

February 12, 2013 Special Election

# King County

## Official Local Voters' Pamphlet

as requested by Seattle School District No. 1



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

# Registering to vote

# Returning your ballot

## Requirements

To register to vote in Washington, you must be:

- A citizen of the United States;
- A legal resident of Washington State;
- At least 18 years old by Election Day; and
- Not under the authority of the Department of Corrections.

## How to register

- Register online with the Secretary of State, [www.vote.wa.gov](http://www.vote.wa.gov).
- Download a registration form from the King County Elections website and return it by mail.
- Register in person at the King County Elections office or annex.

## Registration deadlines

While you may register to vote at any time, there are registration deadlines prior to each election. The deadlines for the February 12, 2013, special election:

- **January 14** – Deadline to register to vote online or by mail, or update existing voter registration information.
- **February 4** – In-person registration deadline for people not currently registered in Washington. Register in person at the Elections office in Renton or at the Voter Registration Annex in Seattle.

## Keep your voter registration current

Update your registration if you have moved or changed your name, or if your signature has changed. Simply submit a new registration form to update your information.

## Accessible voting center

Accessible voting centers are available for voters who need assistance completing their ballot. Trained staff and specialized equipment is available to help voters with disabilities cast a private, independent ballot.

Voters may also return ballots at these locations during business hours.

### King County Elections

919 SW Grady Way, Renton 98057

#### January 25 - February 11

Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

#### February 12

Tuesday, 8:30 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

### Seattle Union Station

401 S. Jackson Street, Seattle 98104

#### February 11

Monday, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

#### February 12

Tuesday, 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Voting begins as soon as you receive your ballot in the mail. Consider returning it early to be counted in election night results and to have time to resolve any issues with your signature.

## Through the mail

You can vote and return your ballot through the U.S. Postal Service as soon as you receive it.

Ballots must be postmarked by February 12. This requires first class postage.



## Ballot drop boxes

Return your ballot without using the U.S. Postal Service or a first class stamp at a ballot drop box. Ballot drop boxes are open 24-hours a day beginning Thursday, January 24.

**By law, ballots cannot be accepted at ballot drop box locations after 8:00 p.m. on Election Day.**

### Ballard Branch Library

Corner of NW 57th Street and 22nd Avenue NW  
Seattle 98107

### Magnuson Park

6344 NE 74th Street, Seattle 98115  
*Use NE 74th Street entrance*

### King County Administration Building

500 4th Avenue, Seattle 98104

### King County Elections

919 SW Grady Way, Renton 98057

## Ballot drop-off vans

Return your ballot without using the U.S. Postal Service or a first class stamp at a ballot drop-off van. Vans will be parked at these locations only on the dates and times listed:



**Saturday, February 9, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.**

**Monday, February 11, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.**

**Tuesday, February 12, 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.**

### West Seattle Stadium

4432 35th Avenue SW, Seattle 98126

### University of Washington Campus

Red Square, Seattle 98105

*No parking or vehicle access available*



### Rainier Community Center

4600 38th Avenue S, Seattle 98118

More information inside



## Proposition No. 1 Operations Levy

The Board of Directors of Seattle School District No. 1 requests approval of an operations levy for education, as set forth in Resolution No. 2012/13-3. This proposition authorizes the District to levy the following excess taxes, to replace an expiring levy and maintain current funding levels in order to support the District's educational programs and operations, on all taxable property within the District:

Collection Years	Approximate Levy Rate/\$1,000 Assessed Value	Levy Amount
2014	\$1.45	\$167,200,000
2015	\$1.55	\$185,100,000
2016	\$1.60	\$199,600,000

Should this proposition be approved?

Yes  
No

*The complete text of this measure is available at the Elections Office or online at [www.kingcounty.gov/elections](http://www.kingcounty.gov/elections).*

### Statement in favor

Please **RENEW** this essential Seattle Public Schools Operations Levy. Its passage is vital to the quality of education we are able to provide the more than 49,800 students currently enrolled – and the 7,000 additional students expected in the next ten years. A great city must have great public schools.

