

Ritenour School District Proposition A

7 Things to Know Before Nov. 7th



On **Tuesday, November 7**, the Ritenour Board of Education is seeking voter approval for **Proposition A**, a ballot issue designed to provide the needed financial resources to provide quality education programs for all Ritenour students.

Proposition A is an operating tax rate increase of 39 cents for each \$100 of assessed value for Ritenour School District residents and businesses. The average tax increase for homeowners would be about \$1.14 per week. Passage requires a simple majority yes vote of more than 50 percent.

1

A Variety of Opportunities—From our International Welcome Center and Gifted Education Center, to our new Husky Academy with non-traditional classrooms, Ritenour ensures that all students have a place to grow as highly capable, curious and confident learners. Innovative classrooms like Makerspace, which allow students to learn through exploration, and real-world application high school math courses like Geometry in Construction and AMPED, which combine business entrepreneurship with math, allow students to learn and think in new ways.



2

Fiscally Responsible—Ritenour earned its 15th consecutive national budget award in 2016 and received the highest rating for financial practices and management from an external auditor. Despite the recent economic recession, Ritenour has weathered the storm and has only asked voters to increase the operating tax rate three times in the past 30 years (1987, 1998 and 2005).

3

Home to 2017 Missouri Teacher of the Year—Beth Davey, an Iveland Elementary music teacher in the Ritenour School District, is the 2017 Missouri Teacher of the Year. Ritenour has a reputation for developing leaders in teaching, as evidenced by its strong representation at the state level in recent years, including two other state finalists in 2013 and 2015. Ms. Davey's music class is an example of the #RitenourExcellence all Ritenour teachers aspire to, combining music, movement, speech and drama to allow students to grow in self-confidence as they discover their own unique abilities.



4**Competitive Students Inside and Outside of the**

Classroom—During the 2016-2017 school year, 12 Ritenour High School seniors committed to continuing their athletic careers in college in cheerleading, girls and boys volleyball, softball and boys basketball. In 2016, the Ritenour High School Softball team won its second consecutive district championship, and the Girls Volleyball Huskies won their first district championship. Our students have also qualified and earned awards at the state and national levels in language arts, culinary arts, music, leadership and multimedia, with RHS journalism students earning the highest international rating in 2017 for the student newspaper, the *Pepper Box*.

**5****Leader in Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math (STEAM)—**

Ritenour prepares students for the world by giving them access to the latest technology and resources. Ritenour High School launched a 1:1 technology initiative in 2016, giving each student a Chromebook to use both in school and at home. Ritenour’s STEAM curriculum is making a positive impact on the education of Ritenour students in grades K-12 and preparing them for future career fields that are in high demand. Ritenour’s annual STEAM Expo draws hundreds of students, families and community members to participate in hands-on activities and explore Ritenour’s STEAM curriculum. Students have used the STEAM Expo to showcase their work in stop motion animation, aeronautics, biomedical science and more Project Lead the Way pre-engineering programs.



Ritenour School District
STEAM
Science • Technology • Engineering • Arts • Mathematics
LEARN • INNOVATE • CREATE

6

Community Confidence in the District—In a recent independent survey of the Ritenour community:

- 78 percent of respondents believe that “Ritenour is an anchor in our community and protects the values of our homes. We can’t sacrifice the quality of our public schools by a lack of funding.”
- 72 percent believe “the quality of our public school district is the most important factor in protecting property values.”

7

150 Years of Educational Excellence—The Ritenour School District has a proud history dating all the way back to a one-room log cabin built in 1846. The district was officially formed in 1867, and has remained a pillar of the community ever since. Through the decades, the community has supported the district in its endeavor to give students the world class education they deserve. Ritenour schools are great because of the strength and support of the entire community.



Ritenour School District

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For more information on Proposition A, visit

www.ritenourschools.org and click on the Proposition A link on the homepage.