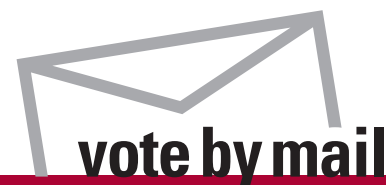


February 9, 2010 Special Election

King County

Official Local Voters' Pamphlet



Published by:



King County
Elections

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



King County

Department of Elections

Dear King County Voter:

It's election time again and even though there may be only a few issues to vote on in this election, each one is important. Make sure you read the directions and your ballot options top to bottom, front to back!

There have also been some changes made that may affect the way you return your ballot, beginning with this February special election. As many of you may be aware, King County had to make some hard choices to balance the 2010 operating budget. This included cuts to all departments in services that citizens want and depend on. Elections, like all other departments, was asked to identify services that could be reduced or eliminated without preventing our ability to successfully conduct elections.

As a cost savings measure, Elections has been asked to reduce the number of ballot drop boxes as well as the operational hours of accessible voting centers. We will continue to have two 24-hour ballot drop boxes available to voters who want to return their ballot without postage. (Locations and operating hours are listed on the next page of this pamphlet.)

Although there have been some cuts to services, we can all be proud of the strides made in our performance and the efficiencies achieved by becoming a vote-by-mail county. In last November's general election, there was not a single discrepancy in over 587,000 ballots counted. Conducting elections by mail has also substantially streamlined our election administration and, as a result, the need for so many temporary staff.

As we enter into a new decade, there will be many opportunities as voters for you to help shape it. Remember, every vote makes a difference. I encourage you to study the issues and cast your mail ballot by Tuesday, February 9.

Sincerely,

Sherril Huff
Director
King County Elections

Ballot drop boxes + accessible voting options

Attention: Elections has reduced the number of ballot drop boxes as well as the operational hours of accessible voting centers.

Ballot drop boxes

You can return your voted ballot at one of our drop box locations. Ballot drop boxes will be open on Friday, January 22 and **close at 8 p.m. on Election Day, February 9.**

King County Elections

9010 East Marginal Way S, Tukwila 98108

King County Administration Building

500 4th Ave, Seattle 98104

accessible voting centers

Voters with disabilities can cast a private and independent ballot at the following locations, dates and times.

King County Elections

9010 East Marginal Way S, Tukwila 98108

Weekdays, January 20 - February 8:

8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Tuesday, February 9: 7 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Bellevue City Hall

450 110th Avenue NE, Bellevue, 98009

Seattle, Union Station

401 S Jackson St, Seattle, 98104

Monday, February 8: 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Tuesday, February 9: 7 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Voter information

Registering to vote is easy

If you meet the following qualifications you can register to vote online, by mail or in person

To register to vote you must be:

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

King County votes by mail

If you do not receive your mail ballot or lose your ballot, please notify King County Elections.

Registration deadlines

While you may register to vote at any time, there are registration deadlines prior to each election. You must register by mail or online at least 29 days before an election. If you are a new voter in Washington State, you may register in person at the King County Elections office up to 8 days before an election.

Keep your voter registration current

You can use the online or mail-in voter registration form to let King County Elections know when you move or change your name. You must re-register or transfer your registration at least 29 days before the election to be eligible to vote in your new precinct.

For more information, King County Elections can be reached at the following:

Voter hotline: 206-296-VOTE (8683)
1-800-325-6165
TTY 206-296-0109

Online: www.kingcounty.gov/elections

E-mail: elections@kingcounty.gov

In-person: King County Elections
9010 East Marginal Way S
Tukwila, WA 98108

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

Seattle School District No. 1

Proposition No. 1

Capital Levy

The Board of Directors of Seattle School District No. 1 passed Resolution No. 2009/10-4 concerning this proposition to fund the Buildings, Technology, and Academics III Program. This proposition authorizes the District to levy the following excess taxes, to replace the expiring Buildings, Technology, and Academics II levy, on all taxable property within the District, for construction and modernization of educational facilities throughout the District:

Collection Year	Approximate Levy Rate/\$1,000 Assessed Value	Levy Amount
2011	\$.35	\$45,000,000
2012	\$.33	\$45,000,000
2013	\$.32	\$45,000,000
2014	\$.30	\$45,000,000
2015	\$.29	\$45,000,000
2016	\$.27	\$45,000,000

Should this proposition be approved?

