

Pierce County Official Local

Voters' Pamphlet

February 11, 2014 Special Election

Steilacoom Historical School District No. 1

Puyallup School District No. 3

Tacoma School District No. 10

University Place School District No. 83

Sumner School District No. 320

Dieringer School District No. 343

Orting School District No. 344

Franklin Pierce School District No. 402

Bethel School District No. 403

Eatonville School District No. 404

Auburn School District No. 408

White River School District No. 416

Fife School District No. 417



Message from the Auditor

Dear Voter,

Holy cow! If you've peeked inside your local Voters' Pamphlet, you've likely noticed a schoolpalooza. Thirteen of Pierce County's 17 school districts are seeking voter-approval in this election, which makes this election nearly countywide.

Pierce County hasn't seen this many school districts participate in a single election since 2006. [Fun fact: Washington once had 2,875 school districts! Today, there are only 295.]

Tiny ballot

"If the election is so big, why does my ballot have only one or two issues?" Because school districts don't overlap: You only belong to one.

"Okay, then why is the Voters' Pamphlet so big?" A booklet was the most efficient and cost-effective option. We analyzed printing and postage costs. We weighed all of the alternatives (including simply inserting a one-page sheet into your ballot packet). The best choice was printing one large volume and mailing it throughout the participating areas of the County.

County history

School districts and road districts are the oldest special purpose districts in Washington, dating back to the first Legislative Assembly of Washington Territory in 1854. Back in those days, counties were directed to establish school districts, manage them, and fund them.

School districts now make up an entire subdivision of State government. County offices regulating school districts were eliminated in 1969. The share of county funding for school districts diminished steadily during the 1900's. And County funding was totally eliminated by 1983 (when the requirement for counties to support school libraries with a property tax levy was removed).

Voter-approved funding

Today, the State has the paramount responsibility to fund education. But, the State recognizes that school districts may need to raise funds beyond the distributions it provides. That's why school districts are allowed to ask voters for property tax to fund maintenance and operation, transportation, and capital purposes.

School levies only require a simple majority to pass. **Engage!**

We've provided a list of school district contacts on page 31. If you have opinions or questions about school funding, please engage your school district or your State legislators.

I know they'd love to hear from you. *I do!* 253-798-3188.

Warmly,



Julie Anderson
Pierce County Auditor

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(The text of each school district resolution is available on our website at piercecounyelections.org)

Voters' Pamphlet FAQ's

Why are there ballot propositions in this pamphlet that are not on my ballot?

Your ballot will include only the school proposition(s) that you are eligible to vote on. Your ballot is based on the school district in which you reside. To save election costs, this all inclusive voters' pamphlet covers several school districts, even if your ballot only contains one or two propositions.

How are committees "for" or "against" a proposition formed?

Districts are responsible for appointing committee members who agree to write statements. If a "for" or "against" committee is not appointed by the deadline, the Pierce County Auditor's Office publishes a notice seeking members for the committee.

Who do I contact if I have questions about the propositions?

See page 31 for a list of who to call with questions.

Statements are printed exactly as submitted. No spelling, grammatical or other corrections have been made. The Pierce County Auditor's Office does not confirm that the statements printed are true or fact.

Ballot Drop Boxes - No Stamp Required

Open January 24, 2014 through February 11, 2014. (Close 8:00 p.m. February 11th)



Anderson Island

Anderson Island Park and Ride
Yoman Rd (near Villa Beach Rd)
Anderson Island, WA 98303

Bonney Lake

Bonney Lake (South)
Park and Ride
Sky Island Dr E & 184th Ave E
Bonney Lake, WA 98391

Browns Point/ Northeast Tacoma

NE Police Substation
4731 Norpoint Way NE
Tacoma, WA 98422

DuPont

DuPont Ross Plaza
1500 Wilmington Dr
DuPont, WA 98327

Eatonville

Barney's Corner
40512 Meridian E
Eatonville, WA 98328

Edgewood

Edgewood City Hall
2224 104th Ave E
Edgewood, WA 98372

Fife

Fife Municipal Court
3737 Pacific Hwy E
Fife, WA 98424

Lakewood

Lakewood City Hall
6000 Main St SW
Lakewood, WA 98499

Lakewood (SR512)
Park and Ride
10417 South Tacoma Way
Lakewood, WA 98499

Parkland/Spanaway

Parkland/Spanaway Library
13718 Pacific Ave S
Tacoma, WA 98444

Roy Y Park and Ride
SR 507 and Pacific Ave S
Spanaway, WA 98387

Puyallup/South Hill

Puyallup Library
324 South Meridian
Puyallup, WA 98371

South Hill Library
15420 Meridian E
Puyallup, WA 98375

Steilacoom

Steilacoom Library
2950 Steilacoom Blvd
Steilacoom, WA 98388

Sumner

Sumner Library
1116 Fryer Ave
Sumner, WA 98390

Tacoma

72nd Street Transit Center
1319 E 72nd St
Tacoma, WA 98404

Central District
902 S L St
Tacoma, WA 98405

Kandle Park Police Substation
5140 N 26th St
Tacoma, WA 98407

Pierce County Annex
2401 S 35th St
Tacoma, WA 98409

Pierce County Community
Connections
3602 Pacific Ave
Tacoma, WA 98418

Tacoma Area Coalition of
Individuals with Disabilities
6315 S 19th St
Tacoma, WA 98466

Tacoma Dome Park and Ride
610 Puyallup Ave E
Tacoma, WA 98421

University Place

University Place Fire Department
3631 Drexler Dr W
University Place, WA 98466

New!

**All drop boxes close at
8:00 p.m. on February 11, 2014.**

Maps, directions, and photos
are available online:

piercecoutelections.org

Voting Centers

Open February 11th only
7:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Voting Centers are an extension of our main office.

Services available:

- **Accessible voting using touch screen equipment.**
- **Provisional ballots.**
- **Voting assistance from Election staff.**
- **Voter registration.**
- **Ballot drop off.**



**Tacoma Area Coalition of
Individuals with Disabilities
(TACID)**
6315 S 19th St
Tacoma, WA 98466

Pierce County Election Center
2501 S 35th St, Suite C
Tacoma, WA, 98409

Puyallup Library
324 South Meridian
Puyallup, WA 98371

- **Bring photo ID.**
- **If you want to vote on the accessible voting equipment, don't return your ballot.**

For more information on accessible voting in Pierce County, call us or visit our website:
piercecounyelections.org

Additional assistance

CFI CENTER FOR INDEPENDENCE

Center for Independence
253-582-1253 (voice)
800-724-8172

hsdc

Hearing, Speech &
Deafness Center
253-474-1748 (TTY)
253-292-2209 (videophone)
253-475-0782 (voice)

 **TACID**
*Promoting the independence
of individuals with disabilities*

Tacoma Area Coalition of
Individuals with Disabilities
253-565-9000 (voice)
711 (TTY)

Not registered to vote?

To register to vote in the state of Washington, you must be:

- A citizen of the United States.
- A legal resident of Washington state.
- At least 18 years old by election day.
- Not under the authority of the Department of Corrections.



How to register:

- Online - piercecountyelections.org
- By mail - Call us at (253) 798-VOTE and we will mail you a form.
- In person - Pierce County Elections Division, 2501 S 35th St, Suite C, Tacoma, WA 98409, Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Deadlines:

- Online or mail deadline is **January 13, 2014**.
- In person deadline (new Washington voters only) is **February 3, 2014**.

Who donates to campaigns?

For a list of the people and organizations that donated to local ballot proposition campaigns, visit www.pdc.wa.gov.

Public Disclosure Commission
www.pdc.wa.gov
Toll Free (877) 601-2828



What can you vote on? Four ways to find out!

1. Review your voter registration card to identify your school district

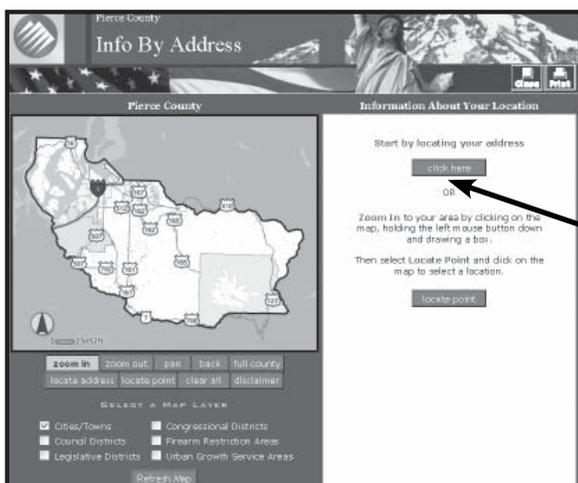
Pierce County Washington Voter Registration Card				
REG DATE : 12/1/1936	COUNTY ID : 0036			
PRECINCT NAME : 29-555	STATE ID : WA005555			
A ballot will be mailed to you each election.				
CONG	LEG	CO. COUNCIL	CITY	PORT
CG 10	LEG 25	CC 5	NONE	TACOMA
SCHOOL	FIRE	WATER	SEWER	PARK
SD 402	FIRE 6	NONE	NONE	NONE
MERRILL HESS 11023 12TH ST S TACOMA WA 98407-1199				

2. Download the Pierce County MyVote App



- Check your registration status.
- View your sample ballot.
- Find your nearest drop box or voting center.
- Find out if we've received your ballot.

3. Visit our website at piercecountyelections.org



Use Info By Address

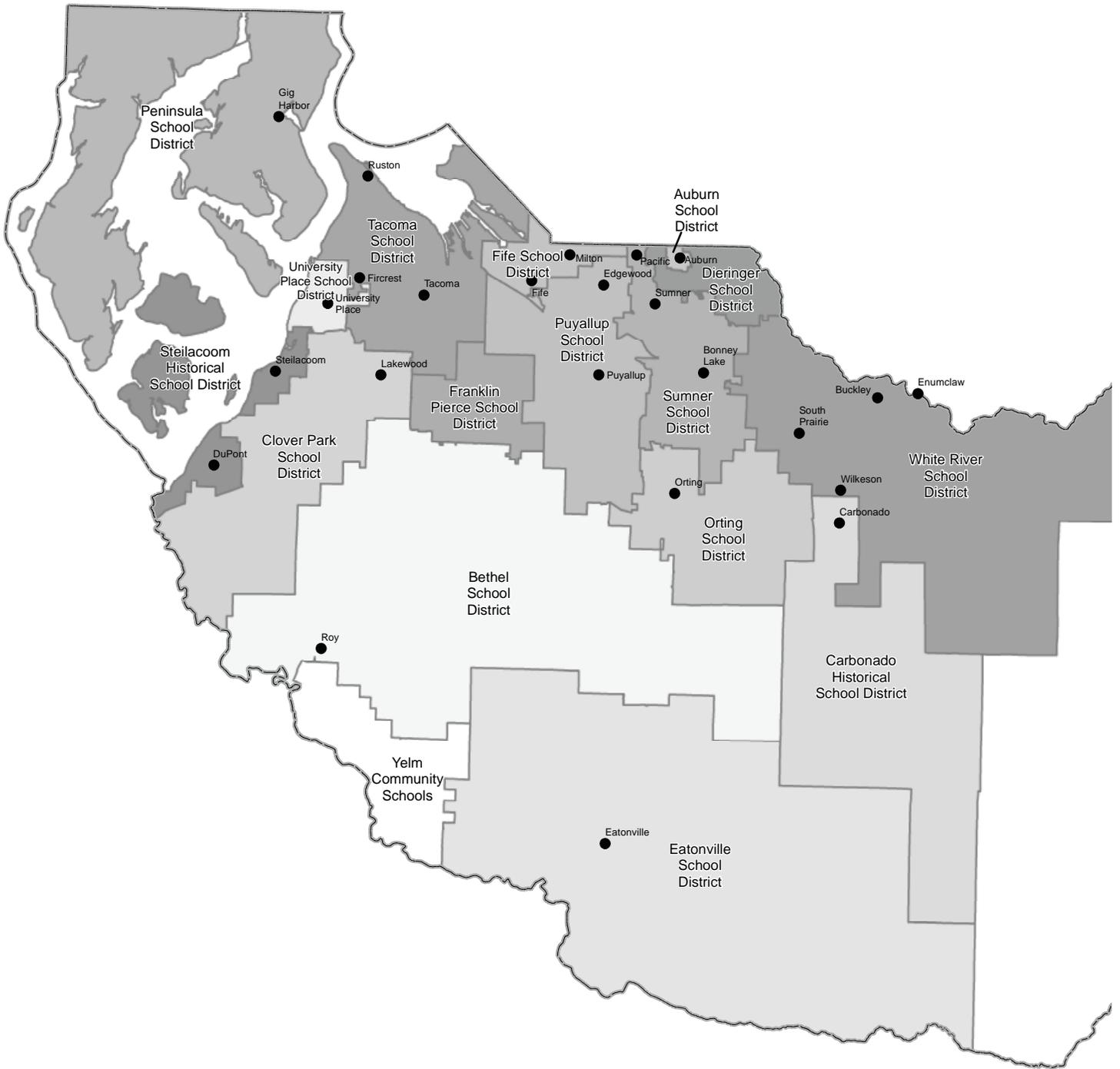
- Go to Voter Resources, then **Info By Address**.
- Enter your address to find your district information, elected officials, and more.

