

South Kitsap School District No. 402 and North Mason School District No. 403 are participating in this election.

**Your Right to Privacy**

Every voter has the right to vote his or her ballot in secret. Attempting to vote when not qualified, or falsely signing the Voter Declaration, is a felony punishable by up to five years of imprisonment or a maximum fine of \$10,000, or both imprisonment and fine.

**Questions or Need a Replacement Ballot?**

If you have not received your ballot by January 30, or if your ballot is damaged or lost, you may request a replacement ballot by contacting Kitsap County Elections at [auditor@kitsap.gov](mailto:auditor@kitsap.gov) or (360) 337-7128 (Press 1 to bypass the message.)

**Who May Vote**

- To be eligible to vote, one must register and be:
- A citizen of the United States.
  - At least 18 years old.
  - Not currently serving a sentence of total confinement in prison for a Washington felony conviction.
  - Not currently incarcerated for a federal or out-of-state felony conviction.
  - Not disqualified from voting due to a court order.

**Options for Registering**

- Online at [www.VoteWA.gov](http://www.VoteWA.gov).
- Complete a paper registration form, available at libraries, city halls, public schools, fire district offices and at the County Auditor's Office.
- When you renew your driver's license.

**South Kitsap School District No. 402**

**Proposition No. 1**

**Replacement of Expiring Educational Programs and Operations Levy**

The Board of Directors of South Kitsap School District No. 402 adopted Resolution No. 1378, concerning a proposition for educational programs and operations. This proposition would authorize the District to levy the following excess taxes, as a replacement of the expiring levy, upon all taxable property within the District, for support of the District's General Fund educational programs and operations expenses not fully funded by the State:

Collection Year	Estimated Levy Rate/\$1,000 Assessed Value	Levy Amount
2026	\$1.94	\$ 30,990,823
2027	\$1.94	\$ 32,313,252
2028	\$1.94	\$ 33,950,830
2029	\$1.94	\$ 35,690,540

all as provided in Resolution No. 1378.  
Should this proposition be approved?

Levy ... Yes

Levy ... No

**Explanatory Statement**

*(Prepared by the attorney for the district as prescribed by law.)*

Passage of this proposition would allow South Kitsap School District to renew an existing educational programs and operations levy that will expire at the end of calendar year 2025. The taxes collected by this levy renewal will be used to pay expenses of educational programs and operations that are not fully funded by the State of Washington, and maintain support for school safety and security, special education, music and arts programming, extracurricular activities, athletics, after-school activities, kindergarten preparedness, early learning, pupil transportation, technology hardware/software for students and the additional support needed to maintain technology integrity in schools. The renewal would also support staffing not fully funded by the State of Washington to include (but not be limited to): safety and security staff, teachers, support staff, specialists, counselors, nurses (RN & LPN), custodial, technology, and facility personnel.

The proposed four-year renewal levy would authorize collection of taxes to provide up to \$30,990,823 in 2026, \$32,313,252 in 2027, \$33,950,830 in 2028, and \$35,690,540 in 2029. The levy rate required to produce these amounts is estimated to be \$1.94 per \$1,000 of assessed value. The exact levy rates and amounts to be collected may be adjusted based upon the actual assessed value of the taxable property within the District and the limitations imposed by State law at the time of levy. Exemptions from taxes may be available to certain homeowners. To determine if you qualify, call the Kitsap County Assessor at 360-337-7160.

**This page is not your ballot.  
Please use the official ballot found in this packet.**

**Do not place this sheet in the envelope when you return your ballot. Keep it for your records.**

## Argument For the Measure

### Renewal, No Tax Increase

The State of Washington legislates that local taxes fund 16% of our school district's requirements. So, your "Yes" vote on this levy simply fills that legislated hole. What's in the hole? Educational programs *and* operations. A "Yes" vote allows SKSD to continue to offer a complete range of educational programs, to maintain the buildings in which these programs engage students and helps to ensure all schools remain safe. Please vote "Yes."