YES

NO

Statement in favor

Vote YES for Seattle Public Schools CAPITAL LEVY Proposition 1

Our students and schools need your help. Proposition 1 renews our commitment to safe and healthy schools by replacing a similar, expiring levy.

Safer Schools Prop 1 ensures children have safe, well-maintained learning environments. It funds critical health and safety improvements such as roofs, seismic improvements, fire suppression and electrical upgrades to make every Seattle school safer.

Better Learning The Capital Levy supports technology improvements to give students the learning tools they need to succeed. In addition, it upgrades worn-out playgrounds and athletic fields.

Greener Schools Prop 1 also funds new green technologies for energy efficiency and other sustainable ways of cutting waste and costs.

Skills Centers A successful YES vote on Prop 1 will open the door for millions of dollars in matching funds for job training and skills centers for students interested in vocational futures.

Proposition 1 is not a new tax. It continues our commitment to safe and healthy schools. **Please vote YES on Proposition 1.**

Rebuttal of statement in opposition

For safe, healthy schools Vote YES for Proposition 1

We AGREE, our students DO need well-maintained schools.

We SUPPORT the Capital Levy because of its prudent investments in our schools:

- * Roof, fire sprinkler and water system repairs
- * Heating, ventilation and electrical renovations
- * Earthquake safety, student health, playground and building repairs
- * Window, siding and green, energy-saving replacements
- * Reopening schools for increased student enrollment

For safe, healthy schools, please vote YES!

Statement submitted by: Phil Brockman, Ramona Hattendorf, Eric Liu
www.SchoolsFirstSeattle.org or (206) 224-3563

Explanatory statement

The Board of Directors of Seattle Public Schools approved Resolution 2009/10-4, requesting voter approval of a capital levy of \$270,000,000 for Buildings, Technology and Academics. The proposed levy will replace an expiring levy. Passage of Proposition No. 1 would allow the levy of property taxes over a six year period to pay for remodeling, construction, modernization and improvement of existing and new facilities, for technology improvements and for equipment and training to meet the current and future educational program needs of its students. Projects funded by this levy would include building reinvestments such as energy efficiency upgrades, green school initiatives, roof replacements, mechanical systems, life safety, improvements to drinking water quality, acquisition of technology and technical infrastructure, remodeling and modernization of science facilities and athletic fields. The total amounts to be collected for each year will be \$45,000,000 and estimated levy rates each year per \$1,000 of assessed value will be \$0.35 for 2011 collections, \$0.33 for 2012 collections, \$0.32 for 2013 collections, \$0.30 for 2014 collections, \$0.29 for 2015 collections and \$0.27 for 2016 collections.

Statement in opposition

Safe buildings are a fundamental need in education. Seattle Public Schools currently has a \$500M maintenance backlog.

- SPS spends less than they did in 1979 on basic maintenance but has more buildings. Simply put, you the taxpayer will pay MORE later because the district does not do enough basic maintenance *now*. This levy does NOT address the maintenance issue in any significant way. In fact, the first \$50M - *nearly 20% of the entire levy* - is to go to reopen 5 *closed* buildings.
- Almost half of the SPS buildings are over 50 years old and are not being properly maintained. There are new buildings that SPS spent over \$700M to build and yet it does not properly maintain that investment.
- **Seattle Times 12/7/1995** - "*He (Superintendent John Stanford) acknowledged, though, that if given a choice he would have kept the maintenance levy in the package and deferred the \$75 million technology plan.*" If Stanford was worried about maintenance in 1995, why aren't we in 2010?

Giving the district more money while they are not maintaining our buildings only enables bad practices. Demand accountability of our tax dollars and proper upkeep for our school buildings.

