

Bremerton School District No. 100-C

**Proposition No. 1
School Support Levy**

Official Ballot Title

The Board of Directors of Bremerton School District passed Resolution No. 2017/2018-06 concerning this proposition for the purpose of

- supporting educational programs and
- providing school operation and maintenance funds

by levying the following excess taxes to replace an expiring levy on all taxable property with the District, for essential educational operating and maintenance expenses not funded by the State subject to legal limits on levy amounts and rates at the time of levy:

Collection Years	Approximate Levy Rate/\$1,000 Assessed Value	Levy Amount
2019	\$1.50	\$6,652,154
2020	\$1.50	\$8,647,800

Should this proposition be approved?

- Yes
- No

Explanatory Statement

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

Passage of Proposition No. 1 would allow the levy of \$6,652,154 in property taxes within Bremerton School District No. 100-C for collection in 2019, and the levy of \$8,647,800 for collection in 2020, to replace an expiring levy and enable the District to pay for its educational programs and services, such levies to be made for two years commencing in 2018 for collection in the years from 2019 and 2020. In accordance with Resolution No. 2017/18-06 approving this proposition, these taxes would be deposited in the District's General Fund to pay part of the general expenses of operating the District. General expenses of the District include employee costs (salaries), instructional materials, special programs, activities and sports, technology systems operation, transportation costs, maintenance of facilities and other non-capital expenses of operating the District schools. If authorized by the voters and based on projected assessed valuation information, estimated levy rates per \$1,000 of assessed value would be \$1.50 (2019 collection) and \$1.50 (2020 collection).

Argument For the Measure

Support Bremerton schools by renewing this critical levy. Levies provide schools with the funding needed to support programs, staffing, materials, and maintenance that our community values. Bremerton's current levy expires in 2018 and this levy will continue to maintain educational programs and operations that are not funded by the state. The levy amount in this request is less than previous years and provides 7-8% of the district's revenues.

This School Support Levy will provide educational opportunities that will positively impact our students and community. The funding will help to support specialty programs such as STEM, Dual Language, Art Integration and summer school. It will also add current materials to our school libraries that support student academic research and personal interest needs. Extra-curricular programs such as music, drama, sports and other clubs will also continue to function. In addition, funding will help to attract and retain qualified staff needed to teach specialized classes and positions not funded by the state including school security personnel and a School Resource Officer. Funding will also support assistance for students with special needs. All of these program, staffing and operation needs work together in creating a system that educates Bremerton's diverse population of children.

Your yes vote will help build a stronger community through stronger schools. Schools that are committed to building a strong educational foundation that supports the diverse needs of our community.

Rebuttal to the Argument Against

No argument against the measure submitted for rebuttal.

Argument prepared by Chairperson Julie Wasserburger, Treasurer Jonee Dubos; Committee For the Measure. To contact the committee, call 360-620-8411, or email wasser3@comcast.net.

Argument Against the Measure

No argument submitted

Rebuttal to the Argument For

No rebuttal submitted.

No committee against formed.

Bremerton School District No. 100-C

**Proposition No. 2
Technology and Capital Projects Levy**

Official Ballot Title

The Board of Directors of Bremerton School District adopted Resolution No. 2017/2018-07 concerning technology levies. This proposition would authorize the acquisition, installation, and management of computer technology systems, projects and facilities, including enhancing infrastructure, acquiring hardware, licensing software, implementing applications and training for the District's technology systems, projects or facilities; other authorized capital projects; and the following excess levies for such purposes on all taxable property within the District:

Collection Years	Approximate Levy Rate/\$1,000 Assessed Value	Levy Amount
2019	\$0.67	\$2,450,000

Should this proposition be approved?

- Yes
- No

Explanatory Statement

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

Passage of Proposition No. 2 would allow the levy of \$2,450,000 in property taxes within Bremerton School District No. 100-C for collection in 2019 to fund construction, modernization and remodeling of existing facilities, and technology improvements including equipment, infrastructure and the implementation of new technology systems for operations and instruction. In accordance with Resolution No. 2017/2018-07 approving this proposition, these taxes would be collected over the 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 school years and deposited in the District's Capital Projects Fund for construction, renovation, improvements and expansion of new and existing facilities, for technology improvements, and equipment and training to meet the current and future educational programs for its students. If authorized by the voters, and based on projected assessed valuation information, estimated levy rates per \$1,000 of assessed value would be \$0.67 for collection in 2019. The exact levy rate shall be adjusted based upon the actual assessed value of the property within the District at the time of the levy.