4. Helpful Staff

pcelections@co.pierce.wa.us
253-798-VOTE (8683) or 800-446-4979



Pierce County School Districts



Steilacoom Historical School District No. 1 - Proposition No. 1

Replacement of Expiring Educational Maintenance and Operations Levy

Ballot Title

The Board of Directors of Steilacoom Historical School District No. 1 adopted Resolution No. 809-11-13-13 concerning educational funding. If approved, Proposition No. 1 will authorize the District to levy the following excess taxes, to replace an expiring levy, on all taxable property within the District to support the District's educational programs and daily operations, including teachers, staff, classroom materials and textbooks:

Levy Year	Collection Year	Approximate Levy Rate Per \$1,000 of Assessed Value	Levy Amount
2014	2015	\$2.98	\$7,001,525
2015	2016	\$2.98	\$7,125,000
2016	2017	\$2.98	\$7,280,450
2017	2018	\$2.96	\$7,380,250

all as provided in Resolution No. 809-11-13-13. Should Proposition No. 1 be approved?

Explanatory Statement

Passage of Proposition No. 1 would replace the District's expiring levies and allow the District to levy \$7,001,525 in property taxes within Steilacoom School District for collection in 2015, \$7,125,000 for collection in 2016, \$7,280,450 for collection in 2017, and \$7,380,250 for collection in 2018. In accordance with Resolution No. 809-11-13-13 approving this proposition, these funds would be deposited into the District's General Fund and used to pay for educational programs and daily operations, including teachers, instructional aides, nurses, librarians and other staff, athletics, arts, music and safety programs, textbooks and other classroom materials, and maintaining playgrounds, playfields and other facilities. If authorized by the voters, property taxes would be collected at a rate estimated to be \$2.98 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation in 2015, 2016 and 2017, and \$2.96 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation in 2018.

Statement For

Four years ago, Steilacoom Historical School District's (SHSD) citizen-voters approved a Four-Year Maintenance and Operations School Levy (M&O Levy). The M&O Levy, which provides approximately 20% of the operating costs of the schools, is up for renewal. This levy is not a new tax. Your continued support of the M&O Levy is critical to the school district's operating budget. A failed M&O Levy renewal will have a catastrophic effect on the district's ability to provide a quality education. Current levy dollars help to cover the costs for textbooks, transportation, security, technology, athletics, music, and maintenance that our children, teachers and district rely on. These services would not be available without the additional levy funding.

Please vote yes to *renew* this important levy and keep Steilacoom Historical School District #1 one of the best in the state.

Thank you.

Rebuttal of Statement Against

This *is* a renewal of the current levy, with budget increases due to projected growth. Since 1999 enrollment grew by almost 1000 students and is projected to increase by 500 more. New development offsets levy rate increases. We must be accountable and plan for future growth and increased operational costs. SHSD has an exceptional reputation of providing an excellent education, award winning schools, above average test scores and graduating career and college ready citizens.

Committee Members: Mike Winkler, (253) 459-4756, Mary Dodsworth, and Lenore Rogers
<http://www.supportshsdstudents.com>
 Concerned Citizens for Steilacoom School District

Statement Against

Renewal? This is a tax increase. School taxes comprise the largest piece of your property tax bill. This levy is seeking to *increase* its budget over the next four years; proponents falsely claim this is a renewal without providing reasons for a budget increase. Why?

Look at the numbers. The expiring Levy will end with a yearly budget of \$6,664,912 but will *increase* to \$7,001,525 in levy year 2014 and will continue to *increase* to \$7,380,250 by 2017. Why?

Tax "rate" diversion. Proponents cite the low tax "rate" as justification. Tax rates are linked to property values; together they determine the taxes raised. *Higher* property values mean *lower* tax rates. The communities served by the SHSD have some of the highest property values in the county. Ignore claims we are somehow under contributing to our schools.

Do the math and ask Why? Voting against school levies doesn't mean you are anti-child/tax. It is a call for accountability. When emotion replaces reason, then question the proponent's motives. Ask Why?

Rebuttal of Statement For

Levy supporters claim that this is not a new tax. True, it's the same tax; they are just collecting *more* than the last levy. Each successive levy has increased their budget and your tax obligation. The only "renewal" is the proponent justifications, which are nearly verbatim, compared to the 2010 voter's pamphlet. A budget increase of 53.3% since 2006 doesn't need votes, it needs justification. Their renewal is a tax increase.

Committee Member: Michael Gorski, (253) 306-4163, mgorski0764@gmail.com
www.shsdlevyfacts.org

Puyallup School District No. 3 - Proposition No. 1

Replacement of Educational Programs, Maintenance and Operations Levy

Ballot Title

The Board of Directors of Puyallup School District No. 3 adopted Resolution No. 53 2013-14 concerning funding of educational programs, maintenance of educational facilities and operations. If approved, Proposition No. 1 will authorize the District to fund day-to-day operations in all neighborhood schools, including classroom teachers, instructional aides, nurses, textbooks and learning materials, support technology, arts, music and athletic programs, maintain school playgrounds and playfields, heating, plumbing, health, safety, fire alarm and security systems, and to levy the following excess taxes, to replace an expiring levy, on all taxable property within the District:

Levy Year	Collection Year	Approximate Levy Rate Per \$1,000 of Assessed Value	Levy Amount
2014	2015	\$4.28	\$49,500,000
2015	2016	\$4.28	\$51,000,000
2016	2017	\$4.28	\$52,500,000
2017	2018	\$4.28	\$54,100,000

Should Proposition No. 1 be approved?

Explanatory Statement

With passage of Proposition 1, the Puyallup School District would replace an expiring operations levy and would maintain K-12 educational programs, teachers, support staff, and reasonable class sizes. *Proposition 1 would continue funding 24 percent of the district's day-to-day expenses for operations and maintenance of all neighborhood schools.* Proposition 1 would continue funding classroom teachers; instructional aides; nurses; special education instruction; advanced classes for high-achieving students; supplemental programs to support students struggling academically; arts, music, and athletic programs; textbooks and classroom instructional materials; and technology support. Proposition 1 would continue funding for the basic operations of school buildings and on-going maintenance of heating, ventilation, plumbing, lighting, and electrical systems; playgrounds and playfields; alarm and sprinkler systems; campus security; and emergency preparedness. Passage of this proposition would authorize the district to levy \$49.5 million in 2015, \$51 million in 2016, \$52.5 million in 2017 and \$54.1 million in 2018. If authorized, these property taxes would be collected at an estimated rate of \$4.28/\$1,000 of assessed value from 2015 through 2018 and would replace the current School Programs and Operations levy rate that expires in 2014.

Statement For

Proposition 1 is a replacement levy

The Educational Programs and Operations Replacement Levy is not a new tax. It replaces an expiring levy which was approved by voters in 2010 and expires in December 2014.

Supports daily operations

This levy supports 24% of the school district's day-to-day operations. This funding provides for approximately 500 full or part-time staff members including classroom teachers and support staff. It supports all academic programs including music, the arts, and athletics.

Maintains basic health, safety, and security

Proposition 1 allows the Puyallup School District to provide ongoing repairs to basic utilities at each school. This replacement levy helps maintain fire, safety, and security systems in our schools. It also helps maintain safe plumbing, and heating and cooling systems. In addition, it helps the district maintain safe playgrounds.

Great communities have great schools.

Vote Yes for Puyallup Schools and ensure support for Puyallup students.

Statement Against

Union officials in the Puyallup School District have pressured the school board to divert levy funds from student services in order to pay teachers more. Our levy should pay for student services, not for teachers wage increases.

In the collective bargaining agreement sought by union officials, the average state provided wage of \$54,954 for instructional employees will be enhanced by 22% from levy and levy match funds. This will cost roughly \$11.7 million per year which could be better used to help at risk students or reduce class sizes. Union members are getting a sweet-heart deal when compared to the average \$43,039 income of pierce county residents.

Levies are great for funding local priorities and unique services for our area students, but taxpayers should hold off giving the school district any more money until the school board is able to put student services above the demands of union officials.

Rebuttal of Statement Against

This levy is not a new tax. It replaces an expiring levy which supports 24% of the district's day-to-day operations.

Puyallup teachers provide excellent instruction in the classroom and earn a fair and competitive salary for their efforts.

The district has decreased their operating budget by \$16 million over the past ten years. They have demonstrated good stewardship of tax-payer dollars, earning perfect audits for the past eleven years.

Our children deserve our continued support.

Committee Members: Kathy Horton, (253) 228-3619, Shelly Schlumpf, and Chris Johnston
voteyespuallup@gmail.com
Citizens Committee for Education Puyallup

Rebuttal of Statement For

No rebuttal statement was submitted against this issue.

Committee Member: Robert W. Brown,
(253) 677-0568, jaeger6@qwest.net
"Responsible Spending of Tax Dollars"

Puyallup School District No. 3 - Proposition No. 2

Capital Improvements and Technology Upgrades Levy

Ballot Title

The Board of Directors of Puyallup School District No. 3 adopted Resolution No. 54 2013-14 concerning funding of school facility improvements and technology upgrades. If approved, Proposition No. 2 will authorize the District to fund improvements to all neighborhood schools, repair deteriorating roofs and structures, expand student access and make technology improvements for teaching and learning, replace outdated computers, make seismic upgrades for earthquake safety and energy-efficient improvements to heating, plumbing, lighting and electrical systems, and to levy the following excess taxes on all taxable property within the District:

Levy Year	Collection Year	Approximate Levy Rate Per \$1,000 of Assessed Value	Levy Amount
2014	2015	\$0.64	\$7,000,000
2015	2016	\$0.62	\$7,000,000
2016	2017	\$0.60	\$7,000,000
2017	2018	\$0.67	\$8,000,000
2018	2019	\$0.65	\$8,000,000
2019	2020	\$0.71	\$9,000,000

Should Proposition No. 2 be approved?

Explanatory Statement

With the passage of Proposition 2, the Puyallup School District would fund *school repairs and renovations, safety and security improvements, and technology upgrades at all elementary, junior high, and high schools*. Proposition 2 authorizes improvements including repairs to aged and deteriorating roofs and structures; energy-efficiency upgrades to aged heating, ventilation, plumbing, and electrical systems; improvements to fire, sprinkler, safety, and security systems; and seismic upgrades for earthquake safety. Proposition 2 would fund expanded student access to up-to-date learning software and technology infrastructure improvement districtwide including replacement of outdated computers for students and teachers and classroom technology improvements for teaching and learning. Passage of this proposition would authorize the district to levy \$7 million yearly from 2015 through 2017, \$8 million yearly in 2018 and 2019, and \$9 million in 2020. If authorized, these property taxes would be collected at an estimated rate of \$0.64/\$1,000 in 2014, \$0.62/\$1,000 in 2016, \$0.60/\$1,000 in 2017, \$0.67/\$1,000 in 2018, \$0.65/\$1,000 in 2019 and \$0.71/\$1,000 in 2020 for neighborhood school repairs and renovations; safety and security improvements; and technology upgrades districtwide.

Statement For

Proposition 2 addresses critical needs districtwide

The School Facility Improvements and Technology Upgrades Levy will help the district attend to critical improvement needs at existing buildings. It will allow the district to replace or repair aging roofs and structures in school buildings which are deteriorating.

Technology upgrades districtwide

This levy will allow the district to replace or upgrade outdated student computers and provide better access to interactive classroom white boards and mounted projectors. It will also expand student access to technology by increasing wireless capacity and modernizing the computer network.

Health, safety, and security upgrades

Proposition 2 allows the district to upgrade fire, alarm, sprinkler, and emergency systems. Funds will allow earthquake safety building improvements.

