

Proposition No. 1
Submitted by Orting School District No. 344
SCHOOL OPERATION LEVY

Official Ballot Title:

To meet the educational needs of students in Orting School District #344, shall the District levy the following taxes, in excess of regular tax levies and in place of an expiring levy, upon all taxable property within the District, for support of the District's General Fund maintenance and operation expenses:

Collection Year	Estimated Levy Rate per \$1,000 Assessed Value	Levy Amount
2001	\$3.99	\$1,750,000
2002	\$4.04	\$1,860,000

all as specified in District Resolution #8.99-00?

Explanatory Statement: Passage of Proposition No. 1 would allow the levy of \$1,750,000 in property taxes within Orting School District for collection in 2001 and the levy of \$1,860,000 in taxes for collection in 2002. These taxes would be deposited in the Orting School District's General Fund to pay part of the general expenses of operating the District. General expenses of the District include employee costs (such as 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, such property taxes would be collected at a rate estimated to be \$3.99 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation in 2001 and \$4.04 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation in 2002.

Statement For:**Washington State does *not* Fully Fund Basic Education:**

Maintenance and Operation Levy funds account for 15% of the general operating budget. In addition, the district receives over \$400,000 in state matching levy assistance monies - which it needs, but **cannot access unless the levy actually passes.**

Replaces Existing Levy That Expires in December 2000:

The rate to taxpayers for this replacement levy will remain the same at about \$4.00 per \$1,000 for 2001 and 2002.

Levy Funds are Crucial to Properly Maintain and Operate our Schools:

For **bus replacement** and **transportation** costs; **special education**, **technology**, **maintaining existing facilities**, the additional **costs for operating our new elementary school**, science **equipment**, **textbooks** and other **curriculum** upgrades, all **student activities** and **sports**, and additional **certificated and classified staffing.**

Continued Progress Depends on Community Support!

The importance of re-approving the levy cannot be over emphasized. Lack of adequate funding will seriously diminish the district's ability to provide the quality educational programs our children deserve.

Statement prepared by : Rena Shawver, Monica Gaub, JR Inman and other members of Citizens for Orting Schools

Statement Against:

No statement was submitted against this issue.

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Proposition No. 1
Submitted by Clover Park School District No. 400
SCHOOL EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM LEVIES

Official Ballot Title:

To replace the expiring levy and thereby meet the educational needs of students, shall the following excess taxes for educational operation and maintenance purposes be levied for Clover Park School District upon all taxable property in the District:

Collection Year	Approximate Levy Rate per \$1,000 Assessed Value	Levy Amount
2001	\$3.70	\$12,410,000
2002	\$3.70	\$13,110,000
2003	\$3.70	\$13,890,000
2004	\$3.70	\$14,710,000

as specified in School Board Resolution No. 00-90?

Explanatory Statement:

Clover Park School District is requesting voters to approve Proposition 1 to replace the existing educational levy which will expire at the end of this calendar year. Proposition 1 authorizes a series of four one-year levies to pay for approximately 13% of the general fund operations of the school district. The levies would pay for existing programs throughout the District that are not fully funded by the state and are deemed to be essential by the School Board. The levies will allow Clover Park School District to continue its focus on improved student achievement. Specifically, the levy dollars would pay a portion of the funds needed to employ teachers, counselors, nurses and health aides and to pay for classroom supplies, textbooks, transportation and safety/security programs. The fixed dollar amounts to be collected in each of the four calendar years beginning in 2001 will be obtained by an annual tax levy rate of approximately \$3.70 per \$1,000 of assessed value. This tax rate is expected to remain the same during the four-year period.

Statement For:

Clover Park Schools depend on School Educational Program levies to provide for the educational needs of children.

Levy dollars are used to hire teachers to maintain class sizes, to pay for nurses, health clerks and staff to ensure that our schools are safe. Levy dollars buy classroom computers, textbooks, supplies and materials. They provide maintenance and upkeep for 26 schools.

This is not a new tax. The current levy will end in December. This levy replaces it, and will allow schools to continue educational services for children at their current levels.

Clover Park School District taxpayers have the lowest tax rate in Pierce County. Voting in favor of this levy will not change that; you will still have the lowest tax rate. Levy tax dollars will stay in Lakewood so that our local schools can provide a quality education for our children. Your yes vote is urgently needed.

Statement prepared by : Barbara Clift, Mandy Candler and Jim Cooper.

Statement Against:

No statement was submitted against this issue.

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Proposition No. 1
Submitted by Bethel School District No. 403
BETHEL SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT BONDS - \$65,000,000

Official Ballot Title:

To construct and equip a new high school and junior high, acquire sites and portables, make safety, athletic facility, roofing and other improvements, and use state matching funds to modernize Spanaway Junior/Thompson Elementary, shall Bethel School District #403 issue \$65,000,000 of general obligation bonds maturing within a maximum term of 20 years, and shall annual property tax levies in addition to regular tax levies be authorized to repay such bonds, as Resolution #15 (99-00) provides?

Explanatory Statement:

Bethel School District is requesting approval of a capital improvements bond measure. This measure would provide for the construction and equipping of a **new high school** and a **new junior high school** on sites already owned by the District. The junior high school would open in September, 2002 and the high school in September, 2005. The bond measure and state matching funds derived from the construction of the two new schools will allow for the **major modernization of Spanaway Junior High and Thompson Elementary**. In addition, the bond measure and state matching funds would provide for the acquisition of **new school sites** and **portable classrooms**, as well as improvements at schools throughout the District including **heating, ventilation, air conditioning and electrical systems, roof and carpet replacement and school safety improvements**. Bonds totaling \$65 million would be issued and be repaid from annual tax levies over 20 years at an **estimated rate of \$0.75 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation**. State matching funds attributable to these projects will generate approximately \$27 million in additional funds to pay a portion of the costs of the projects listed above.

