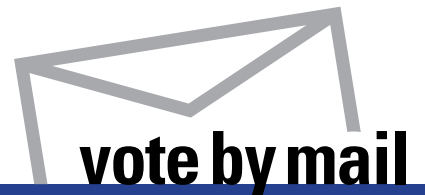


March 10, 2009 Special Election

King County Local Voters' Pamphlet



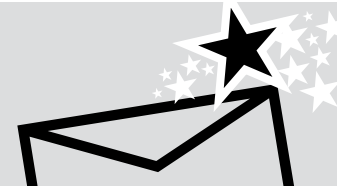
Published by:



King County
Elections

For more information call 206-296-VOTE (8683) or visit www.kingcounty.gov/elections

Voter Information - what you need to know



Special Election on March 10, 2009

All voters will receive a mail ballot for this election.

Your polling place will not be open. Please follow the ballot instructions carefully, and remember to sign the oath on the return envelope before mailing your ballot. Your signature will be compared and matched to the signature on your voter registration file.

24-hour ballot drop boxes

You can return your voted ballot by mail or return your ballot at one of our drop box locations. Ballot drop boxes will open on Friday, Feb. 20 at 6 a.m. and close at 8 p.m. on Election Day, March 10.

- **Auburn Library**
1102 Auburn Way S, Auburn 98002
- **Fall City Library**
33415 SE 42 Pl, Fall City 98024
- **King County Elections**
919 SW Grady Way, Renton 98057
- **King County Administration Building**
500 Fourth Ave, Seattle 98104

Accessible voting options

Anyone needing assistance to vote can vote in-person on an accessible voting unit located at an Accessible Voting Center:

- **King County Elections**
919 SW Grady Way, Renton 98057
 - o Weekdays, Feb. 18 – March 9
8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
 - o Saturday, March 7, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
 - o Tuesday, March 10, 7 a.m. – 8 p.m.
- **Vashon Library**
17210 Vashon Hwy SW, Vashon 98070
 - o Friday, March 6, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.
- **Snoqualmie Library**
7824 Center Blvd SE, Snoqualmie 98065
 - o Saturday, March 7, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.
- **Auburn City Hall**
25 West Main Street, Auburn 98001
 - o Monday, March 9, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Qualifications to register

To register to vote in King County, you must be:

- a citizen of the United States;
- a legal resident of Washington State;
- at least 18 years old by election day.

If you have been convicted of a felony in Washington, another state, or in federal court, you lose your right to vote in Washington State until your civil rights are restored.

Registration deadlines

You may register to vote at any time, but keep in mind that there are registration deadlines prior to each election. King County Elections must receive your registration form at least **30 days** before an election if you register online or by mail. New Washington voters have up to **15 days** before the election to register to vote; however, you must register in person at the King County Elections office.

How to register

Come in person to the King County Elections office, 919 SW Grady Way, Renton 98057 or you can complete your registration online at www.vote.wa.gov. Mail-in registration forms are also available. Forms are available from King County Elections, public libraries, public schools, other government offices or the Web at www.kingcounty.gov/elections.

Keep your voter registration up-to-date

If your voter registration record does not contain your **current** name or address, it may affect your voting status. **Note the deadline for changes.** Changes to your name and address must be made **30 days before** an election to legally entitle you to vote using your new name or to vote in the precinct associated with your new address. Use the mail-in voter registration form to send your name or address change to the King County Elections or call 206-296-8683 to change your address. You can also update your record online at www.vote.wa.gov.

Mail ballots

If you have an address change, do not receive your mail ballot or lose your ballot, please notify King County Elections. Contact information is listed below. Voted mail ballots for this election must be signed and postmarked or delivered to King County Elections **on or before March 10.**

Services and additional information

Contact King County Elections for further information about registering to vote, help with voting your ballot, or voters' pamphlets in alternate formats.

