue bonds of said school district to the amount of \$4,000,000 for the purpose of paying the costs thereof?
Crescent-Iroquois Community Unit School District 249	Miscellaneous	School/Education	Pass	Shall the Board of Education of Crescent-Iroquois Community Unit School District No. 249, Iroquois County, Illinois, be authorized to deactivate the Crescent-Iroquois High School facility and to send pupils in Crescent-Iroquois High School to Iroquois County Community Unit School District No. 9, Iroquois West Community Unit School District No. 10, and Cissna Park Community Unit School District No. 6?
Diamond Lake School District 76	Tax	School/Education	Pass	Shall the limiting rate under the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law for Diamond Lake School District Number 76, Lake County, be increased by an additional amount equal to 0.44 percent above the limiting rate for levy year 2007 and be equal to 3.119 percent of the equalized assessed value of the taxable property therein for levy years 2008, 2009, 2010, and 2011?
Durand Community Unit School District 322	Bond	Build/Construct	Fail	Shall the Board of Education of Durand Community Unit School District Number 322, Winnebago and Stephenson counties, Illinois, build and equip an addition to the Durand Elementary School building for classroom and administrative purposes and a gymnasium, multipurpose/community room, and associated facilities at the Durand High School building for athletic and fine arts purposes; alter, repair, and equip the Durand Junior High School building to create a science lab improve the site of said school buildings; and issue bonds of said school district to the amount of \$10,000,000 for the purpose of paying the costs thereof?
East Aurora School District 131	Bond	School/Education	Pass	Shall the Board of Education of East Aurora School District Number 131, Kane County, Illinois, be authorized to issue \$32,000,000 bonds for a working cash fund as provided for by Article 20 of the School Code?

2008 General Election -- November 4, 2008

School District	Referenda Type	Category	Result	Description
Harvard Community Unit School District 50	Bond	Build/Construct	Pass	Shall the Board of Education of Harvard Community Unit School District Number 50, McHenry and Boone counties, Illinois, acquire and improve a site for school purposes, build and equip an elementary school building thereon, and issue bonds of said school district to the amount of \$20,701,244 for the purpose of paying the costs thereof?
Jamaica Community Unit School District 12	Miscellaneous	Office Term/Size	Pass	Shall members of the Board of Education of Jamaica Community Unit School District No. 12, Vermilion and Edgar counties, Illinois, be elected in 2009 and thereafter, at large and without restriction by area of residence within the district, instead of the current restriction that not more than three members on the Board of Education may be selected from one congressional township in the school district?
LeRoy Community Unit School District 2	Miscellaneous	Office Term/Size	Fail	Shall members of the Board of Education of LeRoy Community Unit School District No. 2, DeWitt and McLean counties, Illinois, be elected in 2009 and thereafter, at large and without restriction by area of residence within the district, instead of the current restriction that four board members shall be selected from the congressional township, in which at least 75 percent, but not more than 90 percent, of the population resides and three board members shall be selected from the rest of the district?
Lockport Township High School District 205	Bond	Build/Construct	Fail	A proposition to issue \$141,740,000 school building bonds.
Mascoutah Community Unit School District 19	Bond	Build/Construct	Pass	Shall the Board of Education of Mascoutah Community Unit School District Number 19, St. Clair County, Illinois, build and equip a high school building, improve the site thereof, demolish the existing Mascoutah High School building and other structures on the site thereof, build and equip a maintenance building, and issue bonds of said school district to the amount of \$55,000,000 for the purpose of paying the costs thereof?
Meredosia-Chambersburg CUSD11/Triopia CUSD27/Virginia CUSD64/New School District	Miscellaneous	Boundary Changes	Fail	Shall a new community unit school district be created in the territory comprising the entire territories of Meredosia-Chambersburg CUSD #11, counties of Brown, Cass, Morgan, and Pike; Triopia CUSD #27, counties of Cass, Morgan, and Scott; and Virginia CUSD #64, counties of Cass and Morgan, in the State of Illinois, the Board of Education of which district shall be elected by an at-large vote and with the authority to levy taxes at the rate of 2.85 percent for educational purposes, 0.55 percent for operations and maintenance purposes, 0.25 percent for transportation purposes, and 0.05 percent for fire prevention and safety purposes, each upon the full, fair cash value of all taxable property of the district as equalized or assessed by the Department of Revenue?
Momence Community Unit School District 1	Miscellaneous	Office Term/Size	Fail	Shall the members of the Board of Education of Momence Community School District No. 1, Kankakee County, Illinois, be elected at large and without restriction by area of residence within the school district?
Paris Union School District 95	Miscellaneous	School/Education	Pass	Shall the Board of Education of Paris Union School District No. 95, Edgar County, Illinois, be authorized to enter into an agreement with Paris Crestwood Community Unit School District No. 4, Edgar County, Illinois, to jointly operate a cooperative high school?

