

For the complete text of the resolutions, please visit:
clark.wa.gov/elections/february-14-2023-special-election

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 ballot or signature to go through the mail.

Registering to vote

Registering takes only a few minutes, and you may do it by mail or online at **VoteWA.gov**.

A Washington driver's license or ID is required to register online. You may also complete a new voter registration form. Contact the Elections Office by mail, email, or phone for more information.

The deadline to receive new voter registrations and voter updates to existing registrations online, by phone or by mail is 5 pm Monday, February 6, 2023.

Lost or damaged ballot?

If you lose your ballot, or it becomes damaged, you can obtain a replacement ballot by contacting the Elections Office.

Clark County Elections Office

Phone 564-397-2345

Email elections@clark.wa.gov

Relay 7-1-1 or 877-833-6341

Mailing address

PO Box 8815
 Vancouver, WA 98666-8815

Street address

1408 Franklin Street, Vancouver

Clark County Official Local

Voters' Pamphlet

February 14, 2023 Special Election
 Vancouver School District Edition



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 Clark County Auditor's Office

Vancouver School District

No. 37

Proposition No. 6

Replacement Levy for Maintenance and Operations

The Board of Directors of Vancouver School District No. 37 passed Resolution No. 893 concerning this proposition to maintain current educational funding. This proposition authorizes the District to continue funding students' educational needs and school operations by levying the following excess taxes to replace the existing levy on all taxable property within the District, for educational programs and daily operational expenses, including textbooks, classroom materials and staff:

Collection Year	Estimated Rate/ \$1,000 of Assessed Value	Levy Amount
2024	\$1.99	\$61,661,200
2025	\$1.99	\$65,308,600
2026	\$1.99	\$69,985,300
2027	\$1.99	\$74,988,200

Should this proposition be approved?

To vote, use your official ballot.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Passage of Proposition No. 6 authorizes the District to renew an expiring levy for education programs and operations by levying \$61,661,200 for collection in 2024, \$65,308,600 for collection in 2025, \$69,985,000 for collection in 2026, and \$74,988,200 for collection in 2027. The taxes would be used to pay for the District's eligible expenses that are not funded by the state, including but not limited to staff salaries, textbooks and classroom materials. If approved, such property taxes would be levied at a rate of \$1.99 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation in 2024, 2025, 2026, and 2027.

STATEMENT FOR

Let's maintain the level of teachers, programs, and services for students of Vancouver Public Schools, investing in our children's future and our community. If approved by voters, the proposed four-year levy would renew the existing education and operations levies set to expire in December 2023.

The state does not provide 100% of the funding needed for K-12 education. Local levy dollars make up 12.5% of the VPS budget and are necessary to bridge the gap between state funds and the total cost of delivering quality education.

The proposed education and operations levy would maintain both basic education and special education services, including a significant number of levy-funded teachers, counselors, nurses, and safety support staff. Levy funding would also preserve programs like Family-Community Resource Centers and extracurricular activities such as sports, band, and orchestra. All schools in the district would benefit.

The estimated rate of the proposed levy is \$1.99 per \$1,000 of assessed property value, below the state's maximum allowable tax rate of \$2.50 per \$1,000 of assessed value. For more information, please visit vansd.org/levy. Healthy schools and students are the keys to a strong and prosperous community. Please vote yes!

REBUTTAL OF STATEMENT AGAINST

Vote yes. Students deserve more support, not less. Learning loss and mental health are nationwide issues after COVID. State-required programs won't go away by voting 'no', but it will cause school sports, art, counseling and nurses to be reduced or eliminated. Costs for upkeep, transportation and food have increased, yet this levy rate of \$1.99 is lower than the allowable rate of \$2.50. Vote yes, support our children. Check out the facts at vansd.org/budget

Statement For and Rebuttal of Statement Against Submitted by:

Jennifer Rhoads
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STATEMENT AGAINST

We love our kids and teachers. We've approved every funding request...until now. We have 250 words to convince you to *Vote No* on the new Enrichment Levy. It's time to say *No* so the district and school board will make changes and educate children.

The last levy 2020-2023 was \$147.7 million *Plus* a 6-year Tech levy of \$48.8 million. This time they ask for a new 4 year levy totaling \$271,943,300. That is an *Increase* of \$124,243,300 which is 84.12% higher. Inflation, at a 15% rate the last two years, is the highest in 40 years. They are asking for 5.6 times *More*?

Test scores show 57.7% *Failing* English Language; 70.6% *Failing* Math; 60.3% *Failing* science. 2015 we spent \$12,500/student. 2020-2021 was about \$19,700/student. About 52% of property taxes already go to schools. In the past decade, average spending per student has doubled.

Vancouver Schools are dismantling the Highly Capable Program because it's not equitable. This means kids who were doing Algebra in 6th grade are now doing basic multiplication in 7th and given 'packets' to do on their own if they want challenging work. What's wrong? We spend money on Comprehensive Sex Ed; Critical Race Theory; Common Core; Gender and Social Emotional programs at the expense of basic (core) education. We have enough money if we just use it to teach! *Say No* to this outrageous money grab is the only way to send a message. Hold the School District accountable, *Vote No!*

REBUTTAL OF STATEMENT FOR

VPS tries to focus you on the levy being a renewal, instead of the fact it's a new levy of almost \$272 million (vs \$147 million in the last levy), an increase of \$124 million! Is that a renewal? Student population is falling. Test scores are in the toilet. Student spending has doubled in 10 years, for what? More money solves nothing. The only solution is to stop the excessive spending!

Statement Against and Rebuttal of Statement For Submitted by:

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