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Clark County Official Local

# Voters' Pamphlet

February 11, 2025 Special Election

City of Camas Edition



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## Proposition No. 5

### City Utility Tax to pay for Police Services

The City of Camas adopted Resolution No. 24-016 asking voters to consider approving additional revenue to be dedicated for police services in the City. If approved by voters, this Proposition would authorize the City to increase the current 2% Utility Tax to 6% on the gross earnings of utilities providing water, sewer, solid waste and stormwater operations within the City, authorizing 4% for the purpose of maintaining and enhancing police services in Camas.

Should Proposition No. 5 be:

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

#### STATEMENT FOR

*Vote Yes on Proposition 5: A Safer Camas for All*

Camas is one of the safest cities in the state thanks to our dedicated public safety officers. However, as our city grows, we face funding gaps threatening the Camas Police Department’s high level of service.

Proposition 5 proposes a 4% utility tax on water, sewer, stormwater, and solid waste, generating approximately \$1 million annually. This investment will support the police department by hiring two sergeants, a patrol lieutenant, and one additional officer. It will also provide necessary vehicles, uniforms, modern equipment, and essential training. Without this investment, Camas cannot adequately fund the public safety level of service we have come to expect.

These investments likely will add about \$5/month to the average utility bill, without which Camas cannot keep pace with growth nor ensure timely responses to emergencies, proactive crime prevention, and increased community engagement. This investment supports public safety and enhances our city’s overall quality of life by fostering trust, safety, and stability.

Without these resources, the Camas Police Department will struggle to meet our thriving city’s growing needs. By voting Yes on Prop. 5, we can ensure the safety and security of our neighborhoods, schools, and businesses for years to come. Join us in keeping Camas a safe, vibrant place to live. Vote Yes on Prop. 5 and support our dedicated officers.

#### REBUTTAL OF STATEMENT AGAINST

The 2022 ordinance did not mandate fire department use. This ordinance mandates police department use. While the proposed utility tax increase is concerning, Camas faces rising public safety costs. Relying solely on existing revenue is unsustainable as demands grow. This utility tax provides dedicated funding for the police department, ensuring community safety without compromising other services. It’s essential to maintain our quality of life and protect our families, children, businesses, and neighbors.

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

Deanna Rusch, Chair  
deannarusch@gmail.com  
Swati Wilson  
Tony Ashton

#### STATEMENT AGAINST

While we all support our Camas Police Department and want to ensure their success, the proposed additional 4% utility tax (6% total monthly) isn’t the right solution for our community. The City already receives substantial funding through property, business, and sales taxes, and our residents pay higher-than-average tax rates to maintain our excellent quality of life.

Our police force has done an outstanding job keeping crime rates low, and they deserve our continued support. However, before asking families to pay more for basic utilities like water and electricity, the City should demonstrate better stewardship of existing tax dollars. The recent example of the 2023 utility tax, which was promoted for fire services but didn’t deliver as promised, redirecting the money for other city services, raises serious concerns about how this new tax revenue would actually be used.

Instead of adding another burden to household budgets, let’s encourage City leadership to prioritize police funding from existing revenue sources and ensure taxpayer dollars are being spent efficiently on essential services our community needs. Please *Reject* the Utility tax increase.

#### REBUTTAL OF STATEMENT FOR

Camas is ranked Washington’s safest city in 2024. Camas doesn’t have a revenue problem; it has a spending problem. This unnecessary tax reflects poor city governance, not urgent police needs. While proponents claim it costs just \$5 monthly, utility rates are rising. On \$200 monthly bills, this collective 6% tax means \$144 yearly—and the City can raise it anytime, like Vancouver did (now 28.9%) and Battle Ground (12%).

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

Gary Perman, Chair  
gary@permantech.com  
Brian Wiklem  
Shannon Roberts

#### EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

To increase public safety services by providing additional funds to the Camas Police Department, the City of Camas approved Resolution 24-016. The approval of this proposition would increase utility taxes on City water, sewer, solid waste, and stormwater utilities by 4% for a total of 6% City utility tax. Camas seeks a sustainable source of funding to hire additional uniformed police personnel and pay for the associated training, as well as acquire new equipment and vehicles. If approved by voters, the new revenue will be restricted for the sole purpose of maintaining and enhancing police services in Camas.

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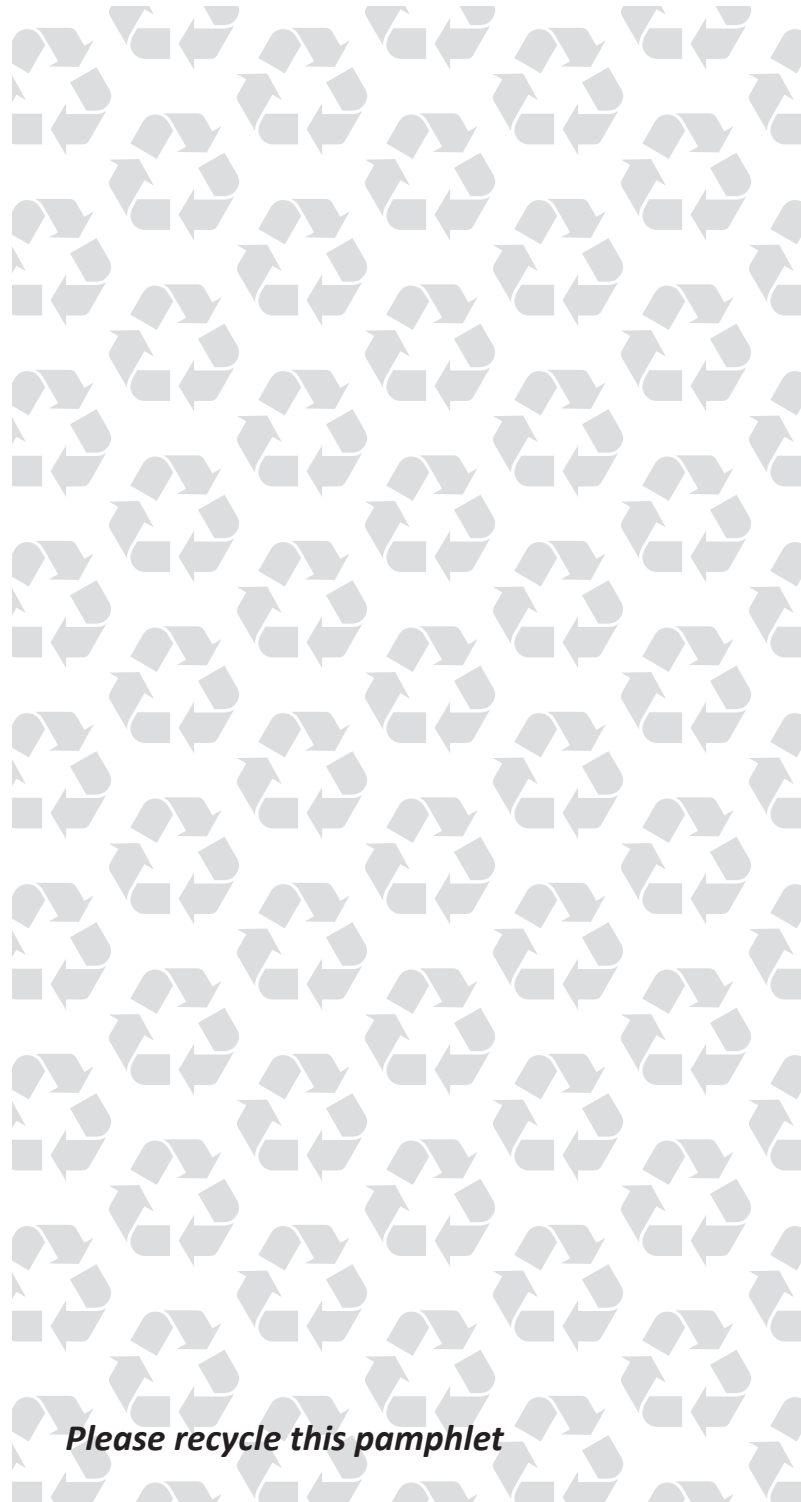
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**Voters’ Pamphlet**