Statement For:**Bond Priorities: Student Safety and Health**

Every project deals directly with the highest priority issues facing our children: safety, health, overcrowding, older schools needing improvements. We urged the district to run the bond again because these projects are absolutely necessary. Changes to secondary school calendars or schedules are temporary solutions causing more school wear and tear, increased costs and can hurt learning and programs.

	Design Capacities	Current Enrollment
Junior High Schools:	2905	3712
High Schools:	2564	3165
No Empty Classrooms		

A Wise Investment

This \$65 million bond will bring an additional \$27 million in state matching funds. Qualified senior citizens are exempt from taxes resulting from the bond.

Community Input

A 41 member Citizens' Advisory Committee recommended this bond. District staff provided information but were non-voting members. This is a citizens-driven bond.

Community Support Needed

Please support our children with the safe and healthy schools they deserve. Join us in voting "Yes" on May 16.

Statement prepared by : Shanon Nokes, John Briebl and Sue Gallagher

Statement Against:

No statement was submitted against this issue.

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Proposition No. 1
Submitted by Auburn School District No. 408
SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT BONDS - \$51,500,000

Official Ballot Title:

To construct and equip a new high school, acquire school sites and modular classrooms and make capital improvements to other District facilities, shall Auburn School District #408 issue \$51,500,000 of general obligation bonds maturing within a maximum term of 20 years, and shall annual property tax levies in addition to regular tax levies be authorized to repay such bonds, all as provided in District Resolution #970?

Explanatory Statement:

Passage of ballot measure No. 1 will allow Auburn School District #408 to collect \$51,500,000 to build and equip a third comprehensive high school. The measure will also provide funds to construct, equip, acquire, and make certain capital improvements to the facilities of the school district.

The construction of a third comprehensive high school and the facility improvements to be funded by the bond are all as described in Resolution No. 970 of the Auburn School District Board of Directors.

Statement For:

Based upon over twenty years of citizens' recommendations, Auburn School District has made a long-term commitment to building smaller schools and maintaining low student-to-teacher ratios. Currently, Auburn High School and Auburn Riverside High School are the largest four-year high schools in the region. Both high schools are already at capacity and, combined, they have twenty portable classrooms to accommodate the growing number of students.

This new comprehensive high school will meet the challenge of rapidly growing student enrollment at the high school level. It will also ensure the continuation of quality educational programs and extracurricular offerings within a safe school environment.

Vote "Yes" to the construction of a third high school and the prevention of further overcrowding! Smaller schools support student achievement and school safety.

Statement prepared by : Auburn Citizens for Schools: Ryan Anderson and Pam McKiernan

Statement Against:
No statement was submitted against this issue.

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Proposition No. 1
Submitted by Pierce County Fire Protection District No. 13
Browns Point - Dash Point Fire Department Medic-One
REGULAR PROPERTY TAX LEVY FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Official Ballot Title:

Shall Pierce County Fire District No. 13 be authorized to impose a PERMANENT regular property tax levy of \$.50 or less per thousand dollars of assessed valuation for Emergency Medical Services? This is for a continuation of the Emergency Medical Services that are currently being provided by the District, the funding of which is scheduled to cease at the end of this year.

Explanatory Statement:

In 1987, the voters of Pierce County Fire District 13 approved the first six-year Emergency Medical Service (EMS) levy. The current EMS levy will expire at the end of 2000, and it was approved at an amount not to exceed 50 cents per \$1,000 assessed value. This property tax levy, if approved by the voters, will continue the present EMS levy permanently. Annually, the Board of Commissioners would establish the amount of the levy, which may be less than, but will not exceed, 50 cents per \$1,000 assessed value. Under House Bill 1154, approved in 1999, RCW 84.52.069 now provides that an EMS levy may be permanently approved by the voters, subject to an annual right of referendum by the voters.

The revenue generated by this levy may only be used for EMS purposes, and the law requires separate accounting of EMS expenditures. This levy would provide the funds necessary to obtain, operate and maintain emergency medical aid vehicles, facilities, equipment and emergency medical technicians along with other medically trained personnel. Over 70% of the calls for service by the District are EMS calls. The regular property tax levy provides funds for fire prevention and suppression, but does not provide funding for emergency medical services.

Statement For:

We need your help! The levy in March failed by only 8 votes to get 60% approval. We are again asking for your support of the Emergency Medical Service (EMS) Levy as you previously did in 1987 and 1993. Please extend the current EMS levy that will soon expire. This levy will remain at the current rate of 50 cents for each \$1,000 assessed valuation. This levy will *not increase any tax and is not a new tax*, but a continuation of the existing levy. For long range planning it is necessary to secure EMS funding through a permanent EMS levy. This levy will allow the district to continue to provide EMS along with long range planning, purchasing equipment, supplies and training personnel. Over 70% of the calls for service are EMS related calls, these services are not funded from regular property taxes and must be funded by an EMS levy.

Statement prepared by : Dave Strasser

Statement Against:

No statement was submitted against this issue.

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This election is being conducted entirely by mail.

No polling places will be open.

Your ballot must be postmarked by May 16th!

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