



# Kitsap County

Official Online Local Voters' Pamphlet

**Special Election - February 9, 2021**



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**Ballots will be mailed by January 22, 2021**

## Kitsap County Elections

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[kcowa.us/elections](http://kcowa.us/elections)

# Proposition No. 1

## Renewal Enrichment and Operations Levy

### Official Ballot Title

The Board of Directors of Bainbridge Island School District No. 303 approved Resolution No. 03-20-21, concerning the replacement of an expiring school enrichment and operations levy. This proposition provides funding for educational programs and operations not funded by the State. If approved, Proposition 1 will authorize the District to levy the following excess taxes, on all taxable property within the District, as provided in Resolution No. 03-20-21:

Collection Years	Approximate Levy Rate/\$1,000 Assessed Value	Levy Amount
2022	\$1.04	\$10,000,000
2023	\$1.06	\$10,300,000
2024	\$1.07	\$10,500,000

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 \$10,000,000 in property taxes within Bainbridge Island School District No. 303 for collection in 2022, \$10,300,000 for collection in 2023, and \$10,500,000 for collection in 2024, to pay for educational programs and operations not funded by the State.

In accordance with Resolution No. 03-20-21 approving this proposition, these taxes would be deposited into the District's General Fund. The funds would be used to pay for eligible activities in accordance with the Basic Education Funding Act {Laws of 2017, 3d Spec. Sess., ch. 13}, as amended, and other applicable law. Eligible activities are deemed those necessary for educational enrichment programs and operations to properly meet the educational needs of the students attending District schools. These activities may include teaching, instructional support, extra-curricular programs and transportation.

Based on projected assessed valuation information, the District estimates tax rates of \$1.04 per \$1,000 of assessed value {2022 collection}; \$1.06 per \$1,000 of assessed value {2023 collection}; and \$1.07 per \$1,000 of assessed value (2024 collection).

Exemptions from taxes may be available to homeowners who are 61 or older, or disabled, and who meet certain income requirements. To determine if you qualify, call the Kitsap County Assessor at {360} 337-7160.

### Argument For the Measure

Vote "Yes" to renew the existing Enrichment & Operations Levy, which provides approximately 17% of BISD's general fund.

#### Why is an Enrichment Levy necessary?

While the name "enrichment" may conjure up the notion of "extras", BISD's Enrichment & Operations Levy is crucial for maintaining quality education for BISD students for the next three years. Indeed, local levies have provided critical support for strong Bainbridge schools for years.

Washington state funds what it considers to be a "basic" education. BISD uses Enrichment Levy dollars to pick up where state funding ends. Enrichment Levy dollars are used to close gaps in funding for special education and student support programs. They fund instructional materials like textbooks and subscriptions, and consumables like workbooks and supplies. Enrichment Levy funds pay for our robust specialist programming in art, STEM, music, and other electives that form a quality, well-rounded educational experience for all our students. To support our kids' social and emotional health, Enrichment Levy funds allow us to provide counselors at 1.27 times the rate provided by the state, and nurses at *eight* times the rate provided by the state.

Enrichment Levy dollars make a Bainbridge education so much more than "basic".

#### This is a Renewal levy

The school board has prioritized keeping local levy rates relatively flat, and this proposition asks voters to maintain levels of support similar to the past. Bainbridge Island has a long history of providing a high-quality education for its students. *Help continue this remarkable tradition--vote "Yes" for schools.*

### Rebuttal to the Argument Against

No argument against the measure submitted for rebuttal.

*Argument prepared by Co-Chair Mev Hoberg, Treasurer Mark Emerson, Bainbridge Island Public School Supporters. To contact the committee, email [info@bipss.org](mailto:info@bipss.org).*

### Argument Against the Measure

No committee formed against the measure.

### Rebuttal to the Argument For

No argument submitted

*No committee against the measure formed.*

## Proposition No. 2 Renewal Technology Levy

### Official Ballot Title

The Board of Directors of Bainbridge Island School District No. 303 approved Resolution No. 04-20-21, concerning a replacement technology levy to enhance student learning. This proposition would authorize the District to modernize school facilities by acquiring, installing and improving computer technology, telecommunications and networking systems, and related equipment and facilities, and levy the following excess taxes, to replace an expiring levy, on all taxable property within the District, as provided in Resolution No. 04-20-21:

Collection Years	Approximate Levy Rate/\$1,000 Assessed Value	Levy Amount
2022	\$0.26	\$2,500,000
2023	\$0.26	\$2,500,000
2024	\$0.25	\$2,500,000

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 \$2,500,000 in property taxes within Bainbridge Island School District No. 303 for collection in 2022, \$2,500,000 for collection in 2023, and \$2,500,000 for collection in 2024, to pay for technology investments.