**February 11, 2025 Special Election**  
Battle Ground School District Edition



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# Battle Ground School District No. 119

## Proposition No. 8

### Educational Programs and Operations Replacement Levy

The Board of Directors of Battle Ground School District No. 119 adopted Resolution No. G-24, concerning a proposition to continue funding student 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 expenses not funded by the State (including student safety, instructional/support staff, small classes, curriculum, nursing, mental health support, special education, busing, sports, and arts):

Collection Year	Estimated Levy Rate/\$1,000 Assessed Value	Levy Amount
2026	\$1.95	\$38,300,000
2027	\$1.95	\$40,400,000
2028	\$1.95	\$42,600,000
2029	\$1.95	\$44,975,000

all as provided in Resolution No. G-24. Should this proposition be approved?

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

#### EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

This proposition authorizes Battle Ground School District to replace the existing educational programs and operations levy that expires at the end of 2025. The levy will be used to pay expenses of educational programs and operations that are not fully funded by the State, including student safety, instructional/support staff, small classes, curriculum, nursing, mental health support, special education, busing, sports, and arts. Further information is available on the District's website: <https://www.battlegroundps.org/>. Exemptions from taxes may be available, call the Clark County Assessor 564-397-2391.

#### STATEMENT FOR

Good funding, better schools, best community! By voting yes, you can be a hero for kids and your community. Show your support for students, teachers and schools. Your yes vote empowers students, invests in their futures and strengthens our entire community.

The current education and operations levy expires after 2025, and this one would take its place if approved. The estimated rate per \$1,000 of assessed value is lower than the rate in the first year of the expiring levy. That levy rate dropped in subsequent years, and with our area continuing to see new development, the rate for this levy may drop as well. With one of the lowest tax rates of any school district in Southwest Washington, Battle Ground Public Schools is an excellent value for homeowners.

The cost of educating students and operating schools has increased. State funding has not kept up. Adjusted for inflation, the state spends less than in 2018. Yet Battle Ground has demonstrated fiscal responsibility by being careful with taxpayer money. It was one of the few Southwest Washington school districts to avoid laying off staff last year. The district tightened its belts. A recent state audit gave Battle Ground high marks for protecting taxpayer funds. And the district's administrative costs are lower than the state average.

Our communities can't thrive if we let politics penalize children. Voting against the levy will only lessen support and opportunities for the children in our community. Our children deserve the best. Vote yes for students!

#### REBUTTAL OF STATEMENT AGAINST

Let's look at historical tax rates. In 2014, the total local school tax rate was \$4.98 per \$1,000 of assessed value. In 2026, it is projected to be \$2.41 if this levy is approved. That projection could end up being lower due to new area growth. Over the last four years, the expiring levy rate has dropped \$0.32 from the initial projection. Our students need our support. Please vote yes!

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

Terry Dotson, Chair of Battle Ground Citizens for Better Schools  
votebgschools@gmail.com  
votebgschools.org

#### STATEMENT AGAINST

You are being asked to approve an increase in an existing levy. In 2024 voters passed a new Capital Levy which starts in 2025. Approving this levy increase will have an impact on your property tax bill. Lets explore what it means to your pocketbook.

Assuming your home has an assessed value of \$600,000. The Capital Levy in 2025 will add \$.44 per \$1000 which works out to about \$285.66 rising each year by 3.5%. Our home will be about \$409. The renewal of the expiring levy will rise from \$990 in 2024 to a projected \$1297.20 in 2027. That works out to a 31% increase in 3 years.

The total of the capital levy and the operating levy goes from \$990 to \$1603.21 (2024 to 2027) which is a 61.94% increase. Wait, there is more. You also pay the State education property taxes (there are two) which are an estimated \$2.25 per \$1000 which works out to \$1350 per year rising at 3.5% per year. This means that in 2025/2026 a \$600,000 home will pay \$285 + \$1332 + \$1350 = \$2967.

Your taxes continue to rise and rise and rise. Expect new taxes and increases from local and state government (projected \$12 billion deficit). They will say these are not new taxes, rather extensions of existing taxes. But they are increases so the increases are new. Test scores are poor. Where do you draw the line? Learn more at: [www.swwededucation.org](http://www.swwededucation.org)

#### REBUTTAL OF STATEMENT FOR

The levy rate goes down if property values go up. The money collected stays the same. Your household expenses are up but are your earnings? Why shouldn't schools need to feel your money pains? It's not penalizing children it's holding adults responsible. Politics have nothing to do with voting no. Test results are terrible so why keep paying for failure? Visit [www.swwededucation.org](http://www.swwededucation.org) for more details.

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

Dick Rylander  
swwededucation@gmail.com

**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.

Collection Year	Estimated Levy Rate Per \$1,000 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](http://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:**

Christie Brownsilva  
[christiebrownsilva@gmail.com](mailto: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@ 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**

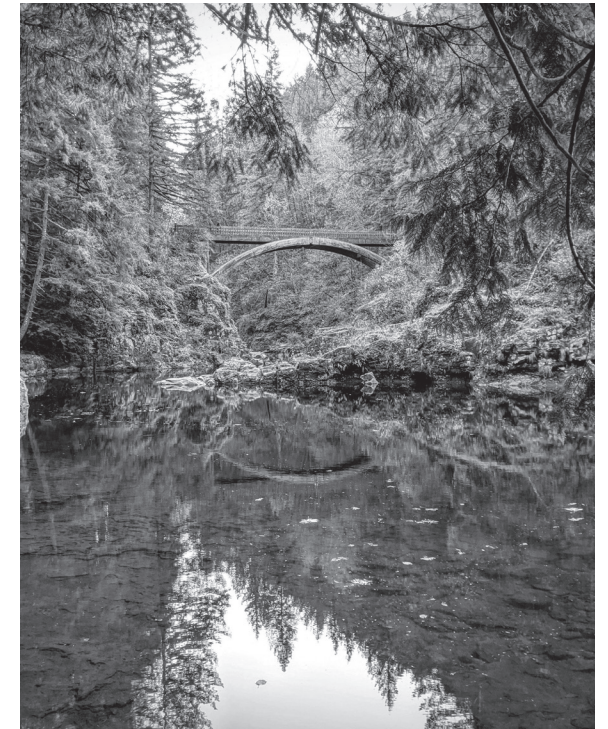
The problem here is not academic excellence, but with the mastery of basic skills, such as math, language arts, and science. The board focuses on agendas like climate change and DEI instead of academics. Don't think of this proposition as "Not a new Tax", but as "The Freedom to spend your tax dollars 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](mailto:Brassduck8@gmail.com)  
Randy Schmidt  
Sarah Akey

# Voters' Pamphlet

February 11, 2025 Special Election  
Evergreen School District Edition



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**Measure statements are printed exactly as submitted.** Clark County Elections does not correct punctuation, grammar, typos or inaccurate information.