The Operations Levy **replaces our current levy** and provides every school with vital funding for day-to-day education needs that are not fully funded by the state. It accounts for 26% of the District's operating budget. The Operations Levy helps pay for items such as teachers, a sixth period at high schools, supplies, bilingual and special education services, security, and student activities such as music and athletics. Without these funds, our children's education will suffer – teachers and staff would be laid off, class sizes increased and important programs cut.

*"Please vote to renew this levy! Without these resources it is hard to imagine how teachers can do their jobs. Thank you." Carrie Kazala (Teacher, Eckstein Middle School)*

**This levy is not a new tax. It replaces the expiring Operations Levy. Please vote to renew our commitment to Seattle's children.**

### Rebuttal of statement in opposition

**Renewing** the Operations Levy is critical to ensuring a quality education for our kids. It provides over 25% of the funds needed to operate our schools – money that benefits every one of our students and that the state does not provide.

The Con statement is incorrect. The separate Capital Levy will replace the Arbor Heights building and reduce the maintenance backlog.

We cannot have a great city without great schools. Vote **YES** on Proposition 1.

**Statement submitted by:** Norm Rice, Lauren McGuire and Jeff Clark  
[info@schoolsfirstseattle.org](mailto:info@schoolsfirstseattle.org)

### Explanatory statement

Seattle Public Schools requests voter approval of an operations levy of \$551.9 million in the aggregate for the three year period from 2014 to 2016. The proposed levy will replace an expiring levy.

Passage of Proposition No. 1 would allow the levy of taxes over a three year period to pay for the education programs and operations and to meet the education needs of the students attending District schools. The money in and to be paid into the General Fund of the District is insufficient to meet those needs without additional funds.

Programs and services to be funded by the levy include: 6th period classes at middle and high school levels; teachers and instructional assistants; textbooks and classroom supplies; bilingual and special education services; student transportation, security, maintenance and other operations; student activities, such as athletics, arts, extra-curricular and co-curricular activities; professional development and training.

The total amount to be collected will be \$167.2 million in 2014, \$185.1 million in 2015 and \$199.6 million in 2016. The estimated levy rates per \$1,000 of assessed value will range from \$1.45 per one thousand for 2014 collections to \$1.60 per one thousand for 2016 collections. The exact levy rate will be adjusted based upon the actual assessed value of the property within the District at the time of the levy.

For additional questions regarding this measure contact:  
Ron English - General Counsel  
206-255-5904 • [renglish@seattleschools.org](mailto:renglish@seattleschools.org)

### Statement in opposition

The Seattle School District's enrollment rate continues to grow; yet the school district has continually used and mismanages many of the funds provided to them. Countless dollars are not being spent on repairs; schools are taking a loss in funds by selling school at losses only to reopen them.

In 2009 the school district was offered \$9.7 million for the sales of Martin Luther King Elementary. When all was said and done they voted to sell it to a non-profit church for \$2.3 million. This is lost money that could have provided much needed maintenance. Arbor Heights the oldest school in the district and the most in need of repairs is not even part of the money allotted in the levy. Now the school district is nearly \$550 million in back repairs.

This mismanagement of funds is not helping our students. We need improvement in our schools. Do you as a voter want to see your tax dollars go down the drain?

Vote NO on the operations Levy

### Rebuttal of statement in favor

Poor decisions caused levy dollars to be put at risk by closing schools then reopening them for more money.

There are 26 lawsuits pending against SPS for failure to provide a quality special education.

Over the past ten years voters have given SPS close to a billion dollars. What do we have to show for it? Buildings are crumbling and falling apart.

Based on the reasons set forth please vote against the operations levy.

