# Evergreen School District No. 114

### **Proposition No. 7 Replacement Educational Programs and Operations Levy**

The Board of Directors of Evergreen School District No. 114 adopted Resolution No. 6993 concerning renewal of an expiring levy for educational programs and operations. This proposition provides funding for educational programs and operations expenses not funded by the State. If approved, Proposition 7 will authorize the District to levy the following excess taxes, on all taxable property within the District, as provided in Resolution No. 6993.

	Estimated Levy	
	Rate Per \$1,000	
Collection Year	Assessed Value	Levy Amount
2026	\$2.35	\$71,800,000
2027	\$2.20	\$71,400,000
2028	\$2.10	\$72,260,000
2029	\$2.02	\$73,390,000

Should this levy proposition be approved?

To vote, use your official ballot.

#### **EXPLANATORY STATEMENT**

Proposition 7 authorizes the replacement of an expiring educational programs and operations levy. This is a replacement (not new) tax. The funds collected from this four-year levy will continue to support educational programs and operations not fully funded by the State, including staffing to reduce class sizes and for security and building support and counselors, for performing arts, field trips, athletic and extracurricular activities, curriculum, professional development and local support to bridge funding gaps in Special Education, Multilingual Learners, and Highly Capable programs. This levy provides approximately 11% of the District's General Fund budget. Information is available at www.evergreenps.org.

#### STATEMENT FOR

A Legacy of Educational Excellence Since 1945, our community has supported Evergreen Public Schools through local levies, understanding that strong schools are vital to our community's success. This replacement EP&O levy continues the long-term support for local educational expectations beyond state defined basic education.

Supporting Our Students and Staff

The EP&O levy bridges critical funding gaps by supporting teachers, counselors, paraeducators, and security staff that our schools depend on. It maintains smaller class sizes and funds vital programs including special education, multilingual learning support and programs for highly capable students. This local funding represents a critical fraction (10.8%) of our district's budget for essential supports and services.

#### Enriching Educational Opportunities

Levy funds ensure students can discover and explore their individual interests and sense of curiosity through athletics, orchestra, band, choir, theater, and field trips. These are not just activities; these are opportunities and experiences that support whole child development and help our youth realize their talents, passion, make connections, build skills and knowledge past the classroom that serve them throughout their lives. Many Evergreen graduates choose to stay and serve in our community, strengthening our local workforce and economy.

Responsible Investment, Not a New Tax At an estimated rate of \$2.35 per \$1,000 of assessed property value in 2026, this four year replacement levy continues vital programs while being mindful of taxpayer resources. Strong schools maintain property values and provide the skilled workforce our community needs.

#### **REBUTTAL OF STATEMENT AGAINST**

Realistically here; State testing shows Evergreen students performing comparably locally and statewide. Evaluating our current resources and needs is being mindful of taxpayer money for spending wisely and meeting mandates. Districts across the nation use surveys for effectively listening directly to students about their school experience, workload, to hear feedback about how adults can to make school better. Parents want quality education in a safe environment. Every kid deserves that. Vote yes.

#### **Statement For and Rebuttal of Statement Against** Submitted by:

grammar, typos or inaccurate information.

Christie Brownsilva christiebrownsilva@gmail.com STATEMENT AGAINST

At \$2.35 per thousand assessed value a \$515K homeowner will pay \$1210 in taxes per year. This is an expensive tax. The performance of the Evergreen school board as shown by the Spring 2024 standardized test scores clearly shows student failure year over year. Here are some sad facts from the Washington State Report Card for Evergreen Public Schools. The percent of students showing foundational grade level knowledge are as follows: English Language Arts 61.2%, Math 53.1%, and Science 59.0%. They have failed academically. On top of this is the continuous, reckless, and capricious spending. In just one evening the board approved a study to add Electric busses to the fleet for the purpose of achieving the State climate goals, and at the same time funding the YOUTH TRUTH<sup>©</sup> survey, an assessment of our children's psychological health. These cost the district \$202,000. Are these Academic pursuits? Or should they be teaching your children math, reading, and science? What parents want is responsible spending, achieving 100% proficiency in core subjects, transparency, and participation in developing the curriculum. They do not need indoctrination and racist ideology like Diversity Equity and Inclusion. They do not need the board to support gender identity policies. They are endangering our children in the school restrooms, and on the sports field. We need monies spent on academic achievement. We ask you, the parents, and grandparents to support us with a No vote on Proposition 7, the Replacement and Operations Levy. Let's make our children's future brighter.

#### **REBUTTAL OF STATEMENT FOR**

The problem here is not academic excellence, but with the mastery of basic skills, such as math, language arts, and science. The board focuses on agendas like climate change and DEI instead of academics. Don't think of this proposition as "Not a new Tax", but as "The Freedom to spend your tax dollars as you choose." I am confident you can spend your money better than the government can. Vote No on Proposition 7.