### From Kindergarten Preparedness to Advanced Placement

Renewing the levy means keeping travel to away games, Advanced Placement, orchestra, band & choir; it means staffed libraries, working computers & tech support. It could help limit class sizes. It is what pays for Special Education and 90+ vocational classes. Oh, and what's high school without Drama? Let's give our students every chance at success.

### From a Roof over their Heads to Physical & Mental Safety

Renewal will retain current security tech, officers, and threat assessment; not to mention carpet, paint, shingles and heated portables. Struggling families have access to nurses, counselors and reliable buses (and their drivers) through this levy. Vote "Yes" for our Paraeducators, Custodians, and students.

### No New Taxes

Not only that but this rate is lower than 2021's, and will decrease as the SK population increases. In addition, many seniors and those living with disabilities are eligible for property tax exemptions. Visit [bit.ly/kitsaptaxexemptions](http://bit.ly/kitsaptaxexemptions) for more information.

Vote "Yes" to renew the levy and keep SK schools safe, strong, and successful for years to come.

## Rebuttal to the Argument Against

This argument against the levy remains as far from dollars & sense reality as anything from Marvel's universe. The levy cannot fund raises; only operations & educational programs. That means carpet, boatbuilding, athletics, custodial, AP, nurses, Art, buses & drivers, World Languages, psychologists, career guidance, computers, music and physical security. Olympia requires that each District fund everything beyond the basics. The levy is a renewal, not a tax increase. Vote "Yes" for your community.

*Argument prepared by David May, chair; State Academic Cross-country winner James Hardin, and J. Richardson, committee members; South Kitsap School Supporters. For more information, call (360) 871-1686.*

## Argument Against the Measure

Board/District policy states that SKSD employees can't say anything bad about the district since it "confuses" people. Therefore, why attend conferences or read newsletters that always state how great your kids are doing and how great the SKSD is? We won't waste time refuting SKSD's "facts" when OSPI and other state agencies "facts" document the SKSD's continuing failure to provide an appropriate education which should insure your student's success after high school. Everyone supports education but more money isn't the real answer.

District employees are state employees receiving lifetime pensions, automatic state raises, and COLAs. They also take (see all union contracts) an additional 3+% pay raise from each levy. That's an 8+% pay raise each year; or 32+% over each 4yr levy. Stop allowing your tax increases to cover huge raises. Continued pay/perks hikes aren't improving student academic progress nor success. The average employee makes over \$110K in pay/perks. Do you?

A realistic fix- fail two levies in a row. Currently, 94.7% of levy monies go to employee pay/perks. Of this \$30+M a year (for 4 years), the "kids" only get \$1.59M a year (\$6.4M total). Deferred maintenance, curriculum, and basic education continue to go by the wayside.

Failing two consecutive levies allows the state to take over the SKSD. Requests for administrative staff resignations should follow. Pay/perks reset to state recommended levels. Eliminating 300 excess employees. Tax dollars directed where they need to go.

Review your online tax statement. Vote No- twice.

## Rebuttal to the Argument For

No state can legislate local spending. Levies are optional. Fearmongering, platitudes, emotional appeals, questionable emotional "help", DEI, SEL, and extra employees aren't improving student achievement or core job skills. Employers hire strongly skilled individuals. Band, Security, Orchestra, AP, SPED, Drama, Sports, Transportation, Maintenance, etc., are fully funded (when properly allocated) by your current taxes using the State funding model. Levies with district "extras" disguised as "needs" including additional pay/perks won't help students. Vote No.

*Argument prepared by Jeff Daily, chair; and Larry Mann, committee member; committee against the measure. For more information, go to: <https://skcdfa.com>, or email [skcdfa@gmail.com](mailto:skcdfa@gmail.com).*

*The Auditor's Office is not responsible for the content of statements or their factual and grammatical accuracy.*

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