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***For Immediate Release***

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**Voters Approve \$60 million Rio Rancho Public Schools Bond**

*Community supports expansion, improvements, growth & repairs*

**Rio Rancho, NM** - On Tuesday, November 5, Rio Rancho voters were asked to continue their current level of support for public schools by authorizing \$60 million in general obligation bonds. The results are in and the Rio Rancho community has once again voted in support of Rio Rancho Public Schools.

The \$60 million bond will pay for heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) repair/replacement, IT infrastructure and capacity upgrades, Career Technical Education programs and high school expansion, as well as, athletic field replacement.

Unofficial results show the voters approved the bond issue with 71.96% of the vote, 6,041 in favor to 2,354 against. Especially noteworthy was the turnout for this election, which for the first time was combined with other smaller elections in a new Local Election, where more than 8,300 Rio Rancho voters cast ballots for Rio Rancho Public Schools bond. We are still waiting on official results to be released by the Sandoval County Clerk's Office, but do not anticipate that the results will be impacted.

"We have been so fortunate to operate in a community that truly believes in education and understands its value," said Superintendent of Schools Dr. V. Sue Cleveland. "The \$60 million bond will allow Rio Rancho Public Schools to create a more comfortable learning environment for our students, expand our Career Technical Education programs, and provide a safer sports turf to help prevent injuries. In addition, this bond will allow us to provide our students with greater access to state-of-the-art technology, while further strengthening the security of our network and the security of student data."

The funds approved by voters in this election will become available to the district in increments over the next four years. The election returns will become official following the canvass by the Sandoval County Clerk's Office.

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