Rebuttal of statement in favor

- There is a \$500M maintenance backlog. This levy will barely make a dent.
- This levy has climbed from \$178M in 2004 to \$270M in 2010.
- This levy has only athletic fields in it, not new playgrounds.
- The district is NOT keeping our schools safe and healthy and they want taxpayers to pay more for repairs because the district didn't take care of them earlier.

Demand accountability – if not now, when?

Statement submitted by: Melissa Westbrook

Seattle School District No. 1 Proposition No. 2 Operations Levy

The Board of Directors of Seattle School District No. 1 passed Resolution No. 2009/10-3 concerning this proposition to maintain current educational program funding levels. This proposition authorizes the District to levy the following excess taxes, in place of an expiring levy, on all taxable property within the District, to support the District's educational programs and operations:

<u>Collection Year</u>	<u>Approximate Levy Rate/\$1,000 Assessed Value</u>	<u>Levy Amount</u>
2011	\$1.07	\$139,500,000
2012	\$1.06	\$145,100,000
2013	\$1.11	\$158,100,000

Should this proposition be approved?

YES

NO

Statement in favor

SUPPORT our KIDS and SCHOOLS!

Vote YES for Proposition 2, Seattle Schools Operating Levy

Now more than ever we need to renew the Operating Levy. Simply put, without your continued support it is unclear how we could sustain our schools.

The Seattle Public Schools Operating Levy:

- Funds teachers, books** and day-to-day operations for ALL public schools and EVERY school kid in Seattle.
- Keeps class sizes lower** by preventing teacher layoffs and paying for teachers, classroom aides and librarians in EVERY elementary, middle and high school.
- Provides 23 percent** of the Seattle Public Schools total basic education and operation budget.
- Ensures continuing support** (NOT a new tax) for EVERY school, student and family in EVERY part of Seattle.

I'm a Seattle school teacher. I know that without the Operating Levy we couldn't do our job, let alone keep our schools open for the students and families who need and depend on us.

That's why I'm asking you now for your vote. **Vote for our children and our future.**

PS - Please vote! And vote YES for Proposition 2.

Rebuttal of statement in opposition

Proposition 2, our Operations Levy, funds important education programs and services not funded by the State.

It funds **23% of the Seattle School District's annual operating budget**. Without this support, we will be unable to meet the educational needs of our children.

Neighborhood schools will be strengthened and schools reopened to accommodate new students.

Your YES vote will benefit **every** child, in **every** classroom, in **every** community in Seattle with smaller classes and better instruction.

Statement submitted by: Marianne Bratsanos, Ramona Hattendorf and Eric Liu www.SchoolsFirst Seattle.org or (206) 224-3563

Explanatory statement

The Board of Directors of Seattle Public Schools approved Resolution 2009/10-3, requesting voter approval of an operations levy. The proposed levy will replace an expiring levy. Passage of Proposition No. 2 would allow the levy of property taxes over a three year period to pay for educational programs and operations support costs of Seattle Public Schools as follows: \$139.5 million in property taxes within Seattle Public Schools District for collection in 2011, the levy of \$145.1 million in taxes for collection in 2012 and the levy of \$158.1 million in taxes for collection in 2013. If authorized by the voters and based on current assessed valuation information, estimated levy rates per \$1,000 of assessed value would be \$1.07 (2011 collection), \$1.06 (2012 collection) and \$1.11 (2013 collection).

Statement in opposition

Vote NO on segregation, vote NO on Proposition Two, the \$442.7 million Operations levy.

Citizens of a democracy on occasion have the firm but lucky opportunity and duty to refuse funding for especially harmful government actions. Threatening to segregate a full one-quarter of Seattle's public schools is a call to exercise this duty.

The District's recently-adopted attendance areas will take away school choice, split communities, and segregate schools. It is wrong to red-line families out of their schools. Send a message – Don't fund these plans: **Vote NO.**

According to the District's own data, the new student assignment plan will cause or aggravate racial imbalance at 23 schools, per Washington Administrative Code 392-342-025(3), including the proportion of White enrollment (up) at Ballard 72%; Bryant 78%; Hamilton 71%; Roosevelt 74%; West Woodland 83%; and (down) at Gatzert 8%; West Seattle Elementary 16%. [District "Data Book for Recommended Attendance Area Boundaries", November 4, 2009]

Botched school closures (some now hurriedly being reversed) destructively tore apart school communities. The District's plan to further reduce school choice threatens similar harm citywide.

