February 11, 2014 Special Election

King County
Official Local Voters’ Pamphlet
as requested by Fife School District No. 417

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 or call 206-296-VOTE (8683).

February 11, 2014 special election.
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.
- 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 11, 2014, special election:

- January 13 – Deadline to register to vote online or by mail, or update existing voter registration information.
- February 3 – In-person registration deadline for people not currently registered in Washington.

Registering to vote

To register to vote in Washington, you must be:

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

Register in person:

- At the King County Elections office in Renton or at the Voter Registration Annex in Seattle.

Requirements

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 centers

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

King County Elections
919 SW Grady Way, Renton 98057
January 24 - February 10: Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
February 11: Tuesday, 8:30 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Bellevue City Hall
450 110th Ave NE, Bellevue 98004
February 10: Monday, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
February 11: Tuesday, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

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King County Administration Building
500 4th Ave, Seattle 98104
February 11: 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Lake Forest Park City Hall
17425 Ballinger Way NE, Lake Forest Park 98155
February 10: 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
February 11: 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Regional Justice Center
401 4th Ave N, Kent 98032
Near parking garage entrance

Renton City Hall
341 5th Ave NE, Renton 98057
February 10: 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
February 11: 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

24-hour 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 January 23.

Ballot drop boxes close: on Election Day, February 11, at 8 p.m.

Crossroads Shopping Center
South entrance
15600 NE 8th Street, Bellevue 98008

Federal Way City Hall
33325 8th Avenue S, Federal Way 98003

Issaquah City Hall
130 E Sunset Way, Issaquah 98027

King County Administration Building
500 4th Ave, Seattle 98104

King County Elections
919 SW Grady Way, Renton 98057

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Ballot return locations and accessible voting centers can change with every election. See below for a list of the ballot return sites for the February 11, 2014 special election.

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 11.

Mailed ballots require first class postage.

First Class postage rates increase to 49 cents as of January 26th, 2014.

24-hour 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 January 23.

Ballot drop boxes close: on Election Day, February 11, at 8 p.m.

More information inside
Explanatory statement

Passage of Proposition No. 1 would allow the levy of $9,200,000 in property taxes within Fife School District No. 417 for collection in 2015, the levy of $9,300,000 for collection in 2016, the levy of $9,400,000 for collection in 2017, and the levy of $9,500,000 for collection in 2018, to pay for part of the cost of education programs and maintenance and operations support of the District, such levies to be made for four years for collection in the years from 2015 through 2018. In accordance with Resolution No. 13-15 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 hiring additional staff to maintain low class sizes, special education programs, professional growth opportunities, transportation costs, additional textbooks and other instructional materials, athletics and other extracurricular activities such as drama and music, ongoing facilities maintenance and repairs, and other instructional program support of the District. If authorized by the voters and based on projected assessed valuation information, estimated levy rates per $1,000 of assessed value would be $2.92 (2015 collection); $2.81 (2016 collection); $2.70 (2017 collection); $2.60 (2018 collection).

Statement in favor

To maintain quality education for our children, the Citizens for Fife Milton Schools is asking voters to support the Educational Program and Operations replacement levy for 2015 to 2018 by voting “Yes” for Proposition 1. This is not a new tax. The current levy expires in 2014. This replacement levy continues long-standing local community support to ensure the success of our schools at the lowest tax rate in the area. Your “Yes” vote is important. Your “Yes” vote will continue funding for additional teachers and classified staff to keep class sizes small. Your “Yes” vote will support special programs, safe student transportation, and instructional materials; your “Yes” vote will provide maintenance, grounds, and custodial services to ensure longevity of our schools. Your “Yes” vote will continue funding athletics, the arts, and extracurricular activities. Our children are counting on your “Yes” vote. This levy will continue the resources and educational programs and services our children and community deserve. Please Vote “Yes” for the Educational Program and Operations replacement levy.

