

Vote YES!

FOR OUR KIDS APRIL 23rd

www.vote4lwskids.org

LAKE WASHINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT BOND AND LEVIES APRIL 23, 2019 SPECIAL ELECTION

Why do we need the 2019 Capital Projects Levy?

Lake Washington School District (LWSD) serves students in the cities of Redmond, Kirkland and Sammamish. These areas experienced significant population growth over the past decade, and enrollment in LWSD has increased by 26 percent. This significant growth means that the LWSD needs more classrooms and infrastructure for current and future students.

What will the 2019 Capital Projects Levy fund?

The Capital Projects Levy will provide funding for more classrooms and core (gyms and cafeterias) along with enhanced security at elementary and high schools. It's also a short-term measure to address overcrowding now.

Here is a list of projects throughout the district:

Extra Permanent Classrooms

- Lake Washington High School (20)
- Rachel Carson Elementary (4)
- Benjamin Franklin Elementary (8)
- Rose Hill Elementary (8)
- Mark Twain Elementary (4)
- Total: 44 (Capacity for 1,052 Students)

Core Facilities/Common Spaces

- Auxiliary Gymnasium at Lake Washington High School
- Additional core facilities* at:
 - Rachel Carson Elementary
 - Benjamin Franklin Elementary
 - Rose Hill Elementary
 - Mark Twain Elementary

Critical Safety Projects

- Exterior Security Cameras at Elementary Schools
- Modifications of School Entries:
 - Eastlake High School
 - Lake Washington High School
 - Redmond High School

Does the levy fund improvements at all schools?

This levy funds safety projects at all elementary schools. It funds additions at four elementary schools and one high school. LWSD serves students across multiple jurisdictions, and some areas are growing faster than others. This measure targets improvements at the schools with the most critical capacity needs, and future improvements will require additional funding.

What is being done to address middle school capacity in the Capital Projects Levy?

In the short-term there is a need to address middle school capacity at Rose Hill and Kirkland Middle Schools. Lake Washington High School currently has ten portables on its campus due to growing enrollment. The Capital Project Levy will fund a permanent addition of 20 classrooms at the high school. The portable classrooms can then be moved to Rose Hill and Kirkland Middle Schools to reduce overcrowding at those schools.

Why is the LWSD proposing another levy so soon after the 2018 election?

In 2018, the district ran a bond measure to provide needed classrooms to reduce overcrowding and provide for future growth. This measure did not receive the required 60% approval required to pass. The district is growing at an unprecedented rate, and we need to ensure our schools can meet the demands of current and future students. This levy will fund critical classroom additions, auxiliary spaces and provide new security enhancements to keep our kids safe.

* Where feasible

Why is the Capital Project Levy funding permanent classrooms instead of adding portable classrooms?

LWSD has had to rely on portable classrooms to house the significant influx of new students, but permanent classrooms are needed to reduce overcrowding. The Capital Projects levy would construct permanent classrooms providing space for over 1,000 students.

Why can't we just draw new boundaries?

The majority of district schools are at or over capacity. Moving students to a limited number of schools where there is capacity would not solve the problem and could require long bus rides across the district for students. The district needs additional classrooms where students are living.

What will this new levy cost and how will it impact my property taxes?

This levy will collect \$20 million dollars a year for the next six years, raising \$120 million to fund necessary improvements. The 2019 levy maintains the current tax rate with no tax rate increase because the district is paying off past bonds. If your property values in the district increase, the amount the district collects remains the same and the tax rate per \$1,000 assessed valuation will decline.

Why do schools need to pass local levies? I thought the McCleary Plan fully funded education?

The state does not provide for the majority of funding for construction or capital improvements. Local districts are responsible for raising their own money to provide for additional classrooms and safety improvements. The state's McCleary Plan provided additional funding for basic education which is used for day-to-day operations in the general fund. These funds cannot be used for construction. Local school districts rely on local levy funds to fund operations, programs, staff, and technology and classroom space – all items not funded by the state.

The LWSD is expanding dramatically, and local funds are



the primary source of revenue to ensure current and future students have classrooms.

How can I register to vote?

It's simple and only takes a few minutes online.
Go to www.vote.wa.gov and register to vote no later than March 25th.

How can I help?

Volunteer on the campaign.

Learn more at www.vote4lwsdkids.org

1

Like the campaign Facebook page and invite your friends to like it:

www.facebook.com/VoteForLakeWashingtonKids

2

Follow us on Twitter and retweet our tweets: <https://twitter.com/YesForLWKids>

3

Use your social media to show support your support of the bond and levies #Yes4LWKids
Please use these links in your posts to direct people to more info:

- Campaign website: www.vote4lwsdkids.org
- Facebook page: www.facebook.com/VoteForLakeWashingtonKids
- Twitter: <https://twitter.com/YesForLWKids>
- LWSD district website: www.lwsd.org

4

Put a sign-up on your car, home or office window: <http://vote4lwsdkids.org/resources/>

5

Register to vote no later than March 25th! Encourage your friends to register to vote!

It only takes five minutes and you can do it online: www.vote.wa.gov

6

Spread the word to your friends, family, neighbors and colleagues!

What kind of property tax exemptions are available?

Senior citizens and those with disabilities can qualify for property tax exemptions.

Learn more by calling the King County Assessor: (206) 296-7300.

How should I vote again?

Vote YES by April 23rd on Prop 1: Capital Project Levy so we can address overcrowding and security for our kids!

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LAKE WASHINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT

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