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.

Collection Year	Estimated Levy Rate Per \$1,000 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](http://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](mailto: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:**

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[Brassduck8@gmail.com](mailto:Brassduck8@gmail.com)  
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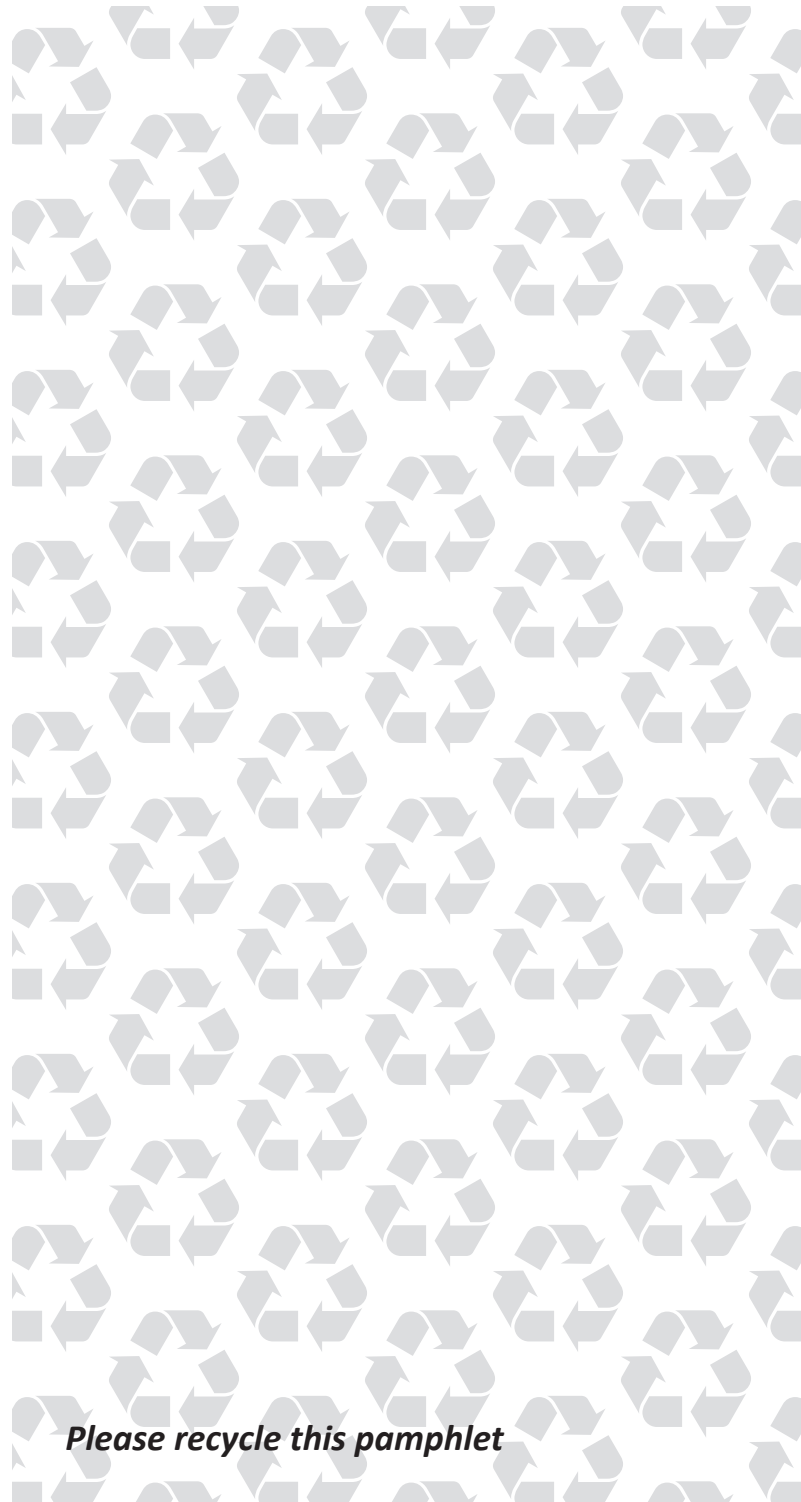
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# Voters' Pamphlet

**February 11, 2025 Special Election**

Hockinson School District Edition



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# Hockinson School District No. 98

## Proposition No. 9

### Bonds to Construct, Expand and Modernize School Facilities

The Board of Directors of Hockinson School District No. 98 adopted Resolution No. 24-25-02, concerning a proposition to relieve overcrowding and provide safe, modern facilities. This proposition would authorize the District to: construct a new elementary school; expand and modernize Hockinson Heights Elementary School (classroom building addition to replace portables), Hockinson Middle School (covered playground addition) and Hockinson High School (CTE building addition, multiuse field/track for student/community use); make District-wide lighting and safety upgrades; issue \$87,750,000 of general obligation bonds maturing within 21 years; and levy annual excess property taxes to repay the bonds, all as provided in Resolution No. 24-25-02.

Should this proposition be:

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

#### EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

This proposition authorizes school construction bonds to 1.) build a second elementary school in Hockinson to reduce overcrowding; 2.) improve traffic flow, reduce the use of portable classrooms, and install automatic lockdown capabilities at Hockinson Heights Elementary School; 3.) update safety and security at all schools; 4.) create a high school career and technical education facility; 5.) improve outdoor facilities, including replacing the high school track and field, for student and community use. The \$87,750,000 of general obligation bonds will be repaid from annual excess property taxes sufficient to pay bond debt service over a maximum term of 21 years.

#### STATEMENT FOR

Hockinson schools are the heart of our community, where we gather for concerts, sports, plays, and community events. It is our responsibility to maintain safe, quality facilities for today’s students and future generations.

The proposed bond represents a modest investment - an estimated 68 cents per \$1,000 of assessed property value. That’s about \$43 per month for an owner of a \$750,000 home. These funds will address urgent needs like building a second elementary school to relieve overcrowding and updating our current elementary. The bond also includes safety updates at all schools and projects that strengthen opportunities for students, including a Career and Technical Education (CTE) building to prepare them for life after graduation.

