



Missouri Ethics Commission (MEC)
 P.O. Box 1370, Jefferson City MO 65102, (800) 392-8660, www.mec.mo.gov

Missouri Ethics Commission
 Office **DET** 10 2017
 T171584

Statement of Committee Organization

1. Statement Information

Date: 10/06/2017

Type: New Amended (if amending, enter MEC ID A171397 & section changed _____)

2. Committee Information

Supporters of a Better SJSD

Name of Committee

PO Box 8511 St. Joseph, MO 64508

Committee Mailing Address, City, State, & Zip

(816) 232-0832

Telephone Number

Buchanan County Clerk

County Clerk or Board of Election Commissioners

Committee Type: Campaign Candidate Continuing(PAC) Debt Service Exploratory Political Party

3. Treasurer/Deputy Treasurer Information

Eldon Green

Treasurer's Name (First & Last)

Treasurer's Email Address (optional)

PO Box 8511 St. Joseph, MO 64508

Treasurer's Mailing Address, City, State, & Zip

(816) 232-0832

Phone 1

Phone 2

Deputy Treasurer's Name (if one appointed)

Deputy Treasurer's Email Address (optional)

Deputy Treasurer's Mailing Address, City, State, & Zip

Phone 1

Phone 2

4. Additional Committee Information

Additional Committee Officer's Name & Title (if any)

Additional Committee Officer's Mailing Address, City, State, & Zip

Connected Organization's Name (if any)

Connected Organization's Mailing Address, City, State, & Zip

CANDIDATES: Do you have more than one candidate committee? Yes (refer to instructions on back) No

5. Official Bank Account Information (required by all committees)

b. Candidate Supported or Opposed (candidate committees must include self, if candidate)

Name & Mailing address, City, State, & Zip of Candidate

Phone 1

Phone 2

Election Date

Office Sought & Political Subdivision

Political Party

Support or Oppose

7. Ballot Measure Supported or Opposed (campaign committees must complete this section)

Proposition 1

11/07/2017, St. Joseph

Oppose

Name of Ballot Measure

School District

Election Date & Political Subdivision

Support or Oppose

8. Signature(s) Check certification(s) & sign (required by all committees)

I affirm and attest under penalty of perjury that information and facts in this report are complete, true, and accurate. I further acknowledge that I am aware that any false statement or declaration made herein is punishable under Ch. 575 RSMo.

Committee Treasurer

Candidate (Candidate Committees Only)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2017

CONTACT:
CHRIS GREEN
816-232-0832

New Group Forms to Oppose Forever Tax

SAINT JOSEPH -- A new St. Joseph organization is forming to oppose the two new St. Joseph School District property taxes that will appear on the November ballot.

“As a member of the school board, I saw firsthand the waste that exists in their budget. I find it shameful that they would rather take hard earned money away from the taxpayers than cut back on empty buildings and wasteful spending,” said Eric Bruder, former school board member. “The fact that the district could not find \$6 million dollars to save in a \$135 million dollar budget is astounding. In fact, they actually increased their spending by another one million dollars.”

Former educator and current small business owner and entrepreneur Chris Green will serve as treasurer of the campaign group, named Supporters of a Better SJSD. “As a teacher I saw how the SJSD operates. Whenever money gets tight, they threaten us with cuts to programs for teachers and students, instead of trimming the fat from the administration’s budget,” said Green. “As a small business owner, this huge tax increase will not only hurt me but it will also hurt the poorest among us, those struggling to get by when rent goes up.”

The \$11.5 million dollar property tax increase will be the largest in St. Joseph history. The group will educate voters to defeat this tax increase in order to force the district to offer a real solution that isn’t based around needlessly spending money.

“The history of the School District’s financial mismanagement became public and led to the district losing the \$6.3 million tax levy in 2015,” said former School Board Member Chris Danford. “The district needs to propose a responsible funding plan that includes a sunset. Forcing through this large of a tax increase and telling us it has to last forever shows that they are very out of touch with the residents and voters in the St. Joseph School District.”

All three opponents agreed, it’s time for the St. Joseph School District to put together a real plan that looks for ways to save money and make the district better, not just spend more money without any changes.

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