

Board of Selectmen

Statement regarding Ballot Question Information for the May 25, 2021 Town Ballot

In 2015, Town Meeting accepted MGL c53 s18B which authorizes the Select Board to print information relating to local ballot questions. In addition to the exact wording of the question, the information shall contain a “fair and concise” summary of the question, the effect of a “yes” or “no” vote and 150 word arguments for and against the question.

On the May 25, 2021 Town Election ballot, there will be a Proposition 2 ½ debt exclusion override question related to the construction of a new elementary school to replace the Florence Roache Elementary School. A ballot question information book will be mailed to all households prior to the May 25 election. The question on the ballot will be:

QUESTION 1:

Shall the Town of Groton be allowed to exempt from the provisions of proposition two and one-half, so-called, the amounts required to pay for the bond issued for the purpose of funding the design and construction of a new kindergarten through fourth grade elementary school with an approximate square footage of 109,855 square feet located at 342 Main Street in Groton, Massachusetts, inclusive of abatement and demolition of the existing school structures on said property, new parking lots, relocation and construction of the existing track, various other site improvements, and all other costs incidental and related thereto?

YES _____ NO _____

The Select Board would ask that If there is an individual or group who wish to participate in the process of developing arguments “for” and “against” the question to please notify the Town Clerk.

Process

Proponent’s and Opponent’s arguments should be submitted to the Town Clerk for delivery to Town Counsel. Town Counsel will determine the person or group best able to present an argument for and against the question. If no arguments are submitted, Counsel will prepare the argument. The final arguments will be mailed to each voter household, be available in the office of the Town Clerk and at the polls.

Timing

The Board is requiring proponent and opponent arguments to be submitted by April 21, or sooner. A final information package will be presented to the Select Board by May 5. If you are interested in participating in this process, please contact the Town Clerk at 978-448-1100 or townclerk@grotonma.gov this week.