Early childhood education

With these funds, elementary schools will be modified to support full-day kindergarten classes at each school.

Great communities have great schools. Vote Yes for Puyallup Schools and ensure support for Puyallup students.

Rebuttal of Statement Against

This funding would allow the district to attend to urgent projects which are greater in scale than what Proposition 1 could fund.

Further deterioration of neighborhood schools will cost taxpayers more in the long run.

Scanners were returned for a full refund. Reconfiguration study ended when it became obvious that tax-payers could not bear the cost of a 4th high school.

The 6-year average is smaller because bond payments continue to go down each year.

Committee Members: Kathy Horton, (253) 228-3619, Shelly Schlumpf and Chris Johnston
 voteyespuyallup@gmail.com
 Citizens Committee for Education Puyallup

Statement Against

How our committee defines this measure:

Prop. No. 2 is an 'excess' capital school levy measure. Maintenance and operations funding is fully provided, and increased, within adjoining measure, Prop. No. 1.

Wasted tax dollars:

\$38,000 was indiscriminately spent on palm scanning technology. The trial program was ended when district parents objected to the collection of students individual bio information.

\$23,000 plus, spent on two year study on reconfiguration and implementing district wide four-year high schools. The study was abruptly ended, with no action taken, when it became apparent that 'split shifting' of high school students would be the only workable solution.

Actual costs:

This measure will increase school levy rates 64 cents to 71 cents per \$1,000 of property value, for the next six years. District claims of a 43 cent increase is but a four year average of all local school taxes, omitting the most expensive, final two years of this six year levy. Taxes are annually assessed, not averaged.

Rebuttal of Statement For

One of the school district's fiduciary responsibilities is to assure the most cost effective plan, and return, on tax payer's dollar. Comparing last year's \$279.6 million bond funding request; at a cost of 88 cents per \$1,000 of property value, with this \$46 million levy measure and it's cost to tax payers, it is evident that Prop. No. 2, does not meet such fiscal responsibility. We therefore urge a 'No' vote of Prop. No. 2.

Committee Member: Andy Asmussen,
 aasmussen2@juno.com
 District Voters Against Prop. No. 2

Tacoma School District No. 10 - Proposition No. 1

Replacement of Expiring Levy for Educational Programs and Operations

Ballot Title

The Board of Directors of Tacoma School District No. 10 adopted Resolution No. 1943 authorizing an educational programs, operations and maintenance levy. If approved, Proposition No. 1 would fund day-to-day school operations, including classroom teachers, librarians, nurses, textbooks and instructional materials, athletics, arts and music programs, technology support and maintain roofs, heating, electrical and plumbing systems, playgrounds, playfields, alarm, sprinkler, security and emergency preparedness systems, and would authorize the District to levy the following excess taxes, to replace an expiring levy, on all taxable property within the District:

Levy Year	Collection Year	Approximate Levy Rate Per \$1,000 of Assessed Value	Levy Amount
2014	2015	\$4.88	\$86,000,000
2015	2016	\$4.83	\$86,000,000
2016	2017	\$4.69	\$86,000,000
2017	2018	\$4.55	\$86,000,000

Should Proposition No. 1 be approved?

Explanatory Statement

Passage of Proposition 1 of Tacoma School District would replace an expiring operations levy for K-12 educational programs. Proposition 1 would continue funding 24% percent of day-to-day budgets and operations of all neighborhood schools including programs not funded by the state. Proposition 1 would continue funding small classes, teachers, instructional aides, librarians, nurses, special education instruction, advanced classes for high-achieving students, supplemental programs to bring students up to grade level, athletics, arts, music and extra-curricular programs, textbooks and classroom instructional material, and technology support. Proposition 1 would continue funding for maintenance and operations of school buildings, facilities, playgrounds and playfields, alarm and sprinkler systems, campus security and emergency preparedness. Passage of this proposition would authorize the District to levy \$86 million annually from 2015-2018. If authorized, these property taxes would be collected at an estimated rate of \$4.88/\$1,000 of assessed value in 2015, \$4.83/\$1,000 of assessed value in 2016, \$4.69/\$1,000 of assessed value in 2017 and \$4.55/\$1,000 of assessed value in 2018 and would replace the current Educational Programs and Operations levy that expires in 2014.

Statement For

Yes! Prop. 1 to Renew Our Commitment – Help Every Child Succeed
Prop. 1 funds basic operations and maintenance of every neighborhood school and renews our commitment to all students. Included: teachers, instructional aides, nurses, librarians, all educational programs; maintains safe classrooms and school facilities including heating, plumbing, ventilation, safety and security systems.

Prop. 1 is Not a Tax Increase – Replacement of an Expiring Levy
The tax rate for Tacoma schools will not increase if Props. 1 and 2 are approved by voters because both measures are replacements of expiring school levies. Overall rates will remain the same for the next four years if Props. 1 and 2 are approved.

24% of Day-to-day Operations – Teachers, Basics, Books & Small Classes
"Passage of the district's maintenance and operations levy – which underwrites a quarter of the district's annual budget – should be a given. It's a tax people are already paying... to hire teachers and fund basic educational programs." *News Tribune 11/17/09*

Join us! Vote Yes on Prop. 1 – Tacoma Endorsements include:
Tacoma News Tribune; PTA Board; Chamber of Commerce; Teachers; Tacoma Education and Principals' Associations; Business and Labor; Realtors; Stand for Children; League of Women Voters.

Statement Against

It is time for Tacoma Taxpayers to Stop Spending "Good" Money After "Bad"

Please *Reject* This Levy. The current budget is \$343,610,735; Twenty years ago it was only: \$188,049,375; Forty years ago it was: \$47,824,732. The Budget has multiplied *Seven Times (7x!!)* And yet, Student Performance is poor.

A recent article by The News Tribune said that Pierce county has the highest property-tax collections in the state.

The School District needs to learn how to spend efficiently and "Smart". It invests poorly.

Don't Consider voting "Yes" until you've read all of Resolution #1943 from October 10th.

There is not *one page* in the resolution justifying the need for \$344 million; there is no reference to RCW 84.52.0531. Neither the Finance Director nor the Superintendent explained to the Board...last year... why, or how, the state funding amount is "Insufficient"

Beware of future Double Taxation By State Government

When funding by the legislature pursuant to the *McCleary* law suit begins, your rent, or property taxes, will go up even more! How will the District refund your money?

Please *reject* This Levy and Vote "No"

Rebuttal of Statement Against

"The only person who offered to author opposition statements is Robert Hill, an inmate in the Pierce County Jail." *Tribune, 11/15/13*

Yes Endorsements include: Chamber of Commerce, News Tribune, PTA Board, Realtors, Stand for Children, Teachers, Education Association, League of Women Voters.

Facts: 1) 2012 Graduation rate increased 6%; 2) Prop. 2 not a tax rate increase; 3) TPS follows highest standards for financial reporting - awarded clean audit for 20 consecutive years. Vote *Yes!*

Committee Members: *Willie Stewart, (253) 970-9177, Kathleen Merryman, and Brian Haynes*
RenewOurCommitment@gmail.com
www.RenewOurCommitment.org, Tacoma Citizens for Schools

Rebuttal of Statement For

A new tax that continues a pattern of poor investment, poor spending, poor judgment should be rejected. A levy amount that goes away for a year, or two, would cause a Decrease in Property Taxes! The District still has plenty of time to propose a justified levy amount. In fact, they can offer voters Three proposals, at the same price – because county elections charges a flat fee.

Committee Member: *Robert Hill, (253) 245-3976,*
Vote_no_on_proposition_1@airpost.net
www.The-Smart-Investment-of-Education-Dollars-Working-Group.org
The Smart Investment of Education Dollars Working Group

Tacoma School District No. 10 - Proposition No. 2

Replacement of Expiring Levy for School Technology Improvements and Upgrades

Ballot Title

The Board of Directors of Tacoma School District No. 10 adopted Resolution No. 1944 concerning district-wide technology improvements and upgrades. If approved, Proposition No. 2 would fund technical training, support and up-to-date tools for teaching and learning, replace outdated classroom computers for teachers and students, and improve the District's online system for parents, students and teachers to monitor academic progress, homework and attendance, and would authorize the District to levy the following excess taxes, to replace an expiring levy, on all taxable property within the District:

Levy Year	Collection Year	Approximate Levy Rate Per \$1,000 of Assessed Value	Levy Amount
2014	2015	\$0.57	\$10,000,000
2015	2016	\$0.56	\$10,000,000
2016	2017	\$0.55	\$10,000,000
2017	2018	\$0.53	\$10,000,000

Should Proposition No. 2 be approved?

Explanatory Statement

Passage of Proposition 2 would replace the expiring Technology Upgrades levy and extend "Tacoma Renewal and Excellence Program" and classroom technology improvements at all neighborhood elementary, middle and high schools. Passage of Proposition 2 would expand student access to technology district-wide, provide up-to-date tools for teaching and learning, replace outdated classroom computers for teachers and students to stay within state standards, support technical training of updated computer systems, make high-speed internet upgrades, and improve the district's online system for parents, students and teachers to monitor academic progress, homework and attendance. Passage of this proposition would authorize the levy of \$10 million annually from 2015 through 2018. If authorized, these property taxes would be collected at an estimated rate of \$0.57/\$1,000 of assessed value in 2015, \$0.56/1,000 in 2016, \$0.55/1,000 in 2017, and \$0.53/\$1,000 in 2018 and would replace the Technology Improvement levy funding that expires in 2014.

Statement For

Yes! on Prop. 2 – Technology Upgrades continue "Tacoma Renewal & Excellence Program"

Prop. 2 will make needed technology upgrades in all neighborhood schools for improved teaching and learning – expanding student access to technology and replacing outdated computers for students and teachers. Supports an online system providing access to assignments and monitoring each student's academic progress.

Yes! on Prop. 2 – Up-to-date tools for Teaching and Learning

Prop. 2 will make system upgrades to support classroom technology, support professional development to integrate technology in curriculum, and replace outdated computers – 40% estimated to fall below standard by 2015 if Prop. 2 is not approved.

Prop. 2 is Not a Tax Increase – Replacement of an Expiring Levy

The tax rate for Tacoma schools *will not increase* if Props. 1 and 2 are approved by voters because both measures are replacements of expiring school levies. Overall rates *will remain the same* for the next four years if Props. 1 and 2 are approved.

Join us! Yes on Prop. 2– Neighborhood and Tacoma Endorsements include:

News Tribune; PTA Board; Chamber of Commerce; Teachers; Tacoma Education and Principals' Associations; Business and Labor; Realtors; Stand for Children; League of Women Voters.

Statement Against

Please Vote "No" on this excess request for Forty Million Dollars.

Don't Consider Voting "Yes" until you've read all of Resolution #1944, past at the Board Meeting of Oct. 10th 2013. (Four Months ago). There is no list what-so-ever of the specific projects.

The Budget for the 2015-16 School year has not been passed.... Its hasn't even been Proposed! The administration wants to *collect the money now*, and then figure out what to spend it on. This is backwards of how it should work. This measure should have been put on the Primary or General Election ballots, *later* this year ((Call Superintendent Carla Santorno at: 253-571-1010 and ask how she determined that "\$40,000,000" in excess money is necessary without a budget.

Reject this duplicative request. *Last years measure covers these needs.*

Rebuttal of Statement Against

Specifics – Up-to-date Tools for Teaching & Learning: old computers replaced for students and teachers; on-site school technology support; technology infrastructure improvements district-wide; teacher training to integrate technology and web-based tools into the classroom; expanded high-speed internet access; 24-7 on-line system for students, parents and teachers to access assignments and curriculum, both on and off campus, and monitor each student's academic progress.

Prop. 2 is a replacement levy – Not a tax rate increase. Please vote Yes!