For additional questions regarding this measure contact:
Karl Harris - Director of Business Services
253-517-1000 • kharris@fife.k12.wa.us

Statement in opposition

Union officials in the Fife School District have pressured the school board to divert levy funds from student services in order to pay teachers more. Our levy should pay for student services, not for wage increases. In the collective bargaining agreement sought by union officials, the average state-provided wage of $51,815 for teachers will be enhanced by 16 percent from levy and levy-matched funds. This costs roughly $1.45 million per year which could be better used to help at-risk students or reduce class sizes. The school district leads taxpayers to believe the levy money is being used for students, yet large amounts support union priorities instead. Levies are great for funding local priorities and unique services for our area students, but taxpayers should hold off giving the school district any more money until the school board is able to put student services above the demands of union officials.

Rebuttal of statement in opposition

Fife School District prides itself on the positive relationship it has between its community, staff and students. Levy dollars pay for a variety of student services and will continue with the passage of this levy. Budgetary decisions are always transparent and focused on our local priorities. We believe our voters should, with all confidence, vote yes for this local levy. Our School Board has proven itself to be good stewards and students are always first.

Statement submitted by:  Marjorie Dickson and Melinda Shaw
253-922-1951

Rebuttal of statement in favor

Don’t let the Fife School District confuse you by a nuanced definition of taxes, levy, new, or renewal. Approving this measure will increase the amount you pay the government. Taxpayers should hold off giving the district any more money until the school board is able to put student services above the demands of union officials. Voting “no” on Proposition 1 will send this message to the district: Be more responsible with taxpayer’s money.

Statement submitted by:  Laurice Lyford, Renay Bennett, and Tom Henningsgaard
propertyrights4us@gmail.com

Voting tips

- Read and follow the instructions carefully when voting.
- Mark your ballot using a black ink pen.
- Sign and date the voter’s declaration on the back of the return envelope. Your signature is checked and verified in each election that you vote.
- Return your ballot as early as possible, but no later than election day, Feb. 11.
- If you are contacted by Elections staff (even after election day) follow up promptly so your ballot can be counted.
- Keep your voter registration information and signature up to date.
- See for yourself how we process your ballot! Watch the Elections web cams or take a video tour of King County Elections at www.kingcounty.gov/elections

You can only make a difference if you get your ballot in on time
Act fast and be an informed voter!
Fife School District No. 417

Statement in favor

To maintain quality education for our children, the Citizens for Fife Milton Schools is asking voters to support the Educational Program and Operations levy for 2015 to 2018 by voting “Yes” for Proposition 1.

This is not a new tax. The current levy expires in 2014. This replacement levy continues long-standing local community support to ensure the success of our schools at the lowest tax rate in the area. Your “Yes” vote is important. Your “Yes” vote will continue funding for additional teachers and classified staff to keep class sizes small. Your “Yes” vote will support special programs, safe student transportation, and instructional materials; your “Yes” vote will provide maintenance, grounds, and custodial services to ensure longevity of our schools. Your “Yes” vote will continue funding athletics, the arts, and extracurricular activities. Our children are counting on your “Yes” vote.

This levy will continue the resources and educational programs and services our children and community deserve. Please Vote “Yes” for the Educational Program and Operations replacement levy.

Statement in opposition

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Statement submitted by: Marjorie Dickson and Melinda Shaw
253-922-1951

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Voting “no” on Proposition 1 will send this message to the district: Be more responsible with taxpayer’s money.

Statement submitted by: Laurie Lyford, Renay Bennett, and Tom Henningsgards
propertyrights4us@gmail.com

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Fife School District No. 417

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Statement submitted by: Marjorie Dickson and Melinda Shaw
253-922-1951

For additional questions regarding this measure contact:
Kari Harris - Director of Business Services
253-517-1000 • kharris@fife.k12.wa.us

King County Elections is not responsible for the validity or accuracy of the statements, arguments or rebuttals.
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