**Statement submitted by:** Nick Esparza

## Proposition No. 2 Capital Levy

The Board of Directors of Seattle School District No. 1 requests approval of a capital levy as described in Resolution No. 2012/13-4. The proposition replaces an expiring capital levy and authorizes the levy of excess taxes to fund the Building Excellence Program for earthquake, safety projects, construction or renovation at 13 schools, projects for increased enrollment and major maintenance at 20 schools, and technology improvements and other projects throughout the District:

Collection Years	Approximate Levy Rate/\$1,000 Assessed Value	Levy Amount
2014	\$1.00	\$115,816,666
2015	\$0.97	\$115,816,666
2016	\$0.93	\$115,816,667
2017	\$0.89	\$115,816,667
2018	\$0.85	\$115,816,667
2019	\$0.82	\$115,816,667

Should this proposition be approved?

Yes  
No

*The complete text of this measure is available at the Elections Office or online at [www.kingcounty.gov/elections](http://www.kingcounty.gov/elections).*

### Statement in favor

Please vote to **RENEW** this important Seattle Public Schools Capital Levy. Our District is growing! In the next ten years, another 7,000 Seattle children will join our current 49,800 students. To be successful and compete in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century economy they must have safe, healthy learning spaces in modern facilities.

The Capital Levy **replaces an expiring capital levy** and is dedicated to building safe and healthy learning places for our children. Many of our school buildings are over 50 years old and are in need of renovation or replacement. Other schools are overcrowded with additional enrollment expected. The levy funds safety projects including earthquake upgrades at 37 schools, new roofs and updated safety and mechanical systems. The levy also builds, replaces, renovates or expands 13 schools, including opening new buildings to accommodate the increasing number of families sending their children to Seattle Public Schools. In addition, the levy reduces maintenance backlogs citywide and provides wireless access in all schools.

*"The Capital Levy will help our schools and students, and creates many family-wage jobs." Norm Rice (former Mayor).*

**This levy is not a new tax. It replaces the expiring capital levy. Please vote to renew our commitment to Seattle's children.**

### Rebuttal of statement in opposition

Vote to **RENEW** the expiring Capital Levy to create safe and healthy schools for our kids. More than 7,000 children will be entering our public schools; we must act now to prepare for the future.

- Schools are being built and remodeled to provide safety improvements, accommodate growing populations and with flexible designs for different programs.
- Every project in the expiring Capital Levy was completed on time and within budget.

Vote **YES** on Proposition 2.

**Statement submitted by:** Steve Mullin, Tre Maxie and Carrie Kazala  
[info@schoolsfirstseattle.org](mailto:info@schoolsfirstseattle.org)

### Explanatory statement

Seattle Public Schools requests voter approval of a capital levy of \$694.9 million for the Building Excellence Program, Phase IV. The proposed levy will replace an expiring levy.

Passage of Proposition No. 2 would allow the levy of taxes over a six year period to pay for construction measures for earthquake and other safety projects at 37 schools, to construct, renovate, replace or make additions to 11 elementary schools, one middle school and one K-8 school, construction of building condition and infrastructure improvements and major preventive maintenance at 20 schools, and acquisition and installation of technology improvements and other capital improvements throughout the district to meet the current and future educational needs of its students. Such funds may be used only to support the construction, modernization, remodeling to school facilities or technology improvements and training.

The total amount to be collected will be \$115,816,667 annually, to be collected in each of the six years commencing 2014 through 2019. The estimated levy rates per \$1,000 of assessed value will range from \$1.00 per one thousand for 2014 collections to \$0.82 per one thousand for 2019 collections. The exact levy rate will be adjusted based upon the actual assessed value of the property within the District at the time of the levy.