The District is not making good educational choices with these funds.

Please vote NO.

Rebuttal of statement in favor

Mandatory assignment is replacing freedom-of-choice neighborhood schools.

We're voting NO to segregation of schools, NO to loss of school choice, and NO to misuse of funds. Please join us.

Joy Anderson, Charita Dumas, Shelley Williams (Cooper parents still fighting for our school). Elaine Schmidt, former Seattle Public School parent and PTSA officer. Robert Stephens, Jr., AAA Elders Council (Closing schools to build new schools? Superintendent's bonus? Now?).

Please vote NO.

Statement submitted by: Chris Jackins (206) 682-2450

Reading your voters' pamphlet

Why are only some measures in the voters' pamphlet?

For a special election, jurisdictions are required to submit a resolution requesting that King County Elections publish a voters' pamphlet. Jurisdictions are not required to participate in the voters' pamphlet.

Why are there measures on my ballot that are not in my voters' pamphlet?

Your ballot is correct. The measures on your ballot are the measures for which you are eligible to vote and reflect the districts in which you reside. Not all jurisdictions chose to participate in the voters' pamphlet.

You can find all the measures for which you are eligible to vote by using the online voter guide at www.kingcounty.gov/elections.

Why are there measures in the voters' pamphlet that are not on my ballot?

Your ballot is correct. The measures on your ballot are the measures for which you are eligible to vote and reflect the districts in which you reside.

Voter pamphlets are distributed to households

within certain zip codes, other districts participating in the election may fall within the same zip code. For example, two school districts can share the same zip code but you only reside in one school district.

What is an explanatory statement?

An explanatory statement is prepared by each district's attorney stating the effect of the ballot measure if passed into law.

How are committees in favor of or in opposition to a measure formed?

Districts choosing to participate in a voters' pamphlet are responsible for appointing committee members who agree to write statements.

The statements are a way to persuade voters to vote for or against the measure.

King County Elections is not responsible for the content of the statements.

Your personal voter guide

The screenshot shows a web form titled "Your Voter Guide". At the top, it says "Find your registration status and view your sample ballot". Below this, there are two input fields for "First name" and "Last name". Underneath, there is a "Date of birth (MM/DD/YYYY)" field. At the bottom left is a "Submit" button, and at the bottom right is a link that says "Search by address".

www.kingcounty.gov/elections

- View your voter registration information.
- See which districts you are eligible to vote in for this election.
- Read the ballot measures you are eligible to vote on for this election.
- Read the explanatory statement and statements in favor of and in oppositions to a measure for those jurisdictions that chose to participate in the voters' pamphlet.
- Read the full text of a ballot measure resolution submitted by the jurisdiction.

King County votes by mail

All registered voters eligible for this special election will soon receive a ballot in the mail.

Follow these simple steps to vote by mail

1. Vote. Following the instructions on your ballot, make your selections using a blue or black pen.
2. Place your ballot in the security envelope and seal it to ensure your ballot remains secret.
3. Place the sealed security envelope into the mailing envelope. Read and sign the oath on the return envelope, then seal the envelope. Your signature is as important as your vote; make sure you take the time to sign the return envelope.
4. Return your voted ballot. All voted ballots must be received at a designated drop box by 8 p.m. on election night or be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service on or before election day.

Tracking your ballot online

Voters who are eligible to vote in an election can now track their ballot at several points. Visit the ballot tracker link at www.kingcounty.gov/elections.

Track your ballot
packet



Mail ballot tracking

- Track point #1: Your ballot packet was assembled and delivered to the U.S.P.S. by Elections.
- Track point #2: King County received your returned ballot packet.
- Track point #3: Your signature was verified and you will be credited with voting.

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98141 98144 98145 98164 98165 98174 98175 98194
98195 98199

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。