Committee Members: Willie Stewart, (253) 970-9177, Kathleen Merryman, and Brian Haynes
RenewOurCommitment@gmail.com
www.RenewOurCommitment.org, Tacoma Citizens for Schools

Rebuttal of Statement For

Where is the "List"? "What" are we buying? The Board is executing poor judgment in presenting this request "Before" having a List. The Superintendent is executing poor judgment by hiring "Eric Wilson", the former Campaign Manager supporting the \$500,000,000 Bond Measure last year. \$40,000 he is providing "Strategic Consulting and Communications Services". This is a possible violation of Campaign Election Law. (A contract was signed Sept 25th - Three weeks *before* the Oct. 10th Board Meeting)

Committee Member: Robert Hill, (253) 245-3976,
Reject.proposition.number.two@gmail.com
www.The-Smart-Investment-of-Education-Dollars-Working-Group.org
 The Smart Investment of Education Dollars Working Group

University Place School District No. 83 - Proposition No. 1

Replacement of Expiring Educational Programs and Operations Levy

Ballot Title

The Board of Directors of University Place School District No. 83 adopted Resolution No. 769-11-13-13 concerning a replacement levy for education funding. If approved, Proposition No. 1 will authorize the District to levy the following excess taxes, in place of an expiring levy, on all taxable property within the District, to support the District's education programs and daily operations, including teachers, staff, classroom materials and textbooks:

Levy Year	Collection Year	Approximate Levy Rate Per \$1,000 of Assessed Value	Levy Amount
2014	2015	\$5.28	\$13,585,602
2015	2016	\$5.26	\$13,805,087
2016	2017	\$5.21	\$13,961,857
2017	2018	\$5.19	\$14,190,424

all as provided in Resolution No. 769-11-13-13. Should Proposition No. 1 be approved?

Explanatory Statement

Passage of Proposition No. 1 would replace the University Place School District's expiring levies and allow the District to levy \$13,585,602 in property taxes within the District for collection in 2015, \$13,805,087 in taxes for collection in 2016, \$13,961,857 in taxes for collection in 2017, and \$14,190,424 in taxes for collection in 2018. In accordance with Resolution No. 769-11-13-13 approving this proposition, these funds would be deposited in the District's General Fund and used to pay for educational programs and daily operations, including teachers, support staff, athletic and other extra-curricular programs, instructional materials, and maintaining District facilities for school and community use. If authorized by the voters, property taxes would be collected at rates estimated to be \$5.28 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation in 2015, \$5.26 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation in 2016, \$5.21 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation in 2017, and \$5.19 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation in 2018. The actual levy rates will be adjusted based upon the assessed value of property within the District at the time of each levy.

Statement For

The Educational Programs and Operations Levy is a Replacement Levy

This levy is not a new tax and will replace the current levy passed in 2010 that is set to expire at the end of 2014. The levy provides essential funding to maintain the high quality programs that citizens in University Place expect from their schools. Funds from this replacement levy help close the gap between State funding and the cost of our current programs.

The Educational Programs and Operations Levy Accounts for nearly 25% of the UPSD Budget

Local levy dollars make up about 25% of total UPSD revenue and are needed to continue support of many basic programs in UP Schools. Like all public schools in Washington, state funding provides only about 65% of the funds needed to offer the diverse and outstanding programs offered in UP Schools. Levy funds support teachers for lower class sizes, school security personnel, athletics, activities, performing arts, classroom textbooks and materials and competitive staff salaries.

Statement Against

This is not a tax replacement. This is a 33% tax increase.

This levy rate is a 33% increase from 2010 (\$3.96) and a 45% increase since 2008 (\$3.63). The levy amount has increased 41% since 2010 (\$10.4 Million) and 69% since 2008 (\$8.7 Million). The school district wants us to believe this is a replacement tax, but this is a *tax increase*.

UPSD Employee Benefits almost doubled in 10 years.

From 2002 to 2012, UPSD employee benefits increased by 89%. Do tax increases benefit our children?

2010 Levy goals to reduce class size Not Met.

The 2010 ballot proposed to reduce class size. There has been no reduction in class size.

Any additional *tax increase* will not benefit our children.

Vote *No* – and let's revisit this at the next election with more manageable figures.

We support our schools. We need them to recognize our budget limitations.

uptaxes.org

Rebuttal of Statement Against

This statement provides misleading, inaccurate and incomplete information about school funding in UPSD. Proposition 1 *replaces* the expiring levy that provides 25% of the funding for our current quality educational program. Without levy funding, class sizes *would* increase, and programs such as athletics, performing arts, Advanced Placement, extended learning and after school activities would be significantly reduced or eliminated.

Get fair and complete facts about school funding in UP at www.upsd.wednet.edu.

Committee Members: Lance Goodpaster, lgoodpaster8@gmail.com, Gary Gilchrist, and Laura Theodorson, www.citizensforupschools.org
Citizens for UP Schools

Rebuttal of Statement For

State funding has increased \$3.5 Million since 2010 while student count has increased only by 39.

We have invested in new facilities, new computers, new systems... our tax burden to support our schools should be less, not more. They are having spending issues, not funding issues.

It's time we demand an independent performance audit and encourage them to operate efficiently and spend responsibly.

Vote *No!* Make them reconsider and resubmit a sensible budget.

Committee Members: Betsy Tainer and Steve Sarwono, uptaxes.org

University Place School District No. 83 - Proposition No. 2

Technology and Safety Capital Improvements Levy

Ballot Title

The Board of Directors of University Place School District No. 83 adopted Resolution No. 770-11-13-13 concerning a levy for technology and safety improvements. If approved, Proposition No. 2 will authorize the District to levy the following excess taxes on all taxable property within the District to modernize, expand and upgrade technology systems used throughout the District for classroom instruction, telecommunication, and safety and security:

<u>Levy Year</u>	<u>Collection Year</u>	<u>Approximate Levy Rate Per \$1,000 of Assessed Value</u>	<u>Levy Amount</u>
2014	2015	\$0.27	\$705,000
2015	2016	\$0.26	\$680,000
2016	2017	\$0.24	\$635,000
2017	2018	\$0.23	\$625,000

all as provided in Resolution No. 770-11-13-13. Should Proposition No. 2 be approved?

Explanatory Statement

Passage of Proposition No. 2 would allow the University Place School District to levy \$705,000 in property taxes within the District for collection in 2015, \$680,000 in taxes for collection in 2016, \$635,000 in taxes for collection in 2017, and \$625,000 in taxes for collection in 2018. In accordance with Resolution No. 770-11-13-13 approving this proposition, these funds would be deposited in the District's Capital Projects Fund and used to pay for modernizing, expanding and upgrading the technology systems used throughout the District for classroom instruction, telecommunications, and safety and security. If authorized by the voters, property taxes would be collected at a rate estimated to be \$0.27 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation in 2015, \$0.26 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation in 2016, \$0.24 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation in 2017, and \$0.23 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation in 2018. The actual levy rates will be adjusted based upon the assessed value of property within the District at the time of each levy.

Statement For

The Technology and Safety Capital Improvements Levy is a Replacement Levy

This levy is not a new tax and replaces our last technology levy which expired in 2012. The levy provides funding to upgrade district and classroom technology, and to improve safety and security technology and communications.

Kids in U.P. Schools deserve technology that helps them learn and keeps them safe

Students and teachers in U.P. schools need access to high quality classroom technology to maximize student learning and ensure students are prepared to succeed in college and the workplace. Technology also plays an important role in keeping our students safe. A Yes vote on Proposition 2 will provide funds to expand essential wireless and broadband access across the district, and to purchase computers, tablets and electronic presentation tools for students and teachers to use in classrooms. Funds from this levy will allow our schools to upgrade existing security technology such as video surveillance, phone and intercom systems.

Statement Against

This levy is much bigger than the one passed in 2006

The \$2.4 million technology levy passed in 2006 was to be spent in 6 years. This time UPSD is asking for \$2.6 million to be spent in 4 years which means that taxpayers will end up paying more tax within a shorter period of time.

Better technology does *Not* mean better education

In 2006, UPSD asked for \$2.4 million in technology levy, "to acquire technology and equipment, including classroom computers." What did our children get from that? Nothing. The fact shows that UPSD student scores on ACT Test in English, Math, Reading, and Science were down or flat between 2006 and 2012.

We are all for using the latest technology to better educate our children and prepare them for the 21st century. Does this *tax increase* benefit our children?

Vote no to this levy.

Uptaxes.org

Rebuttal of Statement Against

Preparing our students requires on-going investments in technology. UPSD uses technology funds to maintain student safety, support instruction and increase achievement. *Fact:* Based on five years of data, the Washington School Research Center identified UPSD as one of the 16 highest performing districts in Washington State. *Fact:* Graduation rates have increased more than 10% in five years. *Fact:* In the last decade, high school reading and writing scores increased more than 20% to *above 90%*.

Committee Members: Lance Goodpaster, lgoodpaster8@gmail.com, Gary Gilchrist, and Laura Theodorson, www.citizensforupschools.org
Citizens for UP Schools

Rebuttal of Statement For

New Title + New Purpose = New Tax. It's simple math! 2006 Title: *Fund Technology 'Capital Projects'*.

This 'Capital Project' levy that was submitted and approved for a specific purpose in 2006. That purpose having been met, they are attempting to incorporate this as a permanent revenue stream.

Designed to upgrade/update 1500 computers and telecommunications, a Capital Project, over 6 years... now they want it over 4 years.

Vote No to this new revenue stream.

Committee Members: Betsy Tainer and Steve Sarwono, uptaxes.org

Sumner School District No. 320 - Proposition No. 1

Replacement of Expiring Educational Programs, Maintenance and Operations Levy

Ballot Title

The Board of Directors of Sumner School District No. 320 adopted Resolution No. 7/13-14 concerning a proposition to finance educational programs, maintenance and operations. If approved, Proposition No. 1 will authorize the District to levy the following excess taxes, to replace an expiring levy, on all taxable property within the District, for support of the District's General Fund educational programs, maintenance and operations expenses:

Levy Year	Collection Year	Approximate Levy Rate Per \$1,000 of Assessed Value	Levy Amount
2014	2015	\$3.85	\$20,000,000
2015	2016	\$3.74	\$21,000,000
2016	2017	\$3.63	\$22,000,000
2017	2018	\$3.44	\$22,500,000

all as provided in Resolution No. 7/13-14. Should Proposition No. 1 be approved?

Explanatory Statement

Passage of Proposition 1 would help Sumner School District fund educational programs, maintenance and operation, including, but not limited to: additional staff for instruction, supervision and safety; teacher training and development; extracurricular programs; student transportation (staff and fuel costs); building maintenance, materials and supplies; textbooks, classroom supplies and library materials; and other educational programs and operations expenses. Taxes collected by the proposed levy will provide approximately 20% of the District's General Fund budget, including mandated programs not funded by the state.

The proposed four-year levy will replace the District's current levy approved by the voters in 2010 that expires at the end of 2014.

Passage of this proposition would authorize the collection of taxes to provide \$20,000,000 in 2015; \$21,000,000 in 2016; \$22,000,000 in 2017; and \$22,500,000 in 2018. The tax levy rates required to produce these levy amounts are estimated to be \$3.85 per \$1,000 of assessed value in 2015, decreasing to an estimated \$3.44 in 2018.

Exemptions from taxes may be available to homeowners who are 61 or older, or disabled, and who meet certain income requirements. To determine if you qualify, call the Pierce County Assessor at 253.798.2169.

Statement For

Don't Leave a Student Behind – Please Vote Yes!

With severe cutbacks in education dollars from the state, this levy empowers Sumner/Bonney Lake residents to help support their local kids and their community.

This is a Renewal Levy, Not a New Tax

This 4-year Operations and Maintenance Levy simply renews an existing/expiring 2010-14 levy for an additional 4 years. As the current levy expires, Sumner/Bonney Lake Schools will lose 20% of its current operating budget. This 20% equates to funding 1-in-5 students. Renewing this levy only adds an estimated \$.58 cents per thousand of assessed home value per year when compared to the expiring levy.

This Levy Funds the Essentials

This levy affects everything from teacher staffing and classroom size to child health & safety, transportation and extracurricular activities. Don't leave a student behind! Please join us in voting yes for kids and yes for schools! Preserving *Today...* preparing for *Tomorrow!*

Rebuttal of Statement Against

This levy is not about teacher pay raises. This renewal levy makes up 20% of the District's current general operating budget, directly affecting staffing levels, classroom size, health/safety, transportation, extracurricular activities, teacher training and development, building maintenance, textbooks and library materials - all funded by this levy. Not renewing this levy immediately reduces all our current programs by 20%. Don't leave 1-in-5 students behind. Please Vote Yes!

Committee Members: Mark Evers, Shane Gillispie, and Scott Butterfield, info@citizens4ed.org
www.citizens4ed.org, Citizens for Education

Statement Against

Union officials in the Sumner School District have pressured the school board to divert levy funds from student services in order to pay teachers more. Our levy should pay for student services, not for teachers wage increases.