Our 21-year-old athletic track and field will be replaced with a new track and multi-use synthetic turf field. This will reduce maintenance costs and enable year-round use for students, student-athletes, and community members. Currently, our athletes must travel and rent facilities for postseason competitions, resulting in additional costs. Investing in these updates ensures our schools remain competitive with neighboring districts and gives our students access to the facilities they deserve.

Delaying these projects will only increase costs. Hockinson High School, built in 2003 for \$16.1 million, would cost over \$150 million to replicate now. The bonds passed by previous generations created the Hockinson we know today. Now, it’s our turn to invest in our future. Every vote matters! Let’s vote Yes for our schools, our students, and our community. Hockinson kids are worth it.

#### REBUTTAL OF STATEMENT AGAINST

Quality schools require community support. Unlike other taxes, bond dollars stay local. These projects address critical needs like overcrowding, school safety, and job readiness skills. Tax exemptions support low-income seniors, and improved school facilities enhance Hockinson property values. Modern artificial turf prioritizes safety and durability, enabling year-round use like at all other 16 GSHL schools. Other districts are in financial crisis. The HSD is transparent, efficient, and has an A+ credit rating. Learn more:



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

Courtney Tomlinson, Chair  
hockinsonbond@gmail.com  
YesHockinson.org  
Natalie Hessel  
Megan McChesney

#### STATEMENT AGAINST

*“\$44 a month” is deceptive.*

Property owners already pay \$2.98/thousand of assessed value. This would increase the tax burden to \$3.69/thousand. Hockinson’s average assessed value is \$750,000: adding the bond, the average homeowner would be paying \$2,767/year for schools.

*Low and fixed income neighbors can’t afford this.*

The State projects a \$10B+ deficit and will raise other taxes. The County is projected to increase property and other taxes. Fire District 3 passed a massive increase that hits in 2025. The elderly and disabled property tax exemption helps very few people. Maximum qualifying income is \$62K/ household. A couple collecting SS and a small pension is easily over that. HSD is running single parents and lifelong residents out of their homes.

*Unwise resource usage:*

HSD receives roughly \$15K/student from federal, state and local resources. The High School has CTE space for CAD, woodshop and welding - areas currently used for storage and arts. They offer a variety of other CTE classes in conventional classrooms. Needs beyond these can be met by Cascadia Tech.

*Unsafe and Expensive*

Artificial turf is unsafe and costs 3X more than properly designed and constructed grass fields. Mt. Sinai Children’s Environmental Health Center opposes artificial turf because “children are uniquely vulnerable to harmful exposures from artificial turf surfaces.” Which is worse, portable classrooms, or a playing field containing carcinogens, neurotoxins and “forever chemicals” being paid for over 21 years but needing to be replaced in 10 years? Protect our kids and elders. Vote *No*.

#### REBUTTAL OF STATEMENT FOR

All except the wealthy are struggling with rising prices and taxes. We’ve had to tighten our belts, find creative alternatives, prioritize. HSD needs to as well. HSD values safety? Voters already rejected toxic turf by a landslide. The heart of our community are retired farmers, loggers, homemakers, builders, whose families have been here for generations. Let’s care for *everyone*. Follow our Facebook page for documentation, and creative alternatives to meet HSD needs. New information regularly.

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

Connie Keen, Chair  
HSDResponsibleSpending@gmail.com  
Facebook page: Hockinson Citizens for Responsible HSD Spending  
Carolyn Schultz-Rathbun  
Stephen Mosier



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**Mailing address** PO Box 8815, Vancouver, WA 98666-8815

**Street address** 1408 Franklin Street, Vancouver

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Clark County Official Local

# Voters' Pamphlet

February 11, 2025 Special Election

La Center School District Edition



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**Proposition No. 6**

**Replacement Educational Programs and Operations Levy**

The Board of Directors of La Center School District No. 101 adopted Resolution No. 2024/2025-1, 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 smaller class sizes, advanced courses, technology, rising maintenance costs, extracurricular activities, transportation, special education and student safety):

Collection Year	Estimated Levy Rate/\$1,000 Assessed Value	Levy Amount
2026	\$1.50	\$3,798,678
2027	\$1.50	\$4,102,122
2028	\$1.50	\$4,429,843

all as provided in Resolution No. 2024/2025-1. Should this proposition be approved?

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

**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 smaller class sizes, advanced courses, technology, rising maintenance costs, extracurricular activities, transportation, special education and student safety. For further information visit <https://www.lacenterschools.org/>. Taxes collected by the proposed levy, together with state levy equalization money that is contingent upon levy passage, will provide approximately 10% of the District’s General Fund budget. Exemptions from taxes may be available, call Clark County Assessor 564-397-2391.

**STATEMENT FOR**

*Maintain Essential Programs*

A “Yes” vote on the replacement Educational Programs and Operations (EP&O) Levy ensures funding for critical programs not fully covered by state dollars. Levy funds provide students with opportunities in construction, music, technology, arts, drama, science, culinary arts, sports, extracurriculars, and more. These funds also support smaller class sizes, advanced courses, food service, transportation, maintenance, special needs services, school nurses and teachers, technology, and student safety. Without this local support, essential programs would face cuts and students would lose valuable opportunities. Levy dollars represent approximately 10% of the district’s budget, providing the programs and resources that allow La Center students to thrive.

*No New Tax*

This is *not* a new tax. The proposed levy maintains the current rate of \$1.50 per \$1,000 of assessed property value; \$62.50 per month for a \$500,000 home. Renewing the levy ensures stability for students and schools.

*Bridge the Funding Gap*

State funding alone does not meet all the needs of our schools. Without this levy, essential programs could face cuts, impacting every student. Local support ensures continued opportunities for learning, growth, and success.

*Invest in Our Community*

Strong schools benefit everyone by preparing future leaders, maintaining property values, and fostering a well-educated, engaged community. Supporting this levy is an investment in our students and the strength of La Center. Vote “Yes” to keep our schools strong and ensure every child has the opportunities they deserve.