2008 General Election -- November 4, 2008

School District	Referenda Type	Category	Result	Description
Patoka Community Unit School District 100	Miscellaneous	Office Term/Size	Fail	Shall members of the Board of Education of Patoka Community Unit School District No. 100, Marion, Fayette, and Clinton counties, Illinois, be elected in 2009 and thereafter, at large and without restriction by area of residence within the district, instead of the current restriction that not more than three members on the board of education may be selected from one congressional township in the school district?
Prophetstown-Lyndon-Tampico CUSD 3	Bond	Build/Construct	Fail	Shall the Board of Education of Prophetstown-Lyndon-Tampico Community Unit School District Number 3, Whiteside, Bureau, and Henry counties, Illinois, build and equip an addition to the Prophetstown High School building for middle and high school purposes; build and equip an addition to; and alter, repair, and equip the Tampico Middle School building for conversion to an elementary school building; and issue bonds of said school district to the amount of \$5,500,000 for the purpose of paying the costs thereof?
Ridgeland School District 122	Tax	School/Education	Fail	Shall the limiting rate under the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law for Ridgeland School District Number 122, Cook County, Illinois, be increased by an additional amount equal to seven tenths of one percent above the limiting rate for levy year 2006 and be equal to 3.087 percent of the equalized assessed value of the taxable property therein for levy year 2008?
Ridgewood Community High School District 234	Tax	School/Education	Fail	Shall the limiting rate under the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law for Ridgewood Community High School District Number 234, Cook County, Illinois, be increased by an additional amount equal to 0.30 percent above the limiting rate for levy year 2006 and be equal to 1.932 percent of the equalized assessed value of the taxable property therein for levy year 2008?
Scott-Morgan Community Unit School District 2	Miscellaneous	Offices/Boards/Commissions	Pass	Shall members of the Board of Education of Scott-Morgan Community Unit School District #2, Morgan and Scott counties, Illinois, be elected at large from within the school district and without restriction by area of residence within the school?
Warren Township High School District 121	Bond	Build/Construct	Pass	Shall the Board of Education of Warren Township High School District Number 121, Lake County, Illinois, alter, repair, and equip the existing school buildings of the district, build and equip one or more additions thereto, improve the sites thereof, and issue bonds of said school district to the amount of \$30,000,000 for the purpose of paying the costs thereof?
Warrensburg-Latham Community Unit School District 11	Bond	Build/Construct	Pass	Shall the Board of Education of Warrensburg-Latham Community Unit School District Number 11, Macon and Logan counties, Illinois, build and equip an addition connecting the Warrensburg-Latham Middle School and the Warrensburg-Latham High School; improve the sites of and alter, repair, and equip the Warrensburg-Latham Middle School and the Warrensburg-Latham High School; and issue bonds of said school district to the amount of \$12,000,000 for the purpose of paying the costs thereof?
Waverly Community Unit School District 6	Miscellaneous	Offices/Boards/Commissions	Pass	Shall members of the Board of Education of Waverly Community Unit School District #6, Macoupin, Morgan, and Sangamon counties, Illinois, be elected at large from within the school district and without restriction by area of residence within the school district?