In the collective bargaining agreement sought by union officials, the average state-provided wage of \$52,670 for instructional employees is enhanced by more than 11% from levy and levy-match funds. This costs roughly \$2.3 million per year which could be better used to help at-risk students or reduce class sizes. Union members are getting a sweetheart deal when compared to the average \$43,039 income of pierce county residents.

Levies are great for funding local priorities and unique services for our area students, but taxpayers should hold off giving the school district any more money until the school board is able to put student services above the demands of union officials.

Rebuttal of Statement For

No rebuttal statement was submitted against this issue.

Committee Member: Robert W. Brown,
(253) 677-0568, jaeger6@qwest.net
"Responsible Spending of Tax Dollars"

Sumner School District No. 320 - Proposition No. 2

Instructional Technology Improvements Levy

Ballot Title

The Board of Directors of Sumner School District No. 320 adopted Resolution No. 8/13-14 concerning a proposition to finance instructional technology improvements. If approved, Proposition No. 2 will authorize the District to levy the following excess taxes on all taxable property within the District to acquire and install additional instructional technology equipment and infrastructure and to upgrade computers and telecommunication systems:

<u>Levy Year</u>	<u>Collection Year</u>	<u>Approximate Levy Rate Per \$1,000 of Assessed Value</u>	<u>Levy Amount</u>
2014	2015	\$0.48	\$2,500,000
2015	2016	\$0.46	\$2,600,000
2016	2017	\$0.47	\$2,850,000
2017	2018	\$0.47	\$3,050,000

all as provided in Resolution No. 8/13-14. Should Proposition No. 2 be approved?

Explanatory Statement

Passage of Proposition 2 would help Sumner School District acquire and install additional instructional technology equipment and infrastructure; upgrade and replace computers, hardware, software and telecommunication systems; provide related staff training and support to implement such technology improvements; and make other improvements and upgrades to the District's technology systems and facilities, all to increase student access to technology. The proposed levy would provide classroom computers for each student by grade level over a three year period to meet the District goal of "Each Student with a Computer by 2017." A replacement cycle for staff computers will also be implemented along with the necessary network, file storage and data subscriptions.

The proposed four year capital levy would authorize the collection of taxes to provide \$2,500,000 in 2015; \$2,600,000 in 2016; \$2,850,000 in 2017; and \$3,050,000 in 2018. The tax levy rates required to produce these levy amounts are estimated to be \$0.48 per \$1,000 of assessed value in 2015, decreasing to an estimated \$0.47 in 2018.

Exemptions from taxes may be available to homeowners who are 61 or older, or disabled, and who meet certain income requirements. To determine if you qualify, call the Pierce County Assessor at 253.798.2169.

Statement For

Teaching Through Technology

Technology is our future! This levy is designed to support our local Sumner/Bonney Lake schools to ensure our kids have access to the technology they need to learn, compete and succeed.

A Computer/Tablet for Every Student, Every Day, in Every Classroom

As many other local school districts have already initiated, this 4-year levy will help Sumner/Bonney Lake schools put a computer/tablet in the hands of every single student in the district.

Technology Needed to Support State and Federal Mandated Testing

This levy will allow the district to upgrade core technologies to support state and federal mandates for computerized and online testing.

Creating an Environment for our Own Students to Compete and Succeed

This levy helps our kids remain competitive in a world where technology has become a core aspect of almost every industry. This levy will only add an estimated \$.47 cents per thousand of assessed home value per year. Don't leave a student behind! Please join us in voting yes for kids and yes for schools! Preserving *Today*...preparing for *Tomorrow*!

Statement Against

Union officials in the Sumner School District have pressured the school board to divert levy funds from student services in order to pay teachers more. Our levy should pay for student services, not for teachers wage increases.

In the collective bargaining agreement sought by union officials, the average state-provided wage of \$52,670 for instructional employees is enhanced by more than 11% from levy and levy-match funds. This costs roughly \$2.3 million per year which could be better used to help at-risk students or reduce class sizes. Union members are getting a sweetheart deal when compared to the average \$43,039 income of pierce county residents.

Levies are great for funding local priorities and unique services for our area students, but taxpayers should hold off giving the school district any more money until the school board is able to put student services above the demands of union officials.

Rebuttal of Statement Against

This levy is not about teacher pay raises. This is a technology levy designed to ensure our kids have access to the current technologies they need to learn, compete and succeed in a global economy. This measure specifically funds the installation of additional instructional technology, equipment and infrastructure, replacement and upgrade of existing computers, software and telecommunications equipment - all funded by this levy. Technology is their future. Please Vote Yes!

Committee Members: Mark Evers, Shane Gillispie, and Scott Butterfield, info@citizens4ed.org
www.citizens4ed.org, Citizens for Education

Rebuttal of Statement For

No rebuttal statement was submitted against this issue.

Committee Member: Robert W. Brown,
(253) 677-0568, jaeger6@qwest.net
"Responsible Spending of Tax Dollars"

Dieringer School District No. 343 - Proposition No. 1

Replacement of Expiring Educational Programs, Maintenance and Operations Levy

Ballot Title

The Board of Directors of Dieringer School District No. 343 adopted Resolution No. 03-13-14 concerning a replacement levy to finance educational programs, maintenance and operations. If approved, Proposition No. 1 will authorize the District to levy the following excess taxes, in place of an expiring levy, on all taxable property within the District, to support the District's General Fund educational programs, maintenance and operations expenses:

Levy Year	Collection Year	Approximate Levy Rate Per \$1,000 of Assessed Value	Levy Amount
2014	2015	\$4.06	\$5,450,000
2015	2016	\$4.08	\$5,650,000

all as provided in Resolution No. 03-13-14. Should Proposition No. 1 be approved?

Explanatory Statement

Passage of Proposition 1 would allow the Dieringer School District to replace an existing educational programs, maintenance and operations levy that will expire at the end of calendar year 2014. The proposed two-year replacement educational programs, maintenance and operations levy would authorize collection of taxes to provide \$5,450,000 in 2015 and \$5,650,000 in 2016. The tax levy rate required to produce these levy amounts is estimated to be \$4.06 per \$1,000 of assessed value in 2015 and \$4.08 per \$1,000 of assessed value in 2016.

The taxes collected by this levy will be deposited in the District's General Fund and used to meet the educational needs of students, operate educational programs and pay general expenses of maintenance and operations that are not fully funded by the State. These expenses include, but are not limited to, maintaining reasonably low class sizes, staffing, supplies and materials, transportation services, extracurricular programs, special education, utilities, payments to high school districts, and facility maintenance and operation.

Exemptions from taxes for levies may be available to homeowners who are 61 or older, or disabled, and who meet certain income requirements. To determine if you qualify, call the Pierce County Assessor at 253.798.2169.

Statement For

Levy money is vital

The state does not fully fund the basic education programs we provide our students. Dieringer and other school districts must ask voters to pay the cost of education the state does not cover through levies. Levy funds make up 32% of Dieringer's operating budget.

This is a replacement levy

This *is* Not a new tax. This measure replaces the levy expiring at the end of this year. Voters will not see a noticeable change in their taxes.

What does the Levy pay for?

This levy pays for teachers, nurses, counselors, PE and art, books, special needs programs, extra-curricular activities, transportation, facilities maintenance and more.

We must maintain our schools

Our test scores are among the highest in the state. Let's continue to give our children what they deserve. Education is the best guarantee of a good future for our children. Without a quality education, our children will not succeed in tomorrow's complex world.

Your vote is important! Reinstate this levy by voting "Yes" on Proposition 1.

Statement Against

Union officials in the Dieringer School District have pressured the school board to divert levy funds from student services in order to pay teachers more. Our levy should pay for student services, not for teachers wage increases.

In the collective bargaining agreement sought by union officials, the average state provided Wage of \$55,229 for instructional employees is enhanced by more than 11% from levy and levy match funds. This costs roughly \$473,278 per year which could be better used to help at risk students or reduce class sizes. Union members are getting a sweetheart deal when compared to the average \$43,039 income of pierce county residents.

Levies are great for funding local priorities and unique services for our area students, but taxpayers should hold off giving the school district any more money until the school board is able to put student services above the demands of union officials.

Rebuttal of Statement Against

The results are clear: Dieringer students rank in the top 5% on state assessments. Dieringer teachers are paid according to the state schedule. The state pays our teachers for the 180 day school year; they receive compensation for additional time they must work: required days for summer training and instructional planning, and evening meetings. Our teachers are experienced, highly qualified and 72% have Master's Degrees. Vote Yes to continue quality education in Dieringer.

Rebuttal of Statement For

No rebuttal statement was submitted against this issue.

Committee Members: Kelly Baker, (253) 863-1572, kellybaker77@gmail.com, Janice Suznevich, and Holly Trujillo, Dieringer Citizens for Schools

Committee Member: Robert W. Brown, (253) 677-0568, jaeger6@qwest.net "Responsible Spending of Tax Dollars"

Dieringer School District No. 343 - Proposition No. 2

Instructional Technology Levy

Ballot Title

The Board of Directors of Dieringer School District No. 343 adopted Resolution No. 04-13-14 concerning a levy to finance instructional technology improvements. If approved, Proposition No. 2 will authorize the District to levy the following excess taxes on all taxable property within the District to pay costs of acquiring and integrating new technologies into classroom instruction, expanding infrastructure, increasing student access to computers and providing student and staff training:

Levy Year	Collection Year	Approximate Levy Rate Per \$1,000 of Assessed Value	Levy Amount
2014	2015	\$1.31	\$1,725,000
2015	2016	\$1.28	\$1,725,000
2016	2017	\$1.25	\$1,725,000
2017	2018	\$1.21	\$1,725,000

all as provided in Resolution No. 04-13-14. Should Proposition No. 2 be approved?

Explanatory Statement

Passage of Proposition 2 would allow Dieringer School District to make certain instructional technology improvements to support the District's growing technology needs not funded by the State. Recognizing the vital role of technology in teaching and learning, the proposed technology levy would pay costs to acquire and integrate new technologies into classroom instruction, provide students with greater access to technology devices, replace and upgrade technology equipment and systems, strategically maintain and improve networks, expand infrastructure, and provide support and training to meet the current and future educational program needs of the District. The levy would further fund an improved website and other means of communication to parents, students and community, as well as enhanced school security.

The proposed four-year instructional technology levy would authorize collection of taxes of \$1,725,000 each year 2015-2018. The tax levy rate required to produce these levy amounts is estimated to be per \$1,000 of assessed value in \$1.31 in 2015, \$1.28 in 2016, \$1.25 in 2017 and \$1.21 in 2018.

Exemptions from taxes for levies may be available to homeowners who are 61 or older, or disabled, and who meet certain income requirements. To determine if you qualify, call the Pierce County Assessor at 253.798.2169.

Statement For

Why do we need the Technology Levy?

Washington does not provide technology for student learning and communications. Our district's technology is out-of-date and must be replaced; technology needs continue to grow. Students do not have regular access to modern computers. To prepare students to compete with their peers in high school, college and careers, we need to provide access to this essential technology.

What does the Levy pay for?

The Levy will fund hardware for greater student access; software, including instructional materials; staff training and support; security systems, including alarm and emergency lock down systems; and infrastructure expansion. Dieringer has been innovative in supporting advanced technology needs, but our resources are now depleted. The majority of Puget Sound area districts have provided educational technology through levies for many years. This Levy will provide critical funding for important technology upgrades.

Future jobs will require tech-savvy people!

Our children will need the skills to compete with a global workforce skilled in technology. Let's help our children prepare for their future.

Please Vote Yes on Proposition 2

Statement Against

Union officials in the Dieringer School District have pressured the school board to divert levy funds from student services in order to pay teachers more. Our levy should pay for student services, not for teachers wage increases.

In the collective bargaining agreement sought by union officials, the average state provided Wage of \$55,229 for instructional employees is enhanced by more than 11% from levy and levy match funds. This costs roughly \$473,278 per year which could be better used to help at risk students or reduce class sizes. Union members are getting a sweetheart deal when compared to the average \$43,039 income of pierce county residents.

Levies are great for funding local priorities and unique services for our area students, but taxpayers should hold off giving the school district any more money until the school board is able to put student services above the demands of union officials.

Rebuttal of Statement Against

The against statement presents a false narrative from a form document that appears throughout this voters' pamphlet. The Dieringer Technology Plan, developed by a community task force and approved by the Board, presents a clear road map for our children's future. The Instructional Technology Levy will provide our students with greater access to essential resources and services. Do not let half-truths and misinformation distract from the need. Please Vote Yes for our students.