Argument For the Measure

Bremerton School District is asking voters to approve a one year Technology Levy to improve the district's technology systems. With this levy, schools will continue their work in providing digital learning and teaching resources to staff and students. This short-term levy will allow Bremerton schools to move forward in providing dynamic learning environments where staff and students blend technology with the curriculum. The levy will also provide students the resources and skills needed to be successful, ethical and competitive in a digital world.

For the past three years technology has been integrated into elementary classrooms where students have access to computers, online resources and programs. Elementary students have learned how to use and share information using these tools. As the elementary students move into the middle and high school, the secondary schools are needing to expand and modernize the systems to support all district students having access to hardware and online applications. This growth requires funding that the Washington State Legislature does not provide.

The Bremerton Technology Levy will provide for hardware, online applications, improved infrastructure, professional development and services related to installing and integrating the systems. The outcome will be improved student learning with reliable and current hardware, modernized infrastructure, equitable access for all students, and professional development for staff on integrating technology into classroom instruction.

Please support Bremerton Schools in providing a future ready environment where students graduate from Bremerton High School ready to meet the challenges of a digital society.

Rebuttal to the Argument Against

No argument against the measure submitted for rebuttal.

Argument prepared by Chairperson Julie Wasserburger, Treasurer Jonee Dubos; Committee For the Measure. To contact the committee, call 360-620-8411, or email wasser3@comcast.net.

Argument Against the Measure

No argument submitted.

Rebuttal to the Argument For

No rebuttal submitted.

No committee against formed.

North Kitsap School District No. 400

**Proposition No. 1
Educational Program & Operations
Funding Levy**

Official Ballot Title

The Board of Directors of North Kitsap School District No. 400 approved Resolution 10-02-17, authorizing a replacement of an expiring levy for education. This proposition authorizes the District to levy the following taxes on all taxable property within the District, to provide funding for instructional programs beyond the state minimum instructional offerings, staffing ratios, program components, or professional learning allocations, including student and program support programs, and enriched operational support of the District:

Levy Years	Collection Years	Approximate Levy Rate/\$1,000 Assessed Value	Levy Amount
2018	2019	\$1.50	\$11,405,613
2019	2020	\$1.50	\$11,975,894
2020	2021	\$1.50	\$12,574,688
2021	2022	\$1.50	\$13,203,423

Should this proposition be approved?

Yes
 No

Explanatory Statement

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

Local levy funding is necessary to maintain the present educational program of North Kitsap School District No. 400. State basic education funding remains inadequate to fully fund the District's operation.

Passage of Proposition No. 1 will authorize the District to continue a four year educational program and operations levy to support school operations programs for the 2017-18 through 2021-2022 school years. The levy is not a new tax on real property. It replaces an expiring voter-approved four year maintenance and operations support levy, which ends in 2018.

The proposed levy would provide funding to allow the District to continue support and provide educational services and district operations not fully funded by the state, including the basic costs of Certificated Staff (Teachers, Counselors, Librarians) as well as additional Certificated Staff to reduce class sizes and meet student needs; Classified Staff (Office Managers, Secretaries, Paraeducators, Grounds, Maintenance, Custodial, Computer Techs, Food/Nutrition Services, Bus Drivers, Support Center – payroll, human resources, accounting, district, building and program managers) necessary to support educational programs and operations; Special Education services; Transportation Operations; and Extra-Curricular Programs, Athletics and Student Activities.

Rejection of the levy would result in increased class sizes, reductions in special education services, decreased paraeducator support for teacher and students, reduced maintenance, grounds, and custodial support for the District's 231.56 acres of school grounds and playfields and 1 million square feet of facilities, increased bus ride times, and elimination of extra-curricular activities.

Argument For the Measure

Funding for day-to-day operations of public schools comes from three main sources: state, federal, and local tax dollars. In North Kitsap, local levy dollars currently cover nearly one-quarter of the costs for daily school operations and educational programs. The local levy is dependent on a majority-level support of voters. The current levy expires in 2018. This renewal is not a new tax and does not increase your tax rates.

In the North Kitsap School District, the Educational Program and Operations (EP&O) Levy is the ballot measure that directly funds basic classroom and operational needs. This levy pays for necessities such as special education, instructional materials and supplies, utilities, insurance, transportation costs, grounds/facility maintenance, and salaries for support staff including nurses, counselors, para-educators, custodians, and office staff. Essential student engagement programs including athletics, extracurricular activities and clubs are 100% funded by the EP&O levy.

