

# Kitsap County Official Local Voters' Pamphlet

## Special Election - April 26, 2022

### Published by the Office of the Kitsap County Auditor

This is the Local Voters' Pamphlet for the April 26, 2022 Special Election. The Central Kitsap School District is participating in this election. Arguments for and against the measure appear on the opposite page. For more information, contact Kitsap County Elections by calling (360) 337-7128, emailing [auditor@kitsap.gov](mailto:auditor@kitsap.gov), or visiting [kcowa.us/elections](http://kcowa.us/elections).

## Register to vote

### Who May Vote

To be eligible to vote, one must register and be:

- A citizen of the United States.
- A legal resident of the state of Washington.
- 18 years of age by the next election.
- Not under the authority of the Department of Corrections for a Washington felony conviction.
- Not disqualified from voting due to a court order.

### How to Register

- Online at [VoteWA.gov](http://VoteWA.gov) until April 18.
- Complete a mail-in registration form available at libraries, city halls, public schools, fire district offices and at the County Auditor's Office. Return by April 18.
- At the Kitsap County Auditor's Office at 619 Division Street, Port Orchard, WA 98366 through Election Day.
- When you renew your driver's license.

## Obtaining a ballot

If you need a replacement ballot, or if someone you know did not receive one, contact the Kitsap County Elections Division at (360) 337-7128, [auditor@kitsap.gov](mailto:auditor@kitsap.gov), using the online submission form at [kcowa.us/elections](http://kcowa.us/elections), or in person at 619 Division Street, Port Orchard, WA 98366.

## Central Kitsap School District No. 401

### Proposition No. 1 Replacement School Support Levy for Educational Enrichment Programs and Operations

#### Official Ballot Title

The Board of Directors of Central Kitsap School District No. 401 approved Resolution No. 11-21-22 concerning the replacement of an expiring school support 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, all as provided in Resolution 11-21-22:

Collection Years	Estimated Levy Rate/\$1,000 Assessed Value	Levy Amount
2023	\$1.50	\$20,000,000
2024	\$1.50	\$20,000,000

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 Central Kitsap School District No. 401 to renew an expiring levy for educational programs and operations by levying \$20,000,000 in property taxes for collection in 2023, and \$20,000,000 for collection in 2024.

In accordance with Resolution No. 11-21-22 approving this proposition, these taxes would be deposited into the District's General Fund and used to pay for day-to-day school operations to meet student needs not funded by the State, such as classroom teachers, librarians, and nurses; after school activities; athletics; arts and music programs; classroom computer technology; and other instructional program support, in accordance with the Basic Education Funding Act (Laws of 2017, 3d Spec. Sess., ch. 13), as amended, and other applicable law.

Based on projected assessed valuation information, the District estimates tax rates of \$1.50 per \$1,000 of assessed value (2023 collection); and \$1.50 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. For information regarding exemptions, call the Kitsap County Assessor at (360) 337-7160.

## Argument For the Measure

Our students aren't asking for a lot; they deserve a quality education and our community's support.

### **This Is Not a New Tax**

This levy renews the current rate of \$1.50 per \$1,000 – the minimum rate, lower than many neighboring districts, and specifically authorized by the Legislature to fund critical school needs not covered by the state. You can be confident in the district's responsible use of state, federal, and community dollars, and they can prove it. The district posts its detailed budgets every year

<https://www.ckschools.org/administration/budget-information>, and it has a consistent record of clean reports from the state auditor.

### **The Levy Renewal Funds Critical Student Services and Support**

Vote "Yes" to support our Central Kitsap students. The state only covers 1 nurse for every 12 elementary schools. Local levy funds cover the difference, and also keep our class sizes small, technology up to date, and ensure that safety and security is a priority at every school.

Every several years, the School Support Levy must be renewed. The district has had a levy in place for more than 20 years that helps us fund programs that are not covered by the state. *Without this levy, our students would face cuts to programs like arts, athletics and clubs, special education, nurses, counselors, and libraries.*

### **Please vote "Yes" by Tuesday, April 26th!**

At the heart of our community, you'll find our schools. They bring us together. *Let's ensure continued excellence in Central Kitsap schools.*

## Rebuttal to the Argument Against

The Against Schools Committee indicates that our schools are struggling. They suggest solving it by cutting programs and student support until they improve. *How is eliminating the library going to improve reading skills? How is increasing class sizes going to improve math skills?*

This levy funds needed programs and technology, sports, music, and extracurricular activities which directly invest in student learning. A Levy failure would mean drastic cuts. Please vote "Yes" for student success.

[www.supportckschools.info](http://www.supportckschools.info)

*Argument prepared by Mark Hughes, committee chair; Harriette Bryant and Bruce Richards; committee members; committee for the measure. Further questions may be addressed by emailing [yesckschools@gmail.com](mailto:yesckschools@gmail.com).*

## Argument Against the Measure

### **No Transparency, No Outcomes, No Answers**

In the two months since the school enrichment levy failed, requests for fiscal responsibility through transparency and measurable outcomes specific to levy funds have not been answered as achievement levels have fallen.

In the state's recent report card for CKSD, students meeting standards dropped to 32% in math and 59% in reading. CKSD is not accomplishing its number one job of educating our students, and making no visible attempt to remedy it. Failing scores are not addressed in board meetings or annual reports. Throwing more money at the problem will not help. Per pupil spending is at an all-time high. The district cannot ask for \$20 million a year without a specific plan and measurable goals outlining how additional funds will support student learning.

Accountability of previous levy funds cannot be provided as there is not a separate line item in the budget identifying levy fund income and expenditures. As responsible taxpayers, we have the right to demand and expect a return on our *additional* investment in CKSD. We have the right to question the public institutions we support. CKSD has an obligation to answer those questions and responsibly use the money entrusted to them for the education of our children.

CKSD is not addressing community concerns as to how the levy will increase student achievement. We ask you to vote no until measurable outcomes become the district's priority, transparency is welcomed, and we see positive verifiable results in student achievement.

## Rebuttal to the Argument For

CKSD redefines "excellence" as 32% proficiency. <https://washingtonstaterreportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us/ReportCard/ViewSchoolOrDistrict/100038> CKSD's clean audit means income equals expenses, not expenditures equal student achievement. CKSD claims taxes won't increase. However, \$18M to \$20M per year is an increase. CKSD hasn't stated how a failed levy will impact students. Fact, the state funds all services to operate a school and reach academic standards, including fully funding special education (RCW28A.150.260 & 28A.150.392). CKSD can't show the value of the levy; vote no.

*Argument prepared by Jennifer Jones, committee chair; Lisa Mischenko and Damon Williams; committee members; committee against the measure. Further questions may be addressed by emailing [votenolevyck@gmail.com](mailto:votenolevyck@gmail.com) or visiting [votenolevyck.org](http://votenolevyck.org).*

The Auditor's Office is not responsible for the content of arguments or their factual and grammatical accuracy.

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Track your ballot at [VoteWA.gov](http://VoteWA.gov)

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More information is available at [kcowa.us/elections](http://kcowa.us/elections)