Committee Members: Kelly Baker, (253) 863-1572, kellybaker77@gmail.com, Janice Suznevich, and Holly Trujillo, Dieringer Citizens for Schools

Rebuttal of Statement For

No rebuttal statement was submitted against this issue.

Committee Member: Robert W. Brown, (253) 677-0568, jaeger6@qwest.net "Responsible Spending of Tax Dollars"

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Orting School District No. 344 - Proposition No. 1

Replacement of Expiring Educational Maintenance and Operations Levy

Ballot Title

The Board of Directors of Orting School District No. 344 adopted Resolution No. 3.13-14 concerning a replacement levy for education funding. If approved, Proposition No. 1 will authorize the District to levy the following excess taxes, in place of an expiring levy, on all taxable property within the District, to support the District's educational maintenance and daily operations, including teachers, staff, classroom materials and textbooks:

<u>Levy Year</u>	<u>Collection Year</u>	<u>Approximate Levy Rate Per \$1,000 of Assessed Value</u>	<u>Levy Amount</u>
2014	2015	\$4.57	\$4,100,000
2015	2016	\$4.61	\$4,225,000

all as provided in Resolution No. 3.13-14. Should Proposition No. 1 be approved?

Explanatory Statement

Passage of Proposition No. 1 would replace the Orting School District's expiring levies and allow the District to levy \$4,100,000 in property taxes within the District for collection in 2015 and \$4,225,000 in taxes for collection in 2016. In accordance with Resolution No. 3.13-14 approving this proposition, these funds would be deposited into the District's General Fund and used to pay for educational programs and services, including teachers, instructional aides, nurses, librarians and other staff, technology support, athletics, arts, music and safety programs, textbooks and other classroom materials, and maintaining playgrounds, playfields and other facilities. If authorized by the voters, property taxes would be collected at a rate estimated to be \$4.57 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation in 2015 and \$4.61 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation in 2016. The actual levy rates will be adjusted based upon the assessed value of property within the District at the time of each levy.

Statement For

The Orting School District Maintenance and Operations Levy replaces our current levy that ends in 2014. *The state still does not adequately fund public schools.* Levy funds account for approximately 20% of the basic operating budget that provides crucial and otherwise unfunded support for instructional software and materials, textbooks, lower class sizes, unfunded expenses for student transportation, student safety and security staff, technology, nurses, counselors,, librarians, playgrounds and facilities maintenance. Levy funds also support all sports and activity programs. With this proposition, over the next two years, tax rates are estimated at \$4.57 and 4.61 per \$1,000 of valuation. In addition, the District is eligible for an estimated \$995,000 in state levy equalization funding with the approval of this proposition. Support for this maintenance and operation levy will ensure the district's continuing ability to provide the quality educational programs our children require and deserve.

Committee Members: Kacie Nesby, (253) 227-4838,
 Laura Fischer and David Egts
 yesorting@gmail.com, www.yesorting.webs.com
 Citizens For Orting Schools

Statement Against

No statement was submitted against this issue.

Franklin Pierce School District No. 402 - Proposition No. 1

Replacement of Expiring Educational Programs and Operations Levy

Ballot Title

The Board of Directors of Franklin Pierce School District No. 402 adopted Resolution No. 13-R-14 concerning a replacement levy for educational programs and operations. If approved, Proposition No. 1 will authorize the District to levy the following excess taxes, in place of an expiring levy, on all taxable property within the District to support the District's General Fund educational programs and operations expenses:

Levy Year	Collection Year	Approximate Levy Rate Per \$1,000 of Assessed Value	Levy Amount
2014	2015	\$5.22	\$16,738,651
2015	2016	\$5.33	\$17,449,000
2016	2017	\$5.34	\$17,993,905
2017	2018	\$5.31	\$18,429,490

all as provided in Resolution No. 13-R-14. Should Proposition No. 1 be approved?

Explanatory Statement

Passage of Proposition 1 would help Franklin Pierce School District fund educational programs and operations, including, but not limited to: classroom teachers; safety personnel; health services, librarians and counselors; student transportation (staff and fuel costs); programs for special needs students, such as gifted, remedial and disabled; textbooks, classroom supplies and library materials; art and athletic programs; and other educational programs and operations expenses. Taxes collected by the proposed levy will provide approximately 20% of the District's General Fund budget, including mandated programs not funded by the state.

The proposed four-year levy will renew the District's current levy approved by the voters in 2010 that expires at the end of 2014.

Passage of this proposition would authorize the collection of taxes to provide \$16,738,651 in 2015; \$17,449,000 in 2016; \$17,993,905 in 2017; and \$18,429,490 in 2018. The tax levy rates required to produce these levy amounts are estimated to be \$5.22 per \$1,000 of assessed value in 2015, \$5.33 in 2016, \$5.34 in 2017 and \$5.31 in 2018.

Exemptions from taxes may be available to homeowners who are 61 or older, or disabled, and who meet certain income requirements. To determine if you qualify, call the Pierce County Assessor at 253.798.2169.

Statement For

Renew Our Commitment – Help Every Child Succeed

7,500 Franklin Pierce kids need your support!
We can be proud of strong on-time graduation rates, clean safety and financial audits, students who participate in all kinds of educational programs, and graduates that successfully go on to employment, enlistment, and/or enrollment. Your support of this levy is a vote to continue funding neighborhood schools.

Approve – Not a New Tax – 20% of School Budget

Prop. 1 replaces the levy that voters passed in 2010 that expires in 2014. Prop. 1 levy dollars make up 20% of the district's annual operating budget.

Approve – Not a Tax Increase

The rates for each of the next four years are calculated to *not exceed* the actual rate that people are paying in 2013.

Approve – Teachers, Small Classes, Books & Basics

Prop. 1 funds teachers, small classes, up-to-date textbooks, programs for high-achieving students and programs to bring struggling students up to grade level, health services, counselors, student transportation, special education, arts, music, athletics, maintains healthy & safe schools, playgrounds, playfields, safety/security systems, emergency preparedness, and more.

Statement Against

Union officials in the Franklin-Pierce School District have pressured the school board to divert levy funds from student services in order to pay teachers more. Our levy should pay for student services, not for teachers wage increases.

In the collective bargaining agreement sought by union officials, the average state-provided wage of \$52,221 for instructional employees will be enhanced by 20% from levy and levy-match funds. This will cost roughly \$4 million per year which could be better used to help at-risk students or reduce class sizes. Union members are getting a sweetheart deal when compared to the average \$43,039 income of Pierce county residents.

Levies are great for funding local priorities and unique services for our area students, but taxpayers should hold off giving the school district any more money until the school board is able to put student services above the demands of union officials.

Rebuttal of Statement Against

The information provided by the writer(s) of the against statement is inaccurate and misleading. The only "deal" that exists between the school district and the Franklin Pierce Education Association is a legal and binding three-year collective bargaining agreement that provides a fair and conservative 2% annual increase in compensation to teachers. It is obvious that the writer(s) are unfamiliar with the workings and oversight of a school system. Vote Yes on Propositions 1 & 2!

Committee Members: Lee Warnaca, (253) 536-4494, and Shanna Brault, fpcitizens4schools@gmail.com
Franklin Pierce Citizens for Schools

Rebuttal of Statement For

No rebuttal statement was submitted against this issue.

Committee Member: Robert W. Brown,
(253) 677-0568, jaeger6@qwest.net
"Responsible Spending of Tax Dollars"

Franklin Pierce School District No. 402 - Proposition No. 2

Replacement of Expiring Instructional Technology Improvements Levy

Ballot Title

The Board of Directors of Franklin Pierce School District No. 402 adopted Resolution No. 13-R-15 concerning a replacement levy for instructional technology improvements. If approved, Proposition No. 2 will authorize the District to levy the following excess taxes, in place of an expiring levy, on all taxable property within the District to continue funding the acquisition, installation and modernization of instructional technology, equipment, infrastructure, systems and facilities:

Levy Year	Collection Year	Approximate Levy Rate Per \$1,000 of Assessed Value	Levy Amount
2014	2015	\$0.44	\$1,411,394
2015	2016	\$0.44	\$1,439,622
2016	2017	\$0.44	\$1,482,811
2017	2018	\$0.44	\$1,527,295

all as provided in Resolution No. 13-R-15. Should Proposition No. 2 be approved?

Explanatory Statement

Passage of Proposition 2 would help Franklin Pierce School District acquire, install and modernize instructional technology equipment, infrastructure, systems and facilities and make other improvements and upgrades to the District's instructional technology systems and facilities, all to enhance student learning. The proposed levy would significantly increase the number of computers accessible to students, fund a replacement cycle for staff computers, and provide necessary network, file storage, and data subscriptions.

The proposed four-year levy will renew the District's current levy approved by the voters in 2010 that expires at the end of 2014.

The proposed four year capital levy would authorize the collection of taxes to provide \$1,411,394 in 2015; \$1,439,622 in 2016; \$1,482,811 in 2017; and \$1,527,295 in 2018. The tax levy rate required to produce these levy amounts is estimated to be \$0.44 per \$1,000 of assessed value in all four years of collection.

Exemptions from taxes may be available to homeowners who are 61 or older, or disabled, and who meet certain income requirements. To determine if you qualify, call the Pierce County Assessor at 253.798.2169.

Statement For

Renew Our Commitment – Help Every Child Succeed
7,500 Franklin Pierce kids need your support!

Many of today's jobs require the use of technology. The jobs of tomorrow will be even more dependent on a technology-trained workforce. Our students need access to the technology of today so that they will be competitive for the jobs of tomorrow. Your support of this levy is a vote to continue funding neighborhood schools.

Approve – Not a New Tax
Prop. 2 replaces the levy that voters passed in 2010 that expires in 2014.

Approve – Not a Tax Increase
The rates for each of the next four years are calculated to *not exceed* the actual rate that people are paying in 2013.

Approve – Instructional Technology to Support a Quality Education
Access to current technology helps our kids graduate and be competitive. Prop. 2 will significantly increase the number of computers accessible to students, expand computer-based curricula, fund a replacement cycle for aging computers, and provide the necessary infrastructure to support computing devices throughout the district.

Statement Against

Union officials in the Franklin-Pierce School District have pressured the school board to divert levy funds from student services in order to pay teachers more. Our levy should pay for student services, not for teachers wage increases.

In the collective bargaining agreement sought by union officials, the average state-provided wage of \$52,221 for instructional employees will be enhanced by 20% from levy and levy-match funds. This will cost roughly \$4 million per year which could be better used to help at-risk students or reduce class sizes. Union members are getting a sweetheart deal when compared to the average \$43,039 income of pierce county residents.

Levies are great for funding local priorities and unique services for our area students, but taxpayers should hold off giving the school district any more money until the school board is able to put student services above the demands of union officials.

Rebuttal of Statement Against

The information provided by the writer(s) of the against statement is inaccurate and misleading. Proposition 2 pays for things – computers, computing hardware and software, and technology infrastructure to support computing devices. Proposition 2 does not pay for salaries. It is obvious that the writer(s) are unfamiliar with the workings and oversight of a school system. Vote Yes on Propositions 1 & 2!

Committee Members: Lee Warnaca, (253) 536-4494, and Shanna Brault, fpcitizens4schools@gmail.com
Franklin Pierce Citizens for Schools

Rebuttal of Statement For

No rebuttal statement was submitted against this issue.

Committee Member: Robert W. Brown, (253) 677-0568, jaeger6@qwest.net
"Responsible Spending of Tax Dollars"

Bethel School District No. 403 - Proposition No. 1

Replacement of Expiring School Programs and Operations Levy

Ballot Title

The Board of Directors of Bethel School District No. 403 adopted Resolution No. 05 (13-14) concerning an educational programs, maintenance and operations levy. If approved, Proposition No. 1 will authorize the District to levy the following excess taxes, to replace an expiring levy, on all taxable property within the District:

<u>Levy Year</u>	<u>Collection Year</u>	<u>Approximate Levy Rate Per \$1,000 of Assessed Value</u>	<u>Levy Amount</u>
2014	2015	\$5.05	\$40,100,000
2015	2016	\$5.18	\$41,900,000
2016	2017	\$5.31	\$43,800,000
2017	2018	\$5.43	\$45,700,000

Should Proposition No. 1 be approved?