Voter Hotline: 206-296-VOTE (8683) or
1-800-325-6165 or
TTY 206-296-0109
206-296-1544 (Chinese)

Internet: <http://www.kingcounty.gov/elections>

E-mail: elections@kingcounty.gov

Fax: 206-205-5080 or 206-296-0108

Mail or In Person: King County Elections
919 SW Grady Way
Renton, WA 98057



Vashon Island School District No. 402

Official Ballot Title

**Vashon Island School District No. 402
Proposition No. 1
General Obligation Bonds - \$75,550,000**

The Board of Directors of Vashon Island School District No. 402 adopted Resolution No. 611 concerning this proposition for bonds. This proposition authorizes the District to construct a new High School classroom building, renovate other buildings, install synthetic turf and a new track, construct a secondary gym, upgrade ventilation and technology systems at McMurray Middle and Chautauqua Elementary Schools, and make other capital improvements, issue \$75,550,000 of general obligation bonds maturing within a maximum term of 20 years, and levy excess property taxes annually to repay the bonds, as described in detail in Resolution No. 611. Should this proposition be:

APPROVED REJECTED

Explanatory Statement

Passage of Proposition No. 1 would allow the issuance not to exceed \$75,550,000 of bonds by Vashon Island School District No. 402 (the "District") to provide funding for constructing a new High School classroom building, renovate other buildings, install synthetic turf and a new track, construct a secondary gym, upgrade ventilation and technology systems at McMurray Middle and Chautauqua Elementary Schools, and make other capital improvements. In accordance with Resolution No. 611 approving this proposition, the bonds would be repaid out of annual property tax levies over a period of 20 years. The exact amount of such annual levies for these bonds would depend on the amount of principal paid each year and on the interest rates available at the time the bonds are sold, but levies are expected to average approximately \$1.91 per \$1,000 of assessed value for the term of the bonds.

Statement for

Vashon High School (VHS) is a dismal collection of aging buildings, ranging from 35 to 70 years old. Classrooms are under-sized and often too hot or cold. Wiring, plumbing and heating systems are antiquated. Several teachers are without their own classrooms. Some classes occur in rooms without desks. Sports teams' practices run from 5:30 AM until 10:00 PM because of excessive demand on the gymnasium.

This proposal takes a long-term approach, keeping the best buildings, while adding a new classroom facility. Ten percent of the funds are for athletics, meeting the needs of hundreds of students and community members with a much-needed extra gym, as well as an upgraded track and field that will save \$20,000 annually in upkeep.

VHS is in dire need of replacement. The only question is when and at what cost. Even a one year delay decreases our purchasing power by about \$5 million. Because construction costs are low in the current economy, this is a very good time to build.

The result will be classrooms more conducive to learning, updated technology, more funding for preventive maintenance and teachers with their own workspaces. An updated high school will be energy efficient and less expensive to maintain.

Rebuttal of statement against

After years of planning and extensive community input, this comprehensive plan retains 80% of the VHS campus. It is cost effective, energy efficient and is the best long-term value. It supports preventive, not reactive, maintenance. It supports teachers and student learning. It supports community use and athletics. VHS enrollment remains stable. The estimated 2010 tax increase above the twelve year average tax rate for capital needs is 33¢/1000 or \$165 for a \$500,000 home.

STATEMENT PREPARED BY: Jean Bosch

Statement against

The Vashon School District has under funded the maintenance of the schools for years. As a consequence, the high school is in disrepair. So rather than spend a little money on routine maintenance, the district is now asking the taxpayers to pay over \$50,000,000 just to fix the problem. Then the plan changed from repair to a slew of extras: new high school classrooms, another gym, added parking, relocating tennis courts, synthetic turf, a new grandstand, fixing the theatre and more. So the initial \$50,000,000 has now grown to \$75,550,000.

The School District's position is that the capital levy rate will increase by only 21%. However, their calculations fail to take into account increased house values over the past 13 years. Using actual current house values the rate increase will be closer to 100%. A taxpayer owning a house assessed at \$500,000 will pay \$955 for the capital levy along with \$515 for Maintenance and Operation for a total of \$1,470.

Our school enrollment has been decreasing. The economy has affected many families. Our Island is losing young families with children. This is not the time to ask the community to pay for a full wish list. Let's be reasonable.

Rebuttal of statement for

School structures last for years with regular maintenance. It is cheaper and more ecological, to modernize systems as needed rather than replace whole buildings. One-third (\$25million) of this bond is for the proposed extras. This larger footprint will increase our overall maintenance costs.

Vote NO Now! Tell the District to come back to us with clear choices on a new ballot, so we can differentiate needs from wants and see what we can realistically afford.

STATEMENT PREPARED BY: Hilary Emmer

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Edition 1

King County produces all election materials in both English and Chinese. If you, or someone you know, needs language assistance, call King County Elections and request a ballot and voting material in Chinese. 為符合聯邦法律，此資料有中文版本。