Our community recognizes the value of public education – and the importance of local levies in providing funding for our schools. That's why North Kitsap School District levies have won majority-level support for decades. Majority support to ensure continued local funding of North Kitsap schools cannot be won without two "Yes" votes from registered voters in the North Kitsap School District.

Vote "Yes" for the *Educational Program & Operations Levy* and "Yes" for the *Capital Levy* to provide students excellent educational programs in safe, secure schools. These ballot measures are *both* needed to ensure adequate funding for our schools and our students.

Our community, our commitment, our future.

Rebuttal to the Argument Against

State school funding provides the bare minimum. That's why 97% of districts across Washington currently receive levy monies approved by voters. Don't let the opposition fool you. A loss of levy dollars would immediately cut \$12 million on average per year for daily operations. This would be drastic and devastating to our highly ranked schools. Our new district administration is committed to a transparent process with community involvement. Don't short change our students. Vote "Yes!"

Arguments prepared by the Co-Chairpersons Tania Issa and Dick Lockwood, Committee For the Measure. To contact the committee, call (360) 396-3010 or email Vote4NKSD@gmail.com.

Argument Against the Measure

Funding our schools is vital. The children of today will be shaping the future for all of us, however our tax dollars cannot be wasted. The District website has a list of what will be cut if this levy doesn't pass. Most of what is listed directly affects the students; increased class size, reduction of paraeducators, office support in schools, IT support, maintenance, and custodial services. Scary? Our children's education threatened? Consider, the only reduction listed in Administration are those people who are responsible for grants and apportionments.

There are children who go without textbooks yet, pallets of new books, never opened, go to a book recycler.

Poulsbo Elementary had a severe HVAC problem. A local contractor was hired to correct this at a cost of almost \$50,000.00. The work came with a warranty. The problems were made worse by this contractor. The Board had to immediately approve \$1,198,350.00 to have another contractor fix it. The original contractor kept his money. The taxpayers and children suffered the loss.

There is a continual reoccurring problem with the security system: people entering the buildings after hours and not disarming the system or not setting the system when they leave. This is costing the taxpayers a considerable amount of money in overtime for staff to check the buildings.

There is an amazing amount of wasted dollars in NKSD. The Superintendent and Board need to become fiscally responsible. Needed supplies and programs could be better afforded if the waste was cut.

Rebuttal to the Argument For

It is true, "Our community does recognize the value of public education" and NKSD "levies have won majority – level support for decades". What our community does not know is the level of wasteful spending. NKSD must stop wasteful spending, and show taxpayers where funds are being disbursed. Now is the time for voting No. Make NKSD resubmit the proposal with more realistic financial figures.

Arguments prepared by the Chairperson Kim Gerlach, Committee Against the Measure. To contact the committee, call (360) 297-8505 or email kim@tidd.net

North Kitsap School District No. 400

Proposition No. 2

Facilities and Technology Capital Projects Levy

Official Ballot Title

The Board of Directors of North Kitsap School District No. 400 approved Resolution 10-03-17 concerning a proposition for capital project levies. This proposition would fund construction, modernization and remodeling of existing facilities to improve the health, comfort, safety, security, facility infrastructure and class size requirements, as well as improving technology equipment and technology infrastructure, and authorizes the following excess levies on all taxable property within the District:

Levy Years	Collection Years	Approximate Levy Rate/\$1,000 Assessed Value	Levy Amount
2018	2019	\$1.26	\$9,271,660
2019	2020	\$1.26	\$9,735,243
2020	2021	\$1.26	\$10,222,005
2021	2022	\$1.26	\$10,733,105

Should this proposition be approved?

- Yes
- No

Explanatory Statement

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

Passage of Proposition No. 2 would authorize a four year levy from 2019 through 2022 to provide capital funds for North Kitsap School District No. 400 to modernize and upgrade existing school facilities, to improve the safety and security of its schools, provide additional classroom facilities to meet requirements for smaller class sizes, and improve technology equipment and infrastructure to enhance safety communications and access for students to learning resources. This levy would provide funding for costs not otherwise provided by the State of Washington at a stable annual tax rate, without incurring interest costs, during the 2018-19 through 2021-22 school years.

The proposed capital levy was developed with the help of a Citizen's Facility Advisory Committee, which included facility management professionals, District staff, and parents, that identified priority areas to address school facility needs and determine potential costs. The School Board reviewed and accepted these recommendations. The capital levy replaces a debt service levy for a prior school construction bond that expires in 2018 upon full repayment of the outstanding bond debt.