Explanatory Statement

Passage of Proposition No.1 would allow the levy of \$40,100,000 in property taxes within Bethel School District for collection in 2015, the levy of \$41,900,000 in taxes for collection in 2016, the levy of \$43,800,000 in taxes for collection in 2017, and the levy of \$45,700,000 in taxes for collection in 2018. In accordance with Resolution No. 05 (13-14) approving this proposition, these taxes would be deposited into the District's General Fund and used to pay for its educational programs and services, including teaching, school supplies, technology, athletics, buildings and transportation. If authorized by the voters, such property taxes would be collected at a rate estimated to be \$5.05 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation in 2014, \$5.18 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation in 2015, \$5.31 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation in 2016, and \$5.43 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation in 2017.

Statement For

We need your help to keep our schools vital and strong. *Vote Yes* to renew the expiring School Programs and Operations Levy.

This levy is not a new tax.

This levy accounts for 23% of the district's daily operating budget. By approving this levy, you will be helping us protect the important services and current programs our students need and families expect.

This levy funds vital services that benefit all students.

Levies bridge the gap between what Washington State funds and what it actually costs to educate students. The levy pays for student activities like arts and athletics, bus transportation, and the educational programs and materials necessary to help our students be college and workforce ready. Without it, teachers and staff members would be laid off, class sizes increased and important programs eliminated.

Support our Bethel Kids!

Bethel kids need your support now more than ever. Please do not let our children fall behind. *Vote Yes* on the School Programs and Operations Levy!

Rebuttal of Statement Against

Quality teachers are vital for student learning. State data shows Bethel's teacher wages are comparable to other Pierce County districts. Base salaries are enhanced with up to 22% of Levy and Levy-match funds. *This continued practice allows districts like Bethel to attract and retain high-quality teaching staff, giving our kids the best instruction possible.* The remaining 78% of the levy supports lower class sizes, transportation, athletics, arts, all-day kindergarten, curriculum, and other essential programs.

Committee Members: Shannon Booth, (253) 753-0337, and Jennifer Harrison, yesbethelkids@gmail.com
<https://www.facebook.com/YesBethelKids>
 Bethel Citizens Committee for School Support

Statement Against

Union officials in the Bethel School District have pressured the school board to divert levy funds from student services in order to pay teachers more. Our levy should pay for student services, not for teachers wage increases.

In the collective bargaining agreement sought by union officials, the average state-provided wage of \$52,221 for instructional employees will be enhanced by 19% from levy and levy-match funds. This will cost roughly \$8.5 million per year which could be better used to help at-risk students or reduce class sizes. Union members are getting a sweetheart deal when compared to the average \$43,039 income of Pierce county residents.

Levies are great for funding local priorities and unique services for our area students, but taxpayers should hold off giving the school district any more money until the school board is able to put student services above the demands of union officials.

Rebuttal of Statement For

No rebuttal statement was submitted against this issue.

Committee Member: Robert W. Brown, (253) 677-0568, jaeger6@qwest.net
 "Responsible Spending of Tax Dollars"

Bethel School District No. 403 - Proposition No. 2

School Technology Levy

Ballot Title

The Board of Directors of Bethel School District No. 403 adopted Resolution No. 06 (13-14) concerning a school technology levy. If approved, Proposition No. 2 will authorize acquisition of technology and equipment, including classroom computers, and will authorize the District to levy the following excess taxes on all taxable property within the District:

Levy Year	Collection Year	Approximate Levy Rate Per \$1,000 of Assessed Value	Levy Amount
2014	2015	\$0.57	\$4,500,000
2015	2016	\$0.56	\$4,500,000
2016	2017	\$0.55	\$4,500,000
2017	2018	\$0.53	\$4,500,000

Should Proposition No. 2 be approved?

Explanatory Statement

Passage of Proposition No. 2 would allow the levy of \$4,500,000 in property taxes within Bethel School District for collection in 2015, the levy of \$4,500,000 in taxes for collection in 2016, the levy of \$4,500,000 in taxes for collection in 2017, and the levy of \$4,500,000 in taxes for collection in 2018. In accordance with Resolution No. 06 (13-14) approving this proposition, these taxes would be deposited into the District's Capital Projects Fund and used to pay for technology improvements and equipment for its educational programs and services. If authorized by the voters, such property taxes would be collected at a rate estimated to be \$0.57 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation in 2014, \$0.56 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation in 2015, \$0.55 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation in 2016, and \$0.53 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation in 2017.

Statement For

Our students deserve an opportunity to compete in this ever-changing world. Your *Yes vote* will give Bethel kids current technological tools and skills that are essential for college and the workforce.

Help our kids be competitive in the global marketplace.

By developing a technology-rich environment, the district will be giving our kids new strategies to compete in today's job market. This new levy directs funding to classrooms, providing our children with unprecedented access to computers, tablets and other comparable devices.

Other Pierce County districts fund similar technology programs.

Currently, a blended learning pilot project is successfully underway at three schools in Bethel, and staff members throughout the district are finding new ways to integrate technology into their teaching curriculum. This levy will expand technology use, improve instruction and better prepare our kids for the future.

Technology is more important now than ever before for student success.

As technology evolves, it creates new opportunities for student engagement and learning. Support our Bethel Kids! *Vote Yes* and give our students the tools and skills they need to be successful.

Rebuttal of Statement Against

The School Technology Levy will not support teacher salaries. It is a dedicated fund to provide student computers and upgrade infrastructure with a minimal amount allocated for support staff necessary to maintain 18,000 devices. Around the world, students are getting access to technology and the skills needed to be competitive in the workforce. *Our State does not fund student technology* - many districts have technology levies. Bethel students deserve the same opportunities.

Committee Members: Shannon Booth, (253) 753-0337, and Jennifer Harrison, yesbethelkids@gmail.com
<https://www.facebook.com/YesBethelKids>
 Bethel Citizens Committee for School Support

Statement Against

Union officials in the Bethel School District have pressured the school board to divert levy funds from student services in order to pay teachers more. Our levy should pay for student services, not for teachers wage increases.

In the collective bargaining agreement sought by union officials, the average state-provided wage of \$52,221 for instructional employees will be enhanced by 19% from levy and levy-match funds. This will cost roughly \$8.5 million per year which could be better used to help at-risk students or reduce class sizes. Union members are getting a sweetheart deal when compared to the average \$43,039 income of Pierce county residents.

Levies are great for funding local priorities and unique services for our area students, but taxpayers should hold off giving the school district any more money until the school board is able to put student services above the demands of union officials.

Rebuttal of Statement For

No rebuttal statement was submitted against this issue.

Committee Member: Robert W. Brown, (253) 677-0568, jaeger6@qwest.net
"Responsible Spending of Tax Dollars"

Eatonville School District No. 404 - Proposition No. 1

Replacement of Expiring Educational Programs and Operations Levy

Ballot Title

The Board of Directors of Eatonville School District No. 404 adopted Resolution No. 626 concerning educational funding. If approved, Proposition No. 1 will authorize the District to levy the following excess taxes, to replace an expiring levy, on all taxable property within the District to support the District's educational programs and daily operations, including teachers, staff, classroom materials and textbooks:

<u>Levy Year</u>	<u>Collection Year</u>	<u>Approximate Levy Rate Per \$1,000 of Assessed Value</u>	<u>Levy Amount</u>
2014	2015	\$3.87	\$4,541,940
2015	2016	\$3.87	\$4,678,198
2016	2017	\$3.87	\$4,818,544
2017	2018	\$3.87	\$4,963,100

all as provided in Resolution No. 626. Should Proposition No. 1 be approved?

Explanatory Statement

Passage of Proposition No. 1 would replace an expiring levy and allow the levy of \$4,541,940 in property taxes with in Eatonville School District for collection in 2015, the levy of \$4,678,198 for collection in 2016, the levy of \$4,818,544 for collection in 2017, and the levy of \$4,963,100 for collection in 2018. In accordance with Resolution No. 626 approving this proposition, these taxes would be deposited in the Eatonville 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 \$3.87 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation in 2014, \$3.87 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation in 2015, \$3.87 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation in 2016 and \$3.87 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation in 2017. 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.

Statement For

Eatonville School District has been the heart and soul of our community for nearly 90 years. In the last 2 years Eatonville schools have received distinguished awards such as Washington State School of Distinction, National Academic Achievement Award and Washington STEM Lighthouse designation. In order to maintain the quality of education we have come to expect from Eatonville Schools, we must pass the 2015-2018 Maintenance and Operations Replacement Levy.

This Is Not A New Tax.

This Replacement Levy is the same rate taxpayers are currently paying. The new levy will maintain the daily operation of our school's transportation and building maintenance, purchase textbooks, technology, and classroom/library materials. It will provide additional staff for instruction, supervision and safety. Your yes vote will provide activities such as sports, music, drama and after school academic support. This levy funds for 24% of our school district budget. Vote Yes!

Strong Schools = Eatonville Strong

Committee Members: Ronda Litzenberger, (253) 380-4480 and Jill Pollock, Eatonville Citizens for Education

Statement Against

No statement was submitted against this issue.

Auburn School District No. 408 - Proposition No. 1

Technology Capital Projects Levy

Ballot Title

The Board of Directors of Auburn School District No. 408 adopted Resolution No. 1187 concerning technology levies. This proposition authorizes acquiring technology and equipment, including computers and training; and authorizes the following excess levies for such purposes on all taxable property within the District:

<u>Collection Years</u>	<u>Approximate Levy Rate/ \$1,000 Assessed Value</u>	<u>Levy Amount</u>
2015	\$0.42	\$3,670,000
2016	\$0.41	\$3,670,000
2017	\$0.40	\$3,665,000
2018	\$0.39	\$3,665,000
2019	\$0.38	\$3,665,000
2020	\$0.37	\$3,665,000

all as provided in Resolution No. 1187. Should this proposition be approved?

Explanatory Statement

Passage of Proposition No. 1 would allow the levy of \$3,670,000 in property taxes within Auburn School District No. 408 for collection in 2015, the levy of \$3,670,000 for collection in 2016, the levy of \$3,665,000 for collection in 2017, the levy of \$3,665,000 for collection in 2018, the levy of \$3,665,000 for collection in 2019 and the levy of \$3,665,000 for collection in 2020, to replace an expiring levy, such levies to be collected for six years from 2015 through 2020, inclusive. In accordance with Resolution No. 1187 approving this proposition, these taxes would pay for the acquisition, installation, and management of computer technology systems, facilities and projects, to enhance technology infrastructure (both wired and wireless) to provide equipment and devices to enhance student learning and engagement. If authorized by the voters and based on current assessed valuation information, estimated levy rates per \$1,000 of assessed value would be \$0.42 (2015 collection); \$0.41 (2016 collection); \$0.40 (2017 collection); \$0.39 (2018 collection); \$0.38 (2019 collection); \$0.37 (2020 collection). 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.

Statement For

A Citizen's Ad Hoc Committee has studied the future technology needs of the Auburn School District. For our students in the Auburn School District to compete for jobs in the future, they must be skilled with technology. This committee recommended advancing the school district's technology forward to meet the needs of students now and into the future. The recommendations include expanded infrastructure, high-yield strategies for teaching and learning, access by students and staff, and needed funding and support to implement the initiatives.

This technology levy will provide targeted 1 to 1 student access, expand wireless access, bring current and new technology to students and staff for 24/7 access to learning resources. The funding is crucial to the future educational opportunities to our kids and their future educational and career endeavors.

Vote "Yes" to assure access of technology to enhance the quality education for all kids now and into their future.

Statement Against

Union officials in the Auburn School District have pressured the school board to divert levy funds from student services in order to pay teachers more. Our levy should pay for student services, not for teachers wage increases.

In the collective bargaining agreement sought by union officials, the average state-provided wage of \$52,777 for instructional employees will be enhanced by 13% from levy and levy-match funds. This will cost roughly \$5.1 million per year which could be better used to help at-risk students or reduce class sizes. Union members are getting a sweetheart deal when compared to the average \$43,039 income of pierce county residents.

Levies are great for funding local priorities and unique services for our area students, but taxpayers should hold off giving the school district any more money until the school board is able to put student services above the demands of union officials.

Rebuttal of Statement Against

Fact: Against statement fails to engage Auburn's levy and its claims are baseless and without merit. The replacement technology levy isn't about wages or union demands. Fact: The levy specifically brings enhanced technology and digital devices into classrooms for student learning. The replacement levy provides students and families 24/7 access to learning resources and opportunities for students to excel. This approach to teaching and learning enhances all students' performance, for accelerated and especially at-risk learners.

Committee Members: Ryan Anderson and Kelly McDonald, auburncitizens4schools@outlook.com
<http://auburncitizens4schools.weebly.com/>
Auburn Citizens for Schools

Rebuttal of Statement For

No rebuttal statement was submitted against this issue.