In accordance with Resolution No. 04-20-21 approving this proposition, these taxes would be deposited into the District's Capital Projects Fund. The funds would be used to modernize educational and operational technology systems through the acquisition, installation and improvement of computer technology, telecommunications and networking systems, and related equipment and facilities. Such costs may also include online subscriptions, upgrades, software licenses, and ongoing training related to the installation and integration of these products and services.

Based on projected assessed valuation information, the District estimates tax rates of \$0.26 per \$1,000 of assessed value (2022 collection); \$0.26 per \$1,000 of assessed value (2023 collection); and \$0.25 per \$1,000 of assessed value (2024 collection).

Exemptions from taxes may be available to homeowners who are 61 or older, or disabled, and who meet certain income requirements. To determine if you qualify, call the Kitsap County Assessor at (360) 337-7160.

## Argument For the Measure

### Renew Support for Technology in Schools

A "Yes" vote renews our commitment to provide BISD students and staff with the tools and resources needed for today's modern classrooms. The Tech Levy pays to acquire, repair, and replace student devices and helps meet our equity goals of digital access for every child.

In addition, the Tech Levy funds the acquisition and maintenance of staff devices and equipment; training for staff so that best technology practices are implemented both online and in person; infrastructure such as networking and emergency notification systems; cybersecurity services; and assistive technology for students with special needs.

The Tech Levy helps prepare students for their futures -- no matter what career or path they choose. Professors and employers expect our students to graduate from high school with solid technology skills and experiences. A firm understanding of technology is crucial in today's job market.

When the pandemic caused BISD schools to pivot to online learning, the community-approved Tech Levy saved the day and provided every BISD student with access to laptops or tablets. It also funded teacher training to improve and grow BISD's online instruction. Our schools would not have made it through this trying time without the existing Tech Levy funding.

Our community has a long history of recognizing the importance of technology in today's educational setting and has generously provided the necessary funds to support our students. *Vote "Yes" to continue that support and ensure that BISD students are prepared for learning, careers, and personal success.*

### Rebuttal to the Argument Against

No argument against the measure submitted for rebuttal.

*Argument prepared by Co-Chair Mev Hoberg, Treasurer Mark Emerson, Bainbridge Island Public School Supporters. To contact the committee, email [info@bipss.org](mailto:info@bipss.org).*

## Argument Against the Measure

No committee formed against the measure.

### Rebuttal to the Argument For

No argument submitted

*No committee formed against the measure.*

# Proposition No. 1

## Replacement of Expiring Educational Programs and Operations Levy

### Official Ballot Title

The Board of Directors of South Kitsap School District No. 402 adopted Resolution No.1338, concerning a proposition for educational programs and operations. This proposition would authorize the District to levy the following excess taxes, in place of an expiring levy, upon all taxable property within the District, for support of the District's General Fund educational programs and operations expenses, not fully funded by the State:

Collection Years	Approximate Levy Rate/\$1,000 Assessed Value	Levy Amount
2022	\$2.50	\$27,880,220
2023	\$2.50	\$30,386,678
2024	\$2.50	\$33,118,717
2025	\$2.50	\$36,096,640

all as provided in Resolution No. 1338. Should this proposition be approved?

Levy ...Yes

Levy ... No

### Explanatory Statement

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

South Kitsap School District No. 402 requests voter approval of a four year educational programs and operations expenses levy to replace its General Fund educational programs and operations expenses levy.

Passage of Proposition No. 1 would allow the levy of taxes over a four year period to pay for the District's General Fund educational programs and operations expenses. Such funds may be used only to support such expenses.

The total amount to be collected will not exceed \$2.50 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation or the amount allowed by the per pupil by law for the years 2022 through 2025, inclusive, for the total amounts of: \$27,880,220 to be collected in 2022, \$30,386,678 to be collected in 2023, \$33,118,717 to be collected in 2024 and \$36,096,640 to be collected in 2025.

### Argument For the Measure

To continue offering a quality education, South Kitsap School District (SKSD) asks for your "Yes" vote to renew the educational programs & operations levy. This levy allows SKSD to continue offering a complete range of enrichment activities and programs at safe schools for all students, and funds 15% of the SKSD budget.

#### The levy provides opportunities for every student.

The levy allows students to explore educational options and have access to a range of programs and activities, including: athletics; music, drama, and arts; Advanced Placement; librarians, computers, and technology support; Special Education; instructional specialists; and lower class sizes.

#### The levy keeps students safe.

Renewing the levy keeps current security precautions in place, such as safety officers and threat assessment. The levy funds support staff positions that help students succeed in school and beyond, including nurses, counselors, social workers, and school psychologists. The levy also funds transportation where safe walking routes are not available and necessary repairs of aging facilities and systems.

#### Your local tax rate stays the same.

Renewal of the levy will keep tax rates the same and not exceed \$2.50 per thousand of assessed property value. This levy accounts for 15% of the entire SKSD budget. Tax liability decreases as our community grows and many seniors and people living with disabilities are eligible for property tax exemptions. Visit [bit.ly/kitsaptaxexemptions](http://bit.ly/kitsaptaxexemptions) for more information on tax exemptions.

