

It's official: school bond approved in Atchison

(KAIR)--Following last week's canvass of the ballots cast during the recent, mail-in special bond election for USD 409, the official numbers are now recorded as 1,211 in favor and 706 against.

The original count of ballots showed 1,193 cast in favor of the \$27.3 million bond issue, while the prelliminary numbers, also as of the night of February 1, showed 678 ballots cast against the now-approved proposal.

The numbers were finalized during last week's meeting of the Atchison County Commission when the ballots cast by the February 1 deadline were canvassed.

According to the Atchison public school district, the \$27.3 million bond comes with no increase to the bond and interest mill levy, meaning zero tax increase from those dollars to be used for a wide range of improvements for USD 409. Key among them, school district officials say, is the repair and replacement of school facility HVAC systems, as well as facility roofs.

Among other planned improvements are those at the Atchison Elementary School, which would see renovation for a new entrance, a single office suite, and integrations of Pre-K into the interior of the school.

Atchison High School would see renovation for a new entrance, upgrades of the band and choir rooms, new turf, for football and baseball, as well as a resurfaced track, and renovation of the locker room.

School officials, prior to the vote, said the new entrances are needed as a matter of safety.

Many Signals Communications