

Voters' Pamphlet

February 8, 2022 Special Election
La Center School District



STAY INFORMED

www.clarkvotes.org • 564-397-2345

For the complete text of the resolutions, please visit:

*[clark.wa.gov/elections/
february-8-2022-special-election-0](http://clark.wa.gov/elections/february-8-2022-special-election-0)*

You must sign and date your return envelope in order for your ballot to be counted!

- Sign in the signature box that has YOUR name printed on the envelope.
- If you registered to vote online, or when you obtained your driver's license, the signature on your driver's license is the signature in your voter registration record.
- If you are unsure about the signature in your voter registration record, we encourage you to call the Elections Office at 564-397-2345. We can provide a description of the signature you used when you registered to vote.
- Do NOT sign someone else's name, even if you have power of attorney.
- Voting over the phone by having someone else fill out and sign your ballot is against the law. Voters can call us at 564-397-2345 to learn about the options for voting while they are out of town.
- Drop boxes are available if you don't want your signature to go through the mail.



Published by the
Clark County Auditor's Office

La Center School District No. 101

Proposition No. 4

Replacement Educational Programs and Operations Levy

The Board of Directors of La Center School District No. 101 adopted Resolution No. 2021/2022-1, concerning a proposition to continue funding current educational programs and operations. This proposition would authorize the District to levy the following excess taxes, replacing an expiring levy, on all taxable property within the District, for educational programs and operations expenses not funded by the State (including technology, advanced courses, athletics, extracurricular activities, music, nursing, transportation, special education and student safety):

Collection Year	Estimated Levy Rate/\$1,000 Assessed Value	Levy Amount
2023	\$1.50	\$2,635,172
2024	\$1.50	\$2,819,501
2025	\$1.50	\$3,016,734

all as provided in Resolution No. 2021/2022-1. Should this proposition be approved?

Levy...Yes Levy...No

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

This proposition authorizes La Center School District to replace an expiring educational programs and operations levy. The taxes collected by this levy will continue funding current educational programs and operations that are not fully funded by the State, including technology, advanced courses, athletics, extracurricular activities, music, nursing, transportation, special education and student safety. Further information is available at <https://www.lacenterschools.org/>. Taxes collected by the proposed levy, together with State levy equalization money that is contingent upon passage of the levy, will provide approximately 10.4% of the District's General Fund budget. Exemptions from taxes may be available, call Clark County Assessor (564) 397-2391.

STATEMENT FOR

Vote Yes in support of our youth and educational resources. The La Center Schools are one of our most valued assets and the cornerstone of our community. Without an increase to your taxes we can continue to support our local efforts, and build upon the previous years success. Our district has achieved a notable 89% of our incoming 9th-grade students graduating on time, and boasts a 92% in regular attendance.

Levy dollars build our future. They introduce our youth to the fields of Construction, Music, Technology, Fine Arts, Automotive Repair, Drama, Science, Extra-Curricular Activities, Horticulture, and Aquaculture. This new Levy replaces the current La Center School District Maintenance and Operations Levy after it expires in 2022. These Funds help us meet student needs by providing Tutoring, One-on-One support for Special Needs Students, School Nurses, and School Counselors. Our Yes votes on February 8th continues the support of our youth's fine schools and safe community. When approved, this levy is \$1.50 per \$1,000 of assessed value. For a \$400,000 home, the levy is \$600 per year in 2023, 2024, and 2025. Your support for this levy pays the difference between the funds provided by our State and Federal Government and programs costs. This replacement levy won't increase your taxes and maintains the programs for our youth.

Citizens of La Center Schools greatly appreciates your support for this levy!

Senior citizens on limited budgets can request an exemption; Contact the assessor's office to see if you qualify 564-397-2391.

Submitted by:

Melinda Mazna
mmazna@gmail.com

REBUTTAL OF STATEMENT AGAINST

The La Center School District is not fully funded by the State of Washington. We rely on local levies to support enrichment programs to develop confident and self-reliant lifelong learners who can thrive. Please vote Yes in support of our youth and education resources. We have maintained the current ask of \$1.50 per thousand of assessed value. By not increasing the ask we are working to maintain our spending within our current budget.

STATEMENT AGAINST

La Center School District spends an average of \$13,217 per student. Of this amount, just \$1,052 was funded through local levies such as this one. However, this new levy authorizes spending of approximately \$1,800 per student. That's an increase of over 70% even as La Center has seen a pandemic-induced decline in enrollment. Don't be scared about voting No on this unaffordable levy. Voting No will not impact state funding which guarantees basic education for our children.

It's no coincidence that a school levy of this size is being snuck onto a special election in February - the lowest voter turnout month of the year. Yet all will pay these large property tax bills. This is indicative of the strategy used by the public school system establishment. The teachers' unions bankroll the politicians in Olympia who then funnel more of your dollars toward increasing salaries, staffing, and administration. Yet more popular school programs such as athletics, special education, and extracurricular activities go unfunded. Voters are then held hostage to fund these programs through a local levy such as this.

We have to break this cycle. Vote No. Then *demand* your representatives support the Family Empowerment Scholarship Program which empowers parents with a \$10,000 grant to direct toward education of *their* choice, whether through public schools, private schools, or home schooling. Until then, save your money and reject this levy.

Submitted by:

Dick Rylander

Tom Goldman
tbgoldman@gmail.com

REBUTTAL OF STATEMENT FOR

Proponents must believe we live in a world with flat home values and levies that never expire. Only then could they honestly claim this levy will not increase your taxes. With the cost of living out of control, this is a rare opportunity to actually control those costs. La Center will still provide quality classroom instruction via state funding. Save your money. Vote No.