**Statement For Submitted by:**

Ross Higgins, Chair  
citizens.for.lc.schools@gmail.com

**No statements were submitted for:  
REBUTTAL OF STATEMENT AGAINST  
STATEMENT AGAINST  
REBUTTAL OF STATEMENT FOR**

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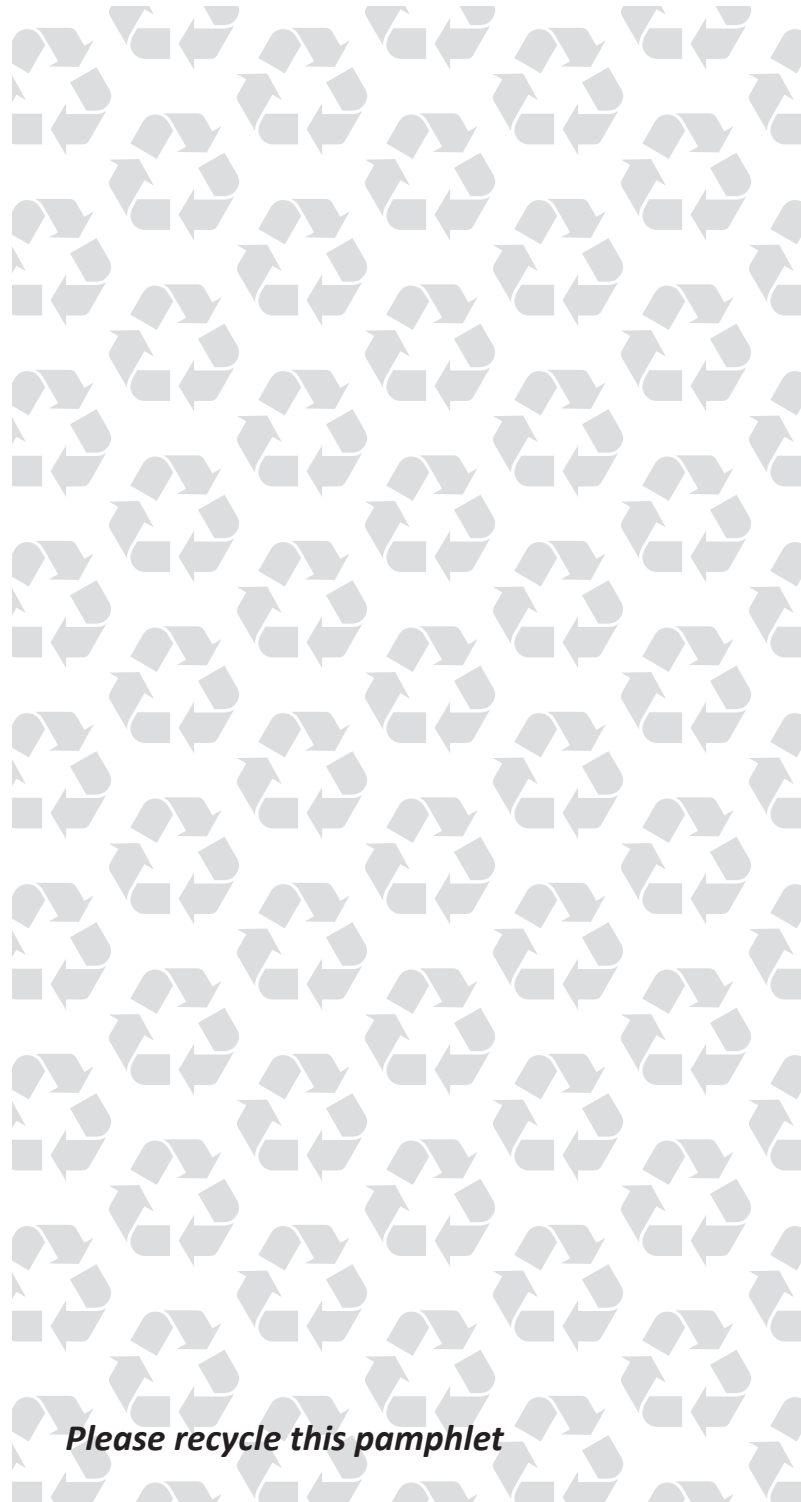
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Clark County Official Local

# Voters' Pamphlet

February 11, 2025 Special Election

Mount Pleasant School District Edition



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# Mount Pleasant School District No. 29-93

## Proposition No. 1 Maintenance and Operations Levy

The Board of Directors of Mount Pleasant School District No. 29-93 approved a proposition for educational levies. This proposition provides for the support of educational programs, facilities, maintenance and operations by authorizing the levy of the following excess taxes on all taxable property within the District, as specified in District Resolution 2024-2025-3

Collection Years	Approximate Levy Rate per \$1,000 Assessed Value	Levy Amount
2026	\$2.13	\$195,000
2027	\$2.13	\$195,000
2028	\$2.13	\$195,000

Should this levy be Approved?

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

### EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

The Board of Directors of Mt. Pleasant No. 29-93 approved Resolution No. 2024-2025-3 requesting voter approval of a three-year maintenance and operation levy of \$195,000 per year or \$2.13/\$1,000 2026, \$1.94/\$1,000 2027, and \$1.79/\$1,000 2028. Passage will allow the levy of property taxes over a three-year period to support educational programs and operation costs that are not adequately funded by the state, a reduction in federal forest funds and elimination of the levy equalization funds.

### STATEMENT FOR

Mt. Pleasant School District is requesting voter approval of a three year Maintenance and Operations Levy for the years 2026, 2027, and 2028. Mt. Pleasant School District Levy rate has not been raised in the 12 years since the initial Levy was passed. The rate will be \$195,000 per year.

If authorized by the voters, and based on projected assessed valuation information, estimated levy rates per \$1,000 of assessed value would be \$2.13 (2026 collection), \$1.94 (2027 collection), \$1.79 (2028 collection).. The exact levy collection will be subject to the legal limits at the time of the levy and the rate shall be adjusted based upon the actual amount certified and the assessed value of the property within the District at the time of the levy.

These levy funds will fill the gap between the amount provided by the State and Federal Sources for operations of the school. These funds have been declining for many years.

The school is being run in as efficient a manner as possible. We have 5 certified teachers offering 9 grades, K-8.

Washington State law requires that all property be incorporated into an educational taxation district. Mt. Pleasant residents have the long term choice of operating their own school district, or being consolidated into Washougal School District, which has higher total Maintenance and Operations, Levy, Technology Levy and Capital Bond rates.

Vote "Yes" to assure a quality education and facilities for all of our students now and in the future.

### Statement For Submitted by:

Karl Kanthak, School Board Chair  
karlkanthak@hotmail.com  
Cathy Lehmann, Superintendent

*No statements were submitted for:*

**REBUTTAL OF STATEMENT AGAINST  
STATEMENT AGAINST  
REBUTTAL OF STATEMENT FOR**

# Ridgefield School District No. 122

## Proposition No. 12 Replacement of Expiring Educational Programs and Operations Levy

The Board of Directors of Ridgefield School District No. 122 adopted Resolution #2024-2025-002, concerning a replacement levy for unfunded educational programs and operations. This proposition would authorize the District to levy the following excess taxes upon all taxable property within the District, to continue programs, including the Ridgefield Family Resource Center, community education, athletics, extra-curricular activities, and special education; to enhance curriculum and technology, and enrich coursework; and to maintain salaries, benefits, and professional learning days for staff above the state's basic funding formula:

Collection Year	Approximate Levy Rate/\$1000 Assessed Value	Levy Amount
2026	\$1.75	\$14,025,000
2027	\$1.75	\$14,685,000
2028	\$1.75	\$15,325,000

all as provided in Resolution No. 2024-2025-002. Should this proposition be approved?

