



With many people in the community wanting to provide feedback about the [Revenue Purpose Statement](#) on the ballot for Tuesday, March 5, the GCSD Board of Education would like to remind the public about the [Board Policy](#) pertaining to public participation at meetings.

Citizens who want to address the board during the public comment portion of a meeting must notify the board secretary prior to the meeting. That can be accomplished by signing a sheet that will be available upon entering the meeting room. The board president will recognize these individuals to make their comments at the appropriate time.

Each speaker will be limited to three minutes. It is important to note that the public comment period is only designated for community input. The board will not discuss or take action on any matter during public comment.

The Board of Education expects all meeting attendees to display proper decorum and address the board and others with civility.

Individuals who disrupt a meeting may be asked to leave. Defamatory comments may be subject to legal action.

We also want to provide answers to some frequently asked questions that have been presented in recent days about the Revenue Purpose Statement.

Q: Why are you asking for an RPS renewal now if it doesn't expire until 2031?

It has been determined that GCSD programming remaining at the Glenwood Resource Center campus will only be viable for a short time after the GRC closes in June 2024. We have received some assurance that efforts will be made to keep the power plant that serves the campus operational long enough for our programming to find a suitable home.

Since there is no adequate available space in the community to house Kids Place Day Care, our alternative high school program THRIVE, and our Central Office, the district is seeking to renew the RPS so there is a sufficient number of years available to use a revenue bond with statewide one-cent sales tax ([SAVE](#)) dollars and construct new space next to the high school on property that was acquired in recent years.

The current RPS is valid for eight more years—seven years short of being able to pursue a revenue bond. Most likely the district will be able to find space for the Central Office because it does not have unique needs, but Kids Place and THRIVE have more requirements, and therefore would shut down once we leave the GRC campus, likely some time in 2025.

Q: Why is 2051 the RPS extension date?

That is the year established by the Iowa Legislature when SAVE is scheduled to sunset.

A school district's voters can consider renewing an RPS any time before it expires. The previously approved RPS for GCSD will expire in 2031. If approved on March 5, the renewed RPS would take effect in 2031 and remain for 20 additional years.

Q: What happens to SAVE funds if the RPS extension is not renewed?

If the RPS is not renewed on March 5, GCSD will most likely close Kids Place and THRIVE when the district moves away from the GRC campus due to its inadequate infrastructure and facilities. There are eight years remaining on the current RPS, so nothing would change immediately.

However, if the RPS is not renewed before 2031 and our bonded indebtedness goes beyond 2031, every penny of SAVE funding GCSD receives would be diverted to pay off the bonded indebtedness and not be available for facility repairs such as roofs, carpet, windows, lighting, painting, or for technological projects like safety and security, computers for students, access points, servers, software licenses.

Instead, these expenses would compete for general fund dollars, where over 80% of that fund is dedicated to staff salaries and benefits and the other 20% is money that supports programming for students.

Last fall, 35 Iowa school districts had an RPS up for renewal votes. All 35 passed with overwhelming support of 70-90% in favor. Of those districts, 19 have bonded indebtedness.

Answers to additional FAQs can be found at www.glenwoodrps.org/.