Committee Member: Robert W. Brown, (253) 677-0568, jaeger6@qwest.net
"Responsible Spending of Tax Dollars"

White River School District No. 416 - Proposition No. 1

Replacement of Expiring Educational Maintenance and Operations Levy

Ballot Title

The Board of Directors of White River School District No. 416 adopted Resolution No. 13-25 concerning educational funding. If approved, Proposition No. 1 will authorize the District to levy the following excess taxes, in place of an expiring levy, on all taxable property within the District to support and maintain the District's K-12 educational programs, fund day-to-day operations, including classroom teachers, librarians, nurses, textbooks and instructional materials, athletics, arts and music programs and security:

<u>Levy Year</u>	<u>Collection Year</u>	<u>Approximate Levy Rate Per \$1,000 of Assessed Value</u>	<u>Levy Amount</u>
2014	2015	\$4.17	\$8,700,000
2015	2016	\$4.17	\$9,100,000
2016	2017	\$4.17	\$9,500,000
2017	2018	\$4.17	\$9,800,000

all as provided in Resolution No. 13-25. Should Proposition No. 1 be approved?

Explanatory Statement

Passage of Proposition No. 1 would replace expiring levies and allow the White River School District to levy \$8,700,000 in property taxes within the District for collection in 2015, \$9,100,000 for collection in 2016, \$9,500,000 for collection in 2017, and \$9,800,000 for collection in 2018. In accordance with Resolution No. 13-25 approving this proposition, these funds would be deposited into the District's General Fund and used to support and maintain the District's K-12 educational programs and fund day-to-day operations, including classroom teachers, librarians, nurses and other staff, textbooks and other instructional materials, athletics, arts and music programs, and security. If authorized by the voters, these property taxes would be collected at a rate estimated to be \$4.17 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation for each of the four years of collection, 2015-2018.

Statement For

White River School District students need the voter's help to maintain current programs and staff by voting yes on the Maintenance and Operations levy. These dollars represent a significant part of the district's budget.

This is a renewal of the existing levy which voters passed in 2010.

The district must go to voters every four years to renew the M&O levy. The levy funds cover a shortfall in state funding and help pay for basic educational needs for our students that our community has deemed important. I know that the district is committed to using its resources to support its mission statement, "Ensuring High Levels of Learning for all Kids".

Funding levies has been a strong tradition in our community. Let's continue to give the students of White River the support they deserve by voting yes on Proposition 1.

Statement Against

Union officials in the White River School District have pressured the school board to divert levy funds from student services in order to pay teachers more. Our levy should pay for student services, not for teachers wage increases.

In the collective bargaining agreement sought by union officials, the average state provided Wage of \$54,865 for instructional employees is enhanced by more than 8.9% from levy and levy match funds. This costs roughly \$864,288 per year which could be better used to help at risk students or reduce class sizes. Union members are getting a sweetheart deal when compared to the average \$43,039 income of pierce county residents.

Levies are great for funding local priorities and unique services for our area students, but taxpayers should hold off giving the school district any more money until the school board is able to put student services above the demands of union officials.

Rebuttal of Statement Against

Research shows that the number one factor in determining student success is the classroom teacher. WRSD believes this research. Our kids deserve high quality teachers in every classroom. Additionally, levy dollars support numerous services for students including transportation, extracurricular activities, and remedial/enrichment programs K-12. Legislators are working to fully fund education. Until they do this levy is an essential funding source to educate our students. This levy provides 22% of our funding – every dollar counts!

Committee Members: Carolyn Norris and Denise Vogel
citizensforwr@gmail.com
Citizens for White River Schools

Rebuttal of Statement For

No rebuttal statement was submitted against this issue.

Committee Member: Robert W. Brown,
(253) 677-0568, jaeger6@qwest.net
"Responsible Spending of Tax Dollars"

White River School District No. 416 - Proposition No. 2

School Technology Levy

Ballot Title

The Board of Directors of White River School District No. 416 adopted Resolution No. 13-28 concerning a technology levy. If approved, Proposition No. 2 will authorize the District to levy the following excess taxes, on all taxable property within the District, to fund the acquisition of technology and related equipment including, but not limited to, instructional hardware and software, infrastructure upgrades, and training to integrate new technologies into classroom instruction:

<u>Levy Year</u>	<u>Collection Year</u>	<u>Approximate Levy Rate Per \$1,000 of Assessed Value</u>	<u>Levy Amount</u>
2014	2015	\$0.50	\$1,000,000
2015	2016	\$0.50	\$1,100,000

all as provided in Resolution No. 13-28. Should Proposition No. 2 be approved?

Explanatory Statement

Passage of Proposition No. 2 would allow the White River School District to levy \$1,000,000 in property taxes within the District for collection in 2015, and to levy \$1,100,000 in taxes for collection in 2016. In accordance with Resolution No. 13-28 approving this proposition, these funds would be deposited into the District's Capital Projects Fund and used to pay for the acquisition of technology and related equipment, including but not limited to instructional hardware and software, infrastructure upgrades, and training to integrate new technologies into classroom instruction. If authorized by the voters, these property taxes would be collected at a rate estimated to be \$0.50 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation in 2015 and 2016.

Statement For

Technology is changing the way we live and work. While we once talked about students needing to learn how to use technology to be competitive in the work world, we could now say that they need access to technology to be able to function, in both their personal and work lives. The time has come to provide students with up-to-date classrooms and improve access to modern technology comparable with neighboring school districts. We are seeing the move away from hardbound textbooks, into online, interactive, and continually updated curriculum. Technology is integrated into classwork from core subjects such as math, or science, to music and automotive. For many years we talked about 'preparing kids for the 21st Century'. Last year we graduated the first group of students who *started school in the 21st Century*. Technology in our classrooms is critical for our students to succeed. Please don't let them down.

Statement Against

No statement was submitted against this issue.

Committee Members: William A. Boyle,
bd_boyle@comcast.net, and Carolyn Norris
Citizens for White River Schools

Fife School District No. 417 - Proposition No. 1

Replacement of Expiring Educational Programs and Operations Levy

Ballot Title

The Board of Directors of Fife School District No. 417 adopted Resolution No. 13-15 concerning a replacement levy for education funding. If approved, Proposition No. 1 will authorize the District to levy the following excess taxes, in place of an expiring levy, on all taxable property within the District to fund education programs and school operations:

<u>Levy Year</u>	<u>Collection Year</u>	<u>Approximate Levy Rate Per \$1,000 of Assessed Value</u>	<u>Levy Amount</u>
2014	2015	\$2.92	\$9,200,000
2015	2016	\$2.81	\$9,300,000
2016	2017	\$2.70	\$9,400,000
2017	2018	\$2.60	\$9,500,000

all as provided in Resolution No. 13-15. Should Proposition No. 1 be approved?

Explanatory Statement

Passage of Proposition No. 1 would allow the levy of \$9,200,000 in property taxes within Fife School District No. 417 for collection in 2015, the levy of \$9,300,000 for collection in 2016, the levy of \$9,400,000 for collection in 2017, and the levy of \$9,500,000 for collection in 2018, to pay for part of the cost of education programs and maintenance and operations support of the District, such levies to be made for four years for collection in the years from 2015 through 2018. In accordance with Resolution No. 13-15 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 hiring additional staffing to maintain low class sizes, special education programs, professional growth opportunities, transportation costs, additional textbooks and other instructional materials, athletics and other extracurricular activities such as drama and music, ongoing facilities maintenance and repairs, and other instructional program support of the District. If authorized by the voters and based on projected assessed valuation information, estimated levy rates per \$1,000 of assessed value would be \$2.92 (2015 collection); \$2.81 (2016 collection); \$2.70 (2017 collection); \$2.60 (2018 collection).

Statement For

To maintain quality education for our children, the Citizens for Fife Milton Schools is asking voters to support the Educational Program and Operations *replacement* levy for 2015 to 2018 by voting "Yes" for Proposition 1.

This is not a new tax.

The current levy expires in 2014. This *replacement* levy continues long-standing local community support to ensure the success of our schools at the lowest tax rate in the area.

Your "Yes" vote is important.

Your "Yes" vote will continue funding for additional teachers and classified staff to keep class sizes small. Your "Yes" vote will support special programs, safe student transportation, and instructional materials; your "Yes" vote will provide maintenance, grounds, and custodial services to ensure longevity of our schools. Your "Yes" vote will continue funding athletics, the arts, and extracurricular activities.

Our children are counting on your "Yes" vote.

This levy will continue the resources and educational programs and services our children and community deserve. Please *Vote "Yes"* for the Educational Program and Operations *replacement* levy.

Committee Members: Marjorie Dickson, (253) 922-1951, and Melinda Shaw, Citizens for Fife-Milton Schools

Statement Against

No statement was submitted against this issue.

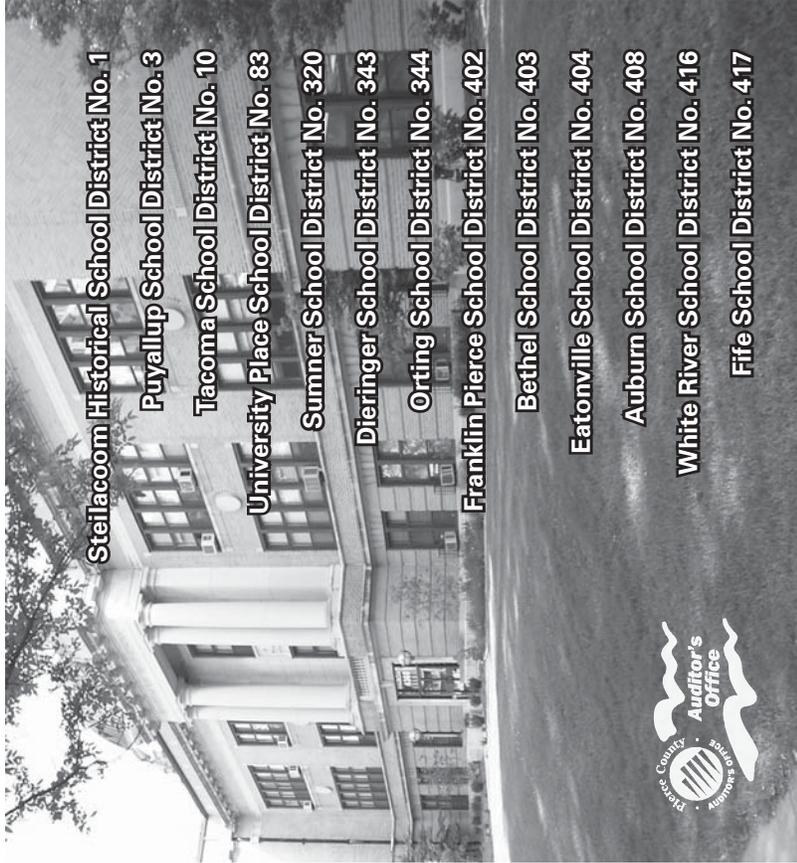
School District Contact Information

Do you have questions about your school district proposition(s)?

- Contact your school district listed below.
- Contact a statement committee member.

School District	Phone	Website
Steilacoom Historical School District No. 1	(253) 983-2200	www.steilacoom.k12.wa.us
Puyallup School District No. 3	(253) 841-8703	www.puyallup.k12.wa.us
Tacoma School District No. 10	(253) 571-1015	www.tacoma.k12.wa.us
University Place School District No. 83	(253) 566-5600	www.upsd.wednet.edu
Sumner School District No. 320	(253) 891-6087	www.sumner.wednet.edu
Dieringer School District No. 343	(253) 862-2537	www.dieringer.wednet.edu
Orting School District No. 344	(360) 893-6500	www.ortingschools.org
Franklin Pierce School District No. 402	(253) 298-3087	www.fpschools.org
Bethel School District No. 403	(253) 683-6052	www.bethelsd.org
Eatonville School District No. 404	(360) 879-1000	www.eatonville.wednet.edu
Auburn School District No. 408	(253) 931-4930	www.auburn.wednet.edu
White River School District No. 416	(360) 829-0600	www.whiteriver.wednet.edu
Fife School District No. 417	(253) 517-1000	www.fifeschools.com

Pierce County Official Local
Voters' Pamphlet
February 11, 2014 Special Election



If you don't receive your ballot by February 1, 2014,
call us to request a replacement ballot:

253-798-VOTE (8683) or 800-446-4979



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