For additional questions regarding this measure contact:  
Ron English - General Counsel  
206-255-5904 • [renglish@seattleschools.org](mailto:renglish@seattleschools.org)

### Statement in opposition

**Levies should fix schools, not harm them. This \$695 million Capital levy will harm schools.**

1. **Don't kill off neighborhood schools with "Walmart-size" elementary schools.** Six new giant 650-student schools: Arbor Heights, Genesee Hill, Olympic Hills, Thornton Creek, Wilson Pacific, Wing Luke.
2. **Don't put TWO schools at Thornton Creek** (zaps playfield).
3. **Don't move Schmitz Park** to Genesee Hill; honor Schmitz family land gift.
4. **Don't evict Native American programs from Wilson Pacific;** don't demolish **building-high Native American-themed murals.**
5. **Don't evict Pinehurst alternative program.**
6. **Don't toss 80 usable portables.**
7. **Caution:** District's consultant expects **enrollment out-migration** when houses start to sell again.

#### Poor School Board oversight:

1. Board voted to **abandon its authority** and allow Superintendent to **waive any Board Policy.** (5-2, Directors Carr, DeBell, Martin-Morris, McLaren, Smith-Blum voted yes) (02/15/2012)
2. Court ruled the action **illegal.** (**Google** "Charter Alternative Blocked – KUOW") (07/05/2012)
3. **Contracting scandal.** (**Google** "Red Flags - Stranger") (**Google** "Auditor Report 1005180")
4. **Board cut public input.** (4-3, Carr, DeBell, McLaren, Smith-Blum voted yes) (03/07/2012)
5. **Board brought back commercial advertising.** (7-0; terms expire 2013 or 2015: Carr '15, DeBell '13, Martin-Morris '15, McLaren '15, Patu '13, Peaslee '15, Smith-Blum '13) (06/20/2012)

### Rebuttal of statement in favor

#### Levy's stealth harm:

1. **District took fright at openly** asking voters to fund the **debt of new administrative headquarters.** Instead, District discussed siphoning off "**expected levy underspend**" to pay **headquarters debt.** (Background: **Google** "\$50 million Glass Elephant – Weekly")
2. **Behind Arbor Heights' expansion lurks** Director McLaren's prior proposal to **close nearby Roxhill.**
3. District discussed supplying "infrastructure" for **non-education commercial advertising scoreboards.**

**This levy harms schools too much. Please vote NO.**  
**Statement submitted by:** Chris Jackins; 206-467-3139

**To obtain this pamphlet in an alternate format please contact King County Elections at 206-296-VOTE (8683).**

**Voting materials available in Chinese and Vietnamese**

**To comply with Section 203 of the Federal Voting Rights Act, King County is required to provide voting materials in Chinese and Vietnamese. To request voting materials, update your language preference or register to vote, visit [www.myvote.wa.gov](http://www.myvote.wa.gov) or call 206-296-VOTE (8683).**

Để thực hiện theo Mục 203 của Đạo Luật Liên Bang về Quyền Bỏ Phiếu, Quận King được yêu cầu phải cung cấp các tài liệu bỏ phiếu bằng tiếng Trung Quốc và tiếng Việt. Để yêu cầu các tài liệu bầu cử, cập nhật lựa chọn ngôn ngữ của quý vị hoặc đăng ký bỏ phiếu, ghé đến [www.myvote.wa.gov](http://www.myvote.wa.gov) hoặc gọi 206-296-VOTE (8683) và bấm số 3.

根據聯邦投票權利法案第203節之要求，金郡需要提供中文和越南文版的選舉資訊。欲要索取選舉資訊，更新您的語言選擇或登記投票，請查看網站[www.myvote.wa.gov](http://www.myvote.wa.gov)或致電206-296-VOTE(8683)，然後按“2”字。



## Contact us

<b>Phone:</b>	206-296-VOTE (8683) 1-800-325-6165 TTY Relay: 711
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:elections@kingcounty.gov">elections@kingcounty.gov</a>
<b>Online:</b>	<a href="http://www.kingcounty.gov/elections">www.kingcounty.gov/elections</a>
<b>Mail or in-person:</b>	919 SW Grady Way Renton, WA 98057
<b>Voter Registration Annex:</b>	King County Administration Building 500 4th Ave., Room 311 Seattle, WA 98104



Please recycle your voters' pamphlet