

Election results certified; outcome unchanged

Close race of local unified school board now final

By [David Richards](#)

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The Mountain Area votes from the Nov. 8 special election were certified by the Madera County Office of Elections last week and by the Mariposa County Office of Elections Monday.

County officials had 28 days to certify ballots and while the results are now final, the outcome didn't change.

Measure P, which will unify the Yosemite Joint Union High School District with the Coarsegold School District next summer, passed with a tally of 5,190 votes in favor (64.7 percent) and 2,826 votes against (35.3 percent).

Measure Q, which allows the Chawanakee School District to issue \$9 million in bonds to build a high school that is scheduled to break ground in 2006, passed with 1,126 votes in favor (57 percent) and 850 against (43 percent).

In the race for the five board seats representing the new Yosemite and Coarsegold unified school district, Priscilla Pike received the highest number of votes with 3,822 (11.7 percent); with Gregory Schoonard finishing second with 3,531 votes (10.8 percent); Christine Wilder finishing third with 3,481 (10.6 percent); John Reynolds finishing fourth with 3,477 (10.6 percent) and Monika Moulin finishing fifth with 3,158 votes (9.6 percent).

The top three finishers earn three-year terms, while the other two candidates are elected to one-year terms.

Others receiving votes in the unified school board race included Ron Bucheger with 3,052 (9.3 percent); Karen Hutchings with 3,042 (9.3 percent); Dan Burrow with 2,812 votes (8.6 percent); Thomas Allcock with 2,551 (7.8 percent); Linda Olson with 2,340 (7.1 percent); and Bert McSwain with 1,511 (4.6 percent).

In the two at large seats for the governing board of the Chawanakee School District, James McDougald received the highest number of votes with 1,069 (32.5 percent), while Jessie Hutchens was second with 985 (30.2 percent).

Others receiving votes included Robert Owen with 617 (18.9 percent); Sue Kern with 484 (14.9 percent); and Earl Bryan Collinsworth with 111 (3.4 percent).

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