



December 13, 2021

Lake Washington Citizens Levy Committee
c/o LWEA Office
8575 164th Ave. NE, Suite 100
Redmond, WA 98052

RE: Lake Washington School District's February 2022 Educational Programs & Operations Levy, Capital Projects Levy, and Technology & Facilities Capital Projects Levy

Dear Lake Washington Citizens Levy Committee:

I am writing to you on behalf of the 7,400+ members of the Seattle King County REALTORS® to let you know that our Association has **Endorsed** the Educational Programs & Operations Levy, the Capital Projects Levy, and the Technology & Facilities Capital Projects Levy that the Lake Washington School District will be submitting to the voters on February 8th.

We urge voters in the Lake Washington School District to join REALTORS® in the Lake Washington School District to vote **YES** on these ballot measures.

The REALTORS'® decision to endorse these ballot measures was made by our Association's Governmental & Public Affairs Committee. In making this decision, our REALTOR® members were mindful that:

- In 2020, LWSD budget eared the Meritorious Budget Award for the fourth-straight year.
- In 2019, the U.S. Secretary of Education named LWSD a 2019 U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon School District Sustainability Awardee.
- The LWSD Board of Directors was one of 34 school boards in Washington state to be named "Board of Distinction" by the Washington State School Directors' Association and one of 14 in the "Large School Districts" category.
- Niche ranks nearly 100,000 schools and districts based on statistics and millions of opinions from students and parents. According to Niche, Lake Washington School District was ranked 4th of 252 best school districts in Washington and was ranked 17th of 253 best teachers in Washington.

- In 2019, the annual U.S News & World Report ranked the International Community School (ICS) and Redmond High School in the top 20 in Washington state. (ICS in 2nd place and Redmond High School at number 14). Four other LWSD high schools make the list, including Lake Washington (22nd), Juanita (29th) and Futures School (125th).
- The LWSD is widely recognized as one of Washington's top school districts.
- Sixteen students from LWSD have achieved something less than one-half of 1% of takers achieve. These students earned the highest ACT composite score of 36. According to the letter they received, only 5,579 out of 1.67 million students who took the ACT last year accomplished this feat.
- Schools unify and define communities. *LWSD's reputation as a community will be dependent to a very large degree on the quality of Lake Washington Schools.* Good schools are the first thing that homebuyers ask us about. Good schools are essential for preserving the value of family homes. But most important, quality schools are critical to the future of the students in the Lake Washington School District.

Our members understand that the best way to preserve property values, to build strong neighborhoods and to strengthen entire communities is to provide *Great Schools*. Not surprisingly, there is *very strong support* for Lake Washington Schools among our members.

We believe the February 2022 ballot measures for the LWSD is worthy of very strong support and will urge our members to vote *YES*.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David Crowell". The signature is fluid and elegant, with a large initial "D" and "C".

David Crowell, JD
Director of Governmental Affairs