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

**EXPLANATORY STATEMENT**  
Passage of Proposition 12 would enable the District to pay for school operations and educational programs not fully funded by the State, including but not limited to: Athletics, Extracurricular activities, Special Education, the Family Resource Center, Community Education programs, and professional development. The District estimates a tax rate of \$1.75 per \$1,000 of assessed value for each of the levy's three collection years (2026, 2027, and 2028). Tax exemptions may be available to homeowners 61 or older or disabled, and who meet certain income requirements. For information on exemptions, call the Clark County Assessor at (564) 397-2391.

**STATEMENT FOR**  
Please vote "Yes" on Proposition 12, a critical levy renewal that will replace the current levy approved by voters in 2022, which will expire at the end of 2025. This essential levy bridges the gap between state funding and the actual cost of running Ridgefield schools, ensuring every student continues to receive the quality education they deserve.

*Funding for Essential Programs and Services*  
Proposition 12 funds critical areas where state funding falls short of covering the full costs of public education. It will fund essential programs and services that directly benefit students' education. These include Special Education, classroom support staff, athletics like football, wrestling, soccer, and track, and student clubs such as Drama, Debate, and DECA. Additionally, it supports early learning programs, transportation, supplies, and the Ridgefield Family Resource Center. These programs and services go far beyond what the state's basic funding formula provides, enriching educational opportunities and creating a thriving school environment.

Without this renewal, Ridgefield schools would face significant loss of funding when the current levy expires. This would endanger vital programs and resources, impacting the educational experience of every student. Proposition 12 ensures Ridgefield schools remain places of excellence, safety, and opportunity for all.

*Vote "Yes" on Proposition 12 to ensure Ridgefield Schools remain a place of unlimited possibilities.* By renewing this levy, we can protect the programs and essential services that are critical to our students' education. This essential levy preserves the strong foundation of our schools—Vote "Yes" on Proposition 12!

**REBUTTAL OF STATEMENT AGAINST**  
Proposition 12 is a replacement levy. The proposed renewal represents a modest 16.7% increase in tax rate from \$1.50 to \$1.75 per \$1,000 of assessed value, a \$187.50 annual increase for a \$750,000 home. For correct information on student achievement data, see <https://ospi.k12.wa.us>. There you will see that 80% of South Ridge and 85+% of Union Ridge students are proficient in math & ELA. To view the district's clean financial audits, go to [sao.wa.gov](http://sao.wa.gov).

**Statement For and Rebuttal of Statement Against Submitted by:**  
Kelliana Cole, Chair  
kelliana@me.com  
citizensforridgefieldschools.com  
Megan Dudley  
Bill Baumann

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

**STATEMENT AGAINST**  
*The "Replacement" Is A Big Tax Increase*  
The proposed levy is *Not* just a replacement but a significant 41.7% increase, raising total revenues collected from \$31 million approved in 2022 to \$44 million in 2025. If both proposed levies pass, you'll see a huge 72.7% increase in the tax rates, from \$1.50 per \$1,000 of assessed value to \$2.59. For a \$750,000 home, this means annual taxes for the levy would increase by \$817—an enormous burden during a time of economic uncertainty.

*Better Funding Has Not Lead To Better Results*  
Despite ever-increasing funding, Ridgefield schools have failed to deliver meaningful results. Only 64% of elementary students are proficient in reading, and just 52% in math. These outcomes expose a system that prioritizes spending increases over academic success. For years, taxpayers have invested more and more money with little to no improvements in student's academic outcomes.

*Salaries Have Increased But Academic Scores Have Not*  
District leadership prioritizes satisfying teacher union demands and advancing misguided agendas over students' basic academic success. The illegal teacher strike in 2022 disrupted classrooms, ballooned salaries and further eroded public trust in the district's ability to manage funds responsibly. These failures must not be rewarded with more taxpayer money.

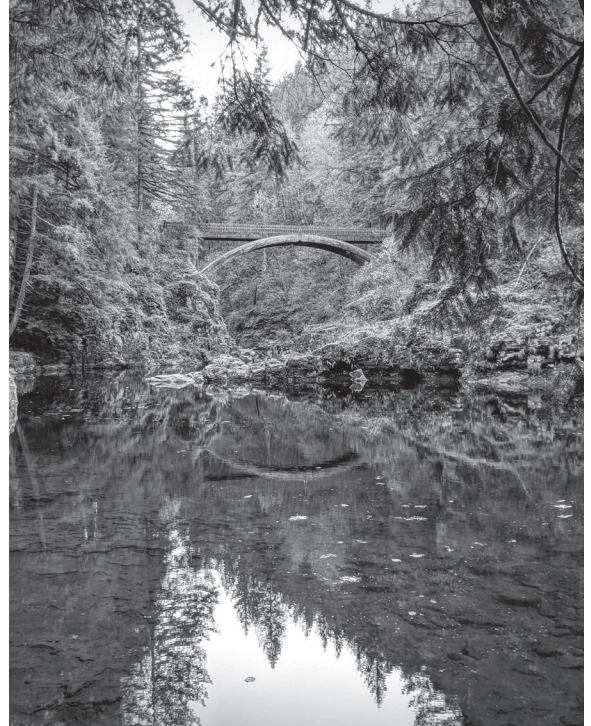
Taxpayers and students deserve better. This levy perpetuates waste and poor performance. Reject Proposition 12 and demand accountability and real progress. Visit [www.reformclarkcounty.com](http://www.reformclarkcounty.com) for more information.

**REBUTTAL OF STATEMENT FOR**  
Proposition 12 isn't just a "renewal" but a 41.7% revenue increase—that's *Double* since 2019. Meanwhile, Ridgefield schools' academic performance continues to disappoint. Giving big raises via an illegal teachers' union strike should not be rewarded, or more will follow. Enlarged salaries now threaten other services, not the lack of tax revenue. Vote "No" to make Ridgefield come back with a more reasonable levy request and demand accountability. For more info, visit [reformclarkcounty.com](http://reformclarkcounty.com).

**Statement Against and Rebuttal of Statement For Submitted by:**  
Rob Anderson, Chair  
rob@reformclarkcounty.com  
reformclarkcounty.com

# Clark County Official Local Voters' Pamphlet

February 11, 2025 Special Election  
Ridgefield School District Edition



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# Ridgefield School District No. 122

## Proposition No. 13

### Capital Projects and Technology Levy

The Board of Directors of Ridgefield School District No. 122 adopted Resolution #2024-2025-003 concerning a proposition for a capital projects and technology levy. This proposition would authorize the District to levy the following excess taxes upon all taxable property within the District to construct Elementary School #3; make necessary repairs to Union Ridge and South Ridge Elementaries; enhance access to technology, telecommunications and networking systems; improve cybersecurity; purchase online applications and software licenses; and make safety and infrastructure improvements, including upgrades to HVAC systems and roofing:

Collection Year	Approximate Levy Rate/\$1000 Assessed Value	Levy Amount
2026	\$0.84	\$6,730,000
2027	\$0.84	\$7,070,000
2028	\$0.84	\$7,420,000

all as provided in Resolution #2024-2025-003. Should this proposition be approved?

