

Bremerton School District No. 100-C

Proposition No. 1

Replacement for Educational Programs and Operations Levy

Official Ballot Title

The Board of Directors of Bremerton School District adopted Resolution No. 2019/2020-06 authorizing a renewal educational enrichment levy. To continue high quality academic programs that are eligible activities, this proposition authorizes the District to levy the following excess taxes, on all taxable property within the District which are not funded or not fully funded by the State:

Collection Years	Approximate Levy Rate/\$1,000 Assessed Value	Levy Amount
2021	\$2.50	\$12,787,991
2022	\$2.50	\$13,466,996
2023	\$2.50	\$13,851,143
2024	\$2.50	\$14,543,700

subject to legal limits at the time of levy. Should this proposition be approved?

Yes

No

Explanatory Statement

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

Passage of Proposition No. 1 would allow the levy of \$12,787,991 in property taxes within Bremerton School District No. 100-C for collection in 2021, the levy of \$13,466,996 for collection in 2022, the levy of \$13,851,143 for collection in 2023, and the levy of \$14,543,700 for collection in 2024, to replace an expiring levy and enable the District to pay for its educational programs and services, such levies to be made for four years commencing in 2020 for collection in the years from 2021 through and including 2024. In accordance with Resolution No. 2019/2020-06 approving this proposition, these taxes would be deposited in the District's General Fund to pay part of the general expenses of operating the District. General expenses of the District include employee costs (salaries), instructional materials, special programs, activities and sports, technology systems operation, transportation costs, maintenance of facilities and other non-capital expenses of operating the District schools. If authorized by the voters and based on projected assessed valuation information, estimated levy rates per \$1,000 of assessed value would be \$2.50 (2021 collection), \$2.50 (2022 collection), \$2.50 (2023 collection) and \$2.50 (2024 collection).

Argument For the Measure

Support Bremerton schools by voting yes to replace the Educational Programs and Operations Levy. This replacement levy will continue to fund necessary educational programs and services for our children to receive a quality education. The current levy expires in 2020. Funds generated will support important staffing positions such as nurses, security, custodial, paraeducators, and mental health. In addition to staffing, the levy will also provide Bremerton students specialty programs such as Arts Integration, STEM, Dual Language Immersion, AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination), and music and athletic co-curricular opportunities.

The Educational Programs and Operations Levy funds approximately 15% of Bremerton School District's annual budget. These are programs and services not fully supported by the Washington State Legislature. Changes in the way schools are funded have restricted local funding choices. This makes it necessary for school districts to request levies to bridge the gap between state education funding and the revenues needed to offer programs and services valued by our communities. In Bremerton School District, the state funds less than a full-time nurse, yet there is a need for over three nurses. The funding for additional nurses is generated through levy funding. By supporting this levy, Bremerton students will have access to valuable educational opportunities and safe schools.

Your yes vote will help develop an educated community with schools that are committed to providing a quality educational system that supports the diverse needs of our community.

Rebuttal to the Argument Against

Washington State Legislators have struggled to come up with an equitable basic education funding solution. In 2020 more senior citizens with limited incomes and disabled veterans and citizens will qualify for property tax exemptions through the *Property Tax Exemption & Deferral Programs*. Contact the Kitsap County Assessor's office for more information: 360-337-7160, assessor@co.kitsap.wa.us, or <https://www.kitsapgov.com/assessor>.

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

Argument Against the Measure

I am an elderly resident living on a fixed income. I am not going to argue that this should not pass because I don't have any children (or grandchildren) in the schools. I support education. I oppose it because I do not feel it is fair to place all the burden on homeowners. Many young families can't even afford to buy a home in parts of Kitsap County because the taxes are so high already. If the schools need more money for teachers—not bureaucrats!—then the County needs to find some fairer way to pay for it.

Rebuttal to the Argument For

No rebuttal submitted.

Argument prepared by Chairperson T. Asla; Committee Against the Measure. To contact the committee, email proeducation.kitsap@gmail.com.

Bremerton School District No. 100-C

**Proposition No. 2
Facilities Capital Projects Levy**

Official Ballot Title

The Board of Directors of Bremerton School District No. 100-C adopted Resolution No. 2019/2020-08 concerning a levy for capital projects. This proposition would provide for District health and safety improvements, including plumbing, electrical, fire safety and heating, ventilation and air conditioning improvements and preserve District assets by undertaking exterior maintenance; and repairs of structures; other improvements; and authorizes the following excess levies for such purposes on all taxable property within the District:

Collection Years	Approximate Levy Rate/\$1,000 Assessed Value	Levy Amount
2021	\$1.23	\$6,215,000
2022	\$1.23	\$6,341,000

all as provided in Resolution No. 2019/2020-08. Should this proposition be approved?

- Yes
- No

Explanatory Statement

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

Passage of Proposition No. 2 would allow the levy of \$6,215,000 in property taxes within Bremerton School District No. 100-C for collection in 2021 and the levy of \$6,341,000 for collection in 2022 to fund health and safety improvements, including plumbing, electrical, fire safety and heating, ventilation and air conditioning improvements and preserve District assets by undertaking exterior maintenance; and repairs of structures and other improvements. In accordance with Resolution No. 2019/2020-08 approving this proposition, these taxes would be collected over two years and deposited in the District's Capital Projects Fund for replacements of and improvements to existing facilities of the District to meet the current and future educational programs for its students. If authorized by the voters, and based on projected assessed valuation information, estimated levy rates per \$1,000 of assessed value would be \$1.23 (2021 collection) and \$1.23 (2022 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.

Exemptions from taxes may be available to certain homeowners. To determine if you qualify, contact the Kitsap County Assessor at (360) 337-7160.

Argument For the Measure

Bremerton School District currently provides educational programs for over 5000 students. To meet the academic and safety needs of the students, Bremerton School District must keep the facilities well maintained and functional. With this focus, the District has performed a thorough Facility Condition and Prioritization Summary. The maintenance needs are determined urgent, and improvements are needed to keep the facilities safely functioning. A prioritized task list includes upgrades to districtwide heating, plumbing, ventilation, electrical, and fire safety. These upgrades will improve the health and safety of our schools and facilities.

The Facilities Capital Projects Levy will replace the following expiring bond and capital levies: 2005 Bond, Technology Levy, and 2016 Capital Levy. Each of these expired in 2019. As good stewards of our public schools, it is essential for Bremerton Schools to preserve the facilities for staff and students attending now and in the future. Your yes vote will continue the vital work needed to provide safe and healthy schools for Bremerton students and staff.

Rebuttal to the Argument Against

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Rebuttal to the Argument For

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