Vote "Yes" to renew the levy and keep SK schools safe, strong, and successful for years to come.

### Rebuttal to the Argument Against

Levy dollars fund educational programs & operations, not raises. SKSD teachers and support staff are essential to empower and engage students. Levy funds enhance education by providing band, music, athletics, counselors, nurses, psychologists, technology, and security, which are not funded by the state as "basic education". Renewing this levy keeps our local tax rate the same and helps SKSD students and our community succeed. Vote Yes by February 9.

*Argument prepared by Chairperson Tiffany Wilhelm; Brian Pickard and Jay Rosapepe, committee members; South Kitsap School Supporters. To contact the committee, call 360-871-1686, email [info@voteskschools.com](mailto:info@voteskschools.com) or go to [www.voteskschools.com](http://www.voteskschools.com).*

### Argument Against the Measure

#### Are the District's efforts improving your student's educational outcomes?

Levy dollars are to provide for additional educational needs, not increasing pay and benefits. District pay and benefits consume all of the state allocated money (\$127M) for educating the kids. This is 70% of levy monies (\$17M), leaving little for the students (\$15M). This Pandemic means public education may never be the same. 645 students left SKSD equaling \$8 million lost in state funding. Students continue leaving as parents realize better educational venues are available.

#### More levy dollars are not increasing student achievement.

SKSD ranks 5 out of 7 in surrounding districts on student achievement despite our higher tax base. They claim they need more, but have funded over 185 additional personnel (\$17M) to improve learning outcomes. Has this hiring really improved student educational achievements? We must insist our levy dollars are used for what they are intended.

#### District spending indicates there will never have enough money no may how many levies pass.

Increased pay and overly generous benefit packages continue stripping away levy dollars because they grow faster than the state allocation or levy monies provide for. Have we forgotten the 20%+ pay raises given just a few years ago and those 3% raises this year despite the unemployment in our community? It is time for the District to prove they can achieve more with less. More levy money has not resulted in improved student achievement. Stop enabling the district.

**Vote No on SKSD Levy.**


### Rebuttal to the Argument For

Programs like AP, Sports, extra nurses, and choir are basic education items already paid with non-levy dollars. Student enrichment activities or programs doesn't include 185 additional employees, social & emotional advisors, webmasters, or roving security patrols. Should we pay 85% for salaries, pay raises and perks with our levy dollars while student achievements scores keep falling? Math now at 27% - language arts at 68%. SKSD claims special expenditures help our students to succeed. How?

*Argument prepared by Chairperson Jim Bryant; Committee Against SKSD 2021 Levy. To contact the committee, email [NoSKSDLevy2021@gmail.com](mailto:NoSKSDLevy2021@gmail.com) or go to <https://citizenssupportingsouthkitsapschooldistrict.com>.*

# Ballot Drop Box and Vote Center Locations

## Vote Centers

 Our Vote Centers are designed to service all voters including: new voters needing to register, voters who lost or did not receive their ballots in the mail, voters needing to change their addresses, voters wishing to vote using the Accessible Voting Unit and voters that enjoy the experience of “in-person” voting.


A ballot from the vote center is the same as the one you receive in the mail. If you receive a ballot in the mail but want to vote in the vote center, bring that ballot and step into one of the voting partition spaces. This will help keep the line short for voters who need to register or receive a replacement ballot.

**Vote center locations also have ballot drop boxes on the premises from January 22 to 8 p.m., February 9.**

Kitsap County Administration Building  
619 Division Street  
Port Orchard, WA 98366

Poulsbo Fire Station  
911 NE Liberty Road  
Poulsbo, WA, 98370

## Ballot Drop Boxes

 There will be eight ballot drop boxes located in South Kitsap, Bainbridge Island and Poulsbo for the February Special Election. Boxes will open on January 22 and close at 8 p.m., February 9.

Bainbridge Island School District  
8489 Madison Avenue NE  
Bainbridge Island, WA 98110

Poulsbo Fire Station  
911 NE Liberty Road  
Poulsbo, WA, 98370

Burley Store  
14972 Bethel-Burley Road SE  
Port Orchard, WA 98367

Kitsap County Administration Building  
619 Division Street  
Port Orchard, WA 98366

Southworth WSF Terminal  
11677 SE Southworth Ferry Drive  
Port Orchard, WA 98366  
(Near ferry terminal entrance.)

Manchester Stormwater Park  
2399 Colchester Drive East  
Port Orchard, WA 98366

Port Orchard (East) - SKFR Station 8  
1974 Fircrest Drive SE  
Port Orchard, WA 98366

Port Orchard (Glenwood) - SKFR Station 17  
7990 McCormick Woods Drive SW  
Port Orchard, WA 98367