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

#### EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Passage of Proposition No. 13 would enable the District to construct Elementary #3; make repairs at Union Ridge and South Ridge Elementaries; modernize and upgrade educational facilities; improve computer, telecommunications and networking systems; and make cybersecurity, licensing, training and technology expenditures. The District estimates a tax rate of \$0.84 per \$1,000 of assessed value for each of the levy's three collection years (2026, 2027, and 2028). Tax exemptions may be available to homeowners 61 or older or disabled, and who meet certain income requirements. For information on exemptions, call the Clark County Assessor at (564) 397-2391.

#### STATEMENT FOR

*Transforming Community Ideas Into Action*  
Please vote "Yes" on Proposition 13, the Capital and Technology Levy that transforms community ideas into action through a strategic, community-driven plan.

*A Proposal Developed by Community Feedback*  
After months of engagement through town halls, surveys, and discussions, Ridgefield School District developed a proposal addressing essential facility needs. The district explored multiple options and incorporated rounds of community feedback, resulting in a reduced design footprint for the new elementary school. Changes include a smaller gym, eliminating collaboration spaces, corridor pull-out spaces, and the turf athletic field, cutting 6,000 square feet, and saving about \$4 million. This scaled-back plan and smart funding strategy reflect what the community asked for—practical solutions prioritizing urgent needs while remaining fiscally responsible.

*Smart Funding Strategies*  
The new school will be funded through \$21 million in developer-paid impact fees and \$16.5 million in state funding—available only if the levy passes. Of the \$22 million requested from taxpayers, \$15 million will complete the elementary, \$5 million will replace aging roofs at Union and South Ridge, and \$1.5 million will support three years of technology upgrades. This no-frills approach maximizes every dollar to address urgent school needs while minimizing tax impact on residents, with the levy limited to three years.

Voting "Yes" on Proposition 13 improves Ridgefield's schools while honoring community feedback. Propositions 12 and 13 are critical investments in our community's future. Please vote "Yes" on both Propositions!

#### REBUTTAL OF STATEMENT AGAINST

A benefit of a levy over a bond is the shorter tax commitment (3 years), decreasing total interest paid. For *and* against bond voters gave feedback, which created a solution to build an elementary school with the smallest taxpayer burden. Unfortunately, a tax increase is the only way to build schools in Washington. The community gave feedback that track resurfacing and turf replacement are not essential, which is why they are *not* in Proposition 13.

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

Kelliana Cole, Chair  
kelliana@me.com  
citizensforridgefieldschools.com  
Megan Dudley  
Bill Baumann

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#### STATEMENT AGAINST

*A Very Expensive Levy That Looks Like A Bond*  
Public school funding is intentionally confusing, and Ridgefield's proposed "Capital and Technology Levy" is no exception. This \$21 million new spending proposal, when combined with Proposition 12, would more than double school taxes, increasing from \$31 million in 2022 to \$65 million in 2025—an eye-popping 110% increase. Tax rates would rise by 72.7%, from \$1.50 to \$2.59 per \$1,000 of assessed value. For a \$750,000 home, this means an additional \$817, bringing the total school tax burden to \$2,715 per year (\$3.62 - total bonds and levies approved). Shockingly, *only* 7% of this levy will go toward technology expenses, primarily to maintain existing staff and student devices. The rest would fund projects previously rejected by voters, including the high school track resurfacing and turf replacement. This levy functions like a bond measure repackaged as a levy to pass with a simple majority, instead of the required 60%.

*More Promises, Same Results*  
Despite promises of innovation, Ridgefield schools continue to struggle with poor academic performance. Increasing funding for technology has not improved results. Taxpayers have funded laptops and Chromebooks for years, yet only 64% of elementary students are proficient in reading, and just 52% meet math standards. There is no evidence this additional spending will address these systemic issues.

Ridgefield students and taxpayers deserve better. Vote *No* on Proposition 13 and demand accountability from the district. Visit [www.reformclarkcounty.com](http://www.reformclarkcounty.com) for more information.

#### REBUTTAL OF STATEMENT FOR

Proposition 13 claims to reflect community feedback and fiscal responsibility, yet it repackages past rejected bond projects, including turf replacement, into an easier-to-pass levy. Shockingly, only 7% of the \$22 million will actually fund technology, while taxpayers shoulder a 72.7% increase in school tax rates if both levies pass. Ridgefield schools already underperform, with little accountability for previous funding. Reject wasteful spending masked as "smart strategies." For more info, visit [reformclarkcounty.com](http://reformclarkcounty.com).

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

Rob Anderson, Chair  
rob@reformclarkcounty.com  
reformclarkcounty.com

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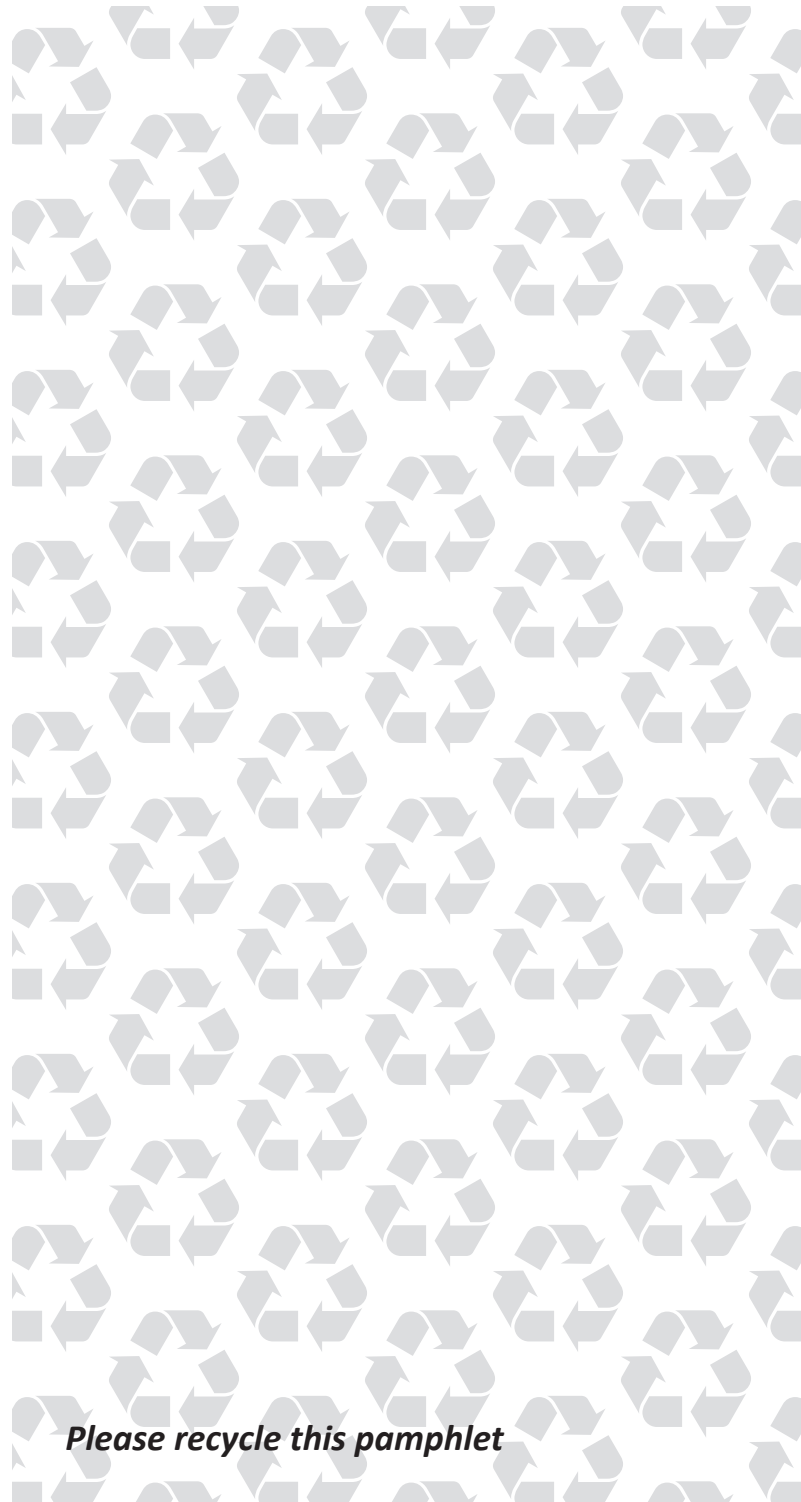
**Phone** 564-397-2345