#### Statement Against and Rebuttal of Statement For Submitted by:

Phil Kronebusch, Chair Brassduck8@gmail.com Randy Schmidt Sarah Akey

For the complete text of the resolutions, please visit: clark.wa.gov/elections/february-11-2025-special-election

Measure statements are printed exactly as submitted. Clark County Elections does not correct punctuation,

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**Voters' Pamphlet** 

## February 11, 2025 Special Election **Evergreen School District Edition**



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# Evergreen School District No. 114

# Proposition No. 8

### Replacement Safety, Security & Technology Capital Levy

The Board of Directors of Evergreen School District No. 114 adopted Resolution No. 6994 concerning renewal of an expiring levy for capital projects. This proposition provides funding for updated technology and security, software, hardware and digital learning tools for classrooms for all schools, plus training for staff, and authorizes the District to collect the following excess taxes on all taxable property within the District for the following four years.

	Estimated Levy Rate Per \$1,000	
<b>Collection Year</b>	Assessed Value	Levy Amount
2026	\$0.40	\$12,250,000
2027	\$0.39	\$12,500,000
2028	\$0.37	\$12,750,000
2029	\$0.36	\$13,005,000

Should this levy proposition be approved?

#### To vote, use your official ballot.

#### **EXPLANATORY STATEMENT**

This safety, security and technology capital levy proposition authorizes the Evergreen School District to replace an expiring technology capital levy. This is a replacement (not new) tax. The funds collected from this four-year levy will support safety, security and technology projects not funded by the State, including student and staff devices, online curriculum, school communication systems, internet services, emergency response systems, cyber security systems, internet safety software and staff training. Information is available at www.evergreenps.org.

#### STATEMENT FOR

Essential Safety and Technology Support Modern school safety systems and technology tools are fundamental to student success. This replacement levy (not a new tax) ensures Evergreen Public Schools can maintain critical safety personnel, emergency response systems and the technology infrastructure our students and staff rely on daily.

Protecting Our Students

School safety is a top priority. Encouraging an environment for youth to learn and grow requires resources. While state funding supports only four security positions, this levy helps fund 29 additional campus security officers. Insisting on safe school environments, our community values a positive school culture. This levy maintains emergency communication systems, cyber security, and internet safety software that protect our students both physically and digitally.

#### Technology for Today's Learning

This levy supports the devices, network infrastructure and online curriculum tools that are essential for modern education. It funds ParentSquare communication services, school audio-visual equipment, and technology support staff who keep our systems running reliably.

Responsible Planning

At an estimated rate of \$0.40 per \$1,000 of assessed property value in 2026, this four-year replacement levy efficiently addresses both safety and technology needs. This represents just 2.7% of the district's budget while continuing critical infrastructure our schools depend on.

#### **REBUTTAL OF STATEMENT AGAINST**

Our district is committed to preparing each student for graduation and beyond. Today's education, workplaces and the real world utilizes technology so it's our responsibility to help our kids access devices and equipment to learn and grow safely digitally as well as physically. A healthy balance and variety in their education is critical for student engagement and whole child development. Vote yes.

# Statement For and Rebuttal of Statement Against Submitted by:

Christie Brownsilva christiebrownsilva@gmail.com

#### STATEMENT AGAINST

Proposition 8 is a wish list of expenses without any justifiable data. The overall levy is fraught with ambiguous details. One request is money for "Technology Staff." Shouldn't this be funded by the general budget, not additional levies? They are requesting more electronic devices and audiovisual equipment; however, most of us were educated at public institutions without such devices, and yet we achieved academic proficiency. The district has not been able to prove that more online curriculum, internet services, and network infrastructure is beneficial to students. Screen times have been hurting our children not helping them. Technology is a wonderful thing, however in the early years of education it can hamper learning and comes with safety issues. Reports are surfacing that the use of computers degrades children's fine motor skills necessary for written communication. Why did the district eliminate Librarians last year? Why are they now requesting technology as a replacement? The teachers and parents responded vehemently at the loss of the librarians. They are requesting more money for emergency response, cybersecurity, and internet safety; however, details of this have not been disclosed to the public. Technology and security companies are profiting from guaranteed revenue streams from your property taxes, while Evergreen courts your trust in protecting children. You will pay \$0.40 per thousand in assessed value. A \$500K home will cost an additional \$200 per year in taxes. We are training children, not building cyber fortresses. Vote No on prop 8, Protect children, Limit technology, Reevaluate security.

#### **REBUTTAL OF STATEMENT FOR**

We don't need more screen time. What we need is more time for critical thinking and creativity. We don't need more security guards. We need more parent and teacher engagement, and support for para educators. Love and commitment with attachment to our children is the ultimate security guard. Scrap the software upgrades and ditch the cameras so we can focus on children who struggle. Vote No on Proposition 8

# Statement Against and Rebuttal of Statement For Submitted by:

Phil Kronebusch, Chair Brassduck8@gmail.com Randy Schmidt Sarah Akey 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.
- Sign up to receive text messages regarding your ballot status. Text the word VOTE to 868392 (VoteWA).

### Registering to vote

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

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 4 pm Monday, February 3, 2025.

### 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**

 

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 564-397-2345

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**For the complete text of the resolutions, please visit:** *clark.wa.gov/elections/february-11-2025-special-election* **Measure statements are printed exactly as submitted.** *Clark County Elections does not correct punctuation, grammar, typos or inaccurate information.* 

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