Approval of the requested levy would allow the District to acquire and install improved school security systems with enhanced video monitoring, emergency communication systems, lock down capabilities, and upgraded campus lighting. It would fund roof and HVAC system replacements and upgrades, turf field replacements, field drainage enhancements, parking lot and traffic pattern improvements, playground improvements, necessary sewer installations and other critical infrastructure needs.

The measure would also provide funds necessary to replace obsolete technology and provide upgraded fiber optic networks to support school security upgrades and access to learning resources. Funding would also be provided for addition of classroom facilities throughout the District to meet legal requirements for reduced class sizes and to enhance student learning.

Rejection of the levy would result in the inability of the District to provide necessary and required upgrades for school safety, health, and comfort as well as necessary and recommended upgrades for school security, and educational needs. The District would incur increased maintenance and operational costs to service and operate obsolete or aging facility, utilities, and technology infrastructure systems, and incur risks and costs of legal noncompliance with state mandates to reduce class sizes.

Argument For the Measure

Funding to acquire, improve or maintain capital assets such as school buildings, technology and infrastructure are not considered basic education and are not funded by the state. All funding for buildings and improvements comes from local tax dollars in the form of a bond or capital levy.

In the North Kitsap School District, this Capital Levy is a ballot measure replacing the bond approved in 2001 which expires in 2018. The Capital Levy would fund critical repairs and upgrades related to health, safety, security, technology, and facility infrastructure over the next four years beginning in 2019. These critical repairs and upgrades will provide safe and secure learning environments to support exceptional learning for our students. The Capital Levy is not a new tax and does not increase your tax rates --- it is a replacement tax which maintains a stable tax rate.

Our community recognizes the value of public education – and the importance of local levies in providing funding for our schools. That's why North Kitsap School District levies have won majority-level support for decades. Majority support to ensure continued local funding of North Kitsap schools cannot be won without two "Yes" votes from registered voters in the North Kitsap School District.

Vote "Yes" for the *Capital Levy*, and "Yes" for the *Educational Program & Operations Levy* to provide students excellent educational programs in safe and secure schools. These ballot measures are *both* needed to ensure adequate funding for our schools and our students.

Our community, our commitment, our future.

Rebuttal to the Argument Against

The Capital Levy funds critical safety, security, technology, and infrastructure essentials *not* funded by the state. With a Community Facilities Advisory Committee and comprehensive facilities assessment, the project will have continuous public input and ongoing oversight of monies spent. Do not be misled by the opposition. Visit the district's website www.nkschools.org/levy to learn the plan or call to ask questions. Our students deserve safe and secure learning environments. Don't short change our students. Vote "Yes!"

Arguments prepared by the Co-Chairpersons Tania Issa and Dick Lockwood, Committee For the Measure. To contact the committee, call (360) 396-3010 or email Vote4NKSD@gmail.com.

Argument Against the Measure

Please take the time to go to NKSD website see how the District wants to spend your money. Roof replacement: Two of the schools on the list have new roofs. Vinland in 2013, Gordon in 2014. The Board approved \$838,919.31 for these roofs. Both of these roofs leaked immediately after instillation. The District has a responsibility to taxpayers. The answer is not to ask for more money to cover poor quality work and poor decisions, but to be responsible for the funds already allotted to them.

Why does the District need \$3.7 million for fire alarm systems at all sites? PMS and Transportation have systems less than 3 years old. Therefore, not all systems need to be replaced. Why does NKHS need a \$20,000 washing machine?

Moreover, do all of our elementary schools need outdoor bleachers? Do we need electronic signs at all elementary and middle schools? Also how will a proximity card entry system provide security? It will eliminate keys, not provide security.

Breidablik remains an unused school while we pay for new portables and upkeep on the existing ones. The levy asks for \$1,028,000.00 for portable replacements and ramps. Since Breidablik closed the Board has already approved \$1,012,276.00 for portables at 3 elementary schools.

NKSD is asking for nearly \$90 million over the next 4 years in levies. The taxpaying public has the right to know our tax dollars will be spent wisely. We need to see proof of fiscal responsibility before this amount of money is approved.

Rebuttal to the Argument For

What North Kitsap taxpayers need is responsible spending from NKSD. For decades the taxpayers have freely given funds without accountability from NKSD. Taxpayers are told that without "critical repairs and upgrades" outlined on the district website, our children will lack a safe and secure learning environment. It is time to question what the District considers "critical". It is time to vote No, make NKSD resubmit their proposal with more realistic financial figures.

Arguments prepared by the Chairperson Kim Gerlach, Committee Against the Measure. To contact the committee, call (360) 297-8505 or email kim@tidd.net