**Relay** 711 or 877-833-6341

**Email** elections@clark.wa.gov

**Mailing address** PO Box 8815, Vancouver, WA 98666-8815

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Clark County Official Local

# Voters' Pamphlet

February 11, 2025 Special Election

Vancouver School District Edition



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# Vancouver School District No. 37

## Proposition No. 7

### Technology, Safety and Capital Projects Levy

The Board of Directors of Vancouver School District No. 37 passed Resolution No. 928, concerning a proposition for a technology and capital projects levy. This proposition would authorize the District to levy the following excess taxes upon all taxable property within the District, to fund updated technology infrastructure, software, and digital safety and learning tools, including training for staff, and to fund capital infrastructure projects to enhance student safety and extend the useful life of District facilities:

Collection Year	Approximate Levy Rate/\$1000 Assessed Value	Levy Amount
2026	\$0.29	\$9,624,500
2027	\$0.36	\$12,664,500
2028	\$0.38	\$14,174,200
2029	\$0.38	\$14,878,700
2030	\$0.38	\$15,622,700
2031	\$0.38	\$16,403,800

all as provided in Resolution No. 928. Should this proposition be approved?

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

#### EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Proposition #7 would renew an expiring capital projects levy, allowing the District to continue its future-ready student technology initiatives, make safety enhancements to schools and extend the useful life of District facilities. If approved, estimated property tax levy rates would be \$.29 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation (AV) in 2026, \$.36 per \$1,000 of AV in 2027, and \$.38 per \$1,000 of AV in 2028 through 2031. The District's debt service fund levy for the 2017 voter-approved bonds is projected to decrease by approximately \$.40 per \$1,000 of AV between 2027 and 2031, offsetting this proposed replacement levy.

#### STATEMENT FOR

Supporting Proposition #7, a replacement capital levy, is a smart investment in our schools and community. By voting Yes, you're ensuring our children have safe, well-equipped schools that reflect our community's commitment to their success in higher education, the workforce, and beyond—all while maintaining a stable tax rate.

This levy replaces an existing expiring levy, continuing vital funding for technology, safety, and building repairs with a consistent overall school tax rate. Schools, like homes, require ongoing maintenance and updates to remain functional and effective, and this replacement levy ensures that essential resources remain available to address these needs.

The levy provides funding for essential technology repairs, replacements, and software updates, ensuring students gain the skills they need to thrive in a modern world. Rapid technological advancements mean students need access to current tools to compete in college and the workforce. It also supports critical safety updates, such as improved building locks and upgraded security cameras, creating a secure learning environment for all. Additionally, it funds essential building repairs, like fixing leaking roofs and HVAC systems, to prevent costly emergencies and keep classrooms comfortable.

Replacing this levy is part of a long-term, thoughtful plan to maintain our schools and address evolving needs. Quality schools strengthen our community by attracting families, preserving property values, and preparing future leaders. By voting Yes, you're continuing to invest in safe, well-maintained schools and giving students the tools they need to succeed.

#### REBUTTAL OF STATEMENT AGAINST

This renewal levy keeps our local school tax rates steady. Rising costs and limited state funding make this levy crucial for safety, technology, and maintenance needs. A "no" vote risks cutting essential services, higher emergency repair costs, and reduced educational quality. While challenges remain, voting "no" makes them worse. This measure is a smart investment because it saves money long-term and ensures a stronger future for everyone. Thank you, voters, for investing in our children.

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

Jennifer Rhoads  
 Chair of the Citizens for Good Schools  
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 360-903-2403  
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 Allison Pauletto  
 John McDonagh

#### STATEMENT AGAINST

This is a renewal levy that raises taxes. 2026 to 2031 they will collect \$83,348,400. On top of there is the EP&O levy (\$270mm+) along with the Capital Bond taxes *Plus* the State of Washington school taxes. Capital Levy \$.29/\$1000; Bonds \$1.14/\$1000; EP&O levy \$2.13/\$1000; \$2.25/\$1000 State School taxes. Total is \$5.81/\$1000. For a \$600,000 home that equals \$3,486.

Statewide we spend over \$18,500 per student (2x private school cost). 60.7% of english language; 71.1% of math and 50.7% of science students are failing. Only 62% attend classes on a regular basis. Student headcount is falling with a loss of 6% in the last 5 years. Student headcount is down by over 2,000 +but personnel numbers are up 1,000 since 2020?

The district has empty classrooms due to overbuilding you are paying for the next 16 years along with maintenance costs. The district is running a deficit and may need to reduce work force further. Over 80% of every dollar goes to personnel. We have a systemic funding issue the legislature needs to address. This levy should be for 2 years and not push the spending problem down the road for 6 years.

Your pocket book is nearly empty. Every tax from government is going up. The State is projecting a deficit of \$10 to \$12 billion. Why shouldn't the school district have to deal with your pain? Inflation continues marking it harder for you to pay your bills. Vote no. More info at [www.swweducation.org](http://www.swweducation.org)

#### REBUTTAL OF STATEMENT FOR

Replacement means higher taxes. Schools and classrooms sit empty due to falling headcount (down 6%) which you pay for. Repairs? The district got nearly \$1 billion from taxpayers in the last bond. Personnel numbers are up nearly 1000 while students leave. Major budget issues get pushed down the road with a 6 year levy. Tell them 2 years. Force them to address the shortfalls now and not push down the road.

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

Katie Bauer, Chair  
 Katie0000@protonmail.com  
 swweducation.org