



# SOUTH KITSAP SCHOOL DISTRICT

## News Release

For Immediate Release

December 3, 2020

### **Replacement Educational Program & Operations Levy on February Ballot**

*Levy programs and enrichments empower South Kitsap students to explore options, access enhanced learning opportunities, attend safe school facilities with the staff and technology tools they need to achieve success.*

**Port Orchard, Washington** – On the February 9, 2021 ballot, South Kitsap School District will ask voters to replace the current Educational Program and Operations (EP&O) Levy that expires in 2021 with a replacement four-year measure. The replacement levy will maintain the local tax rate not to exceed \$2.50 per thousand of assessed home value or will be capped at a maximum amount based on student enrollment, whichever is less.

The Educational Program & Operations Levy makes up about 15% of the district budget and bridges the gap in the cost of current opportunities and programs that support South Kitsap students. Levy programs and enrichments empower South Kitsap students to explore options, have access to enhanced learning opportunities, attend safe school facilities with the staff and technology tools they need to achieve success.

The EP&O Levy supports all South Kitsap students and schools including:

- Advanced Placement, AVID, Project Lead the Way Science, and other innovative programs
- Music, drama, and arts programs
- Librarians
- Instructional Specialists
- Special Education programs
- Computers for students
- Curriculum adoptions
- Nurses, Counselors, Social Worker, School Psychologists
- Athletic Programs and extracurricular activities
- Technology backbone/security to support learning
- Transportation in lieu of safe walking routes
- Safety & security, threat assessment, secured facilities
- Maintenance of facilities, repairs, upkeep, replacement of aging systems and equipment.
- Lower class sizes

In the next few weeks, South Kitsap School District staff will roll out a levy connection informational campaign to share the facts about the levy and the importance of levy-funded programs. These “Town Hall” style meetings will be held remote access and staff will answer questions. There is detailed information on the SKSD website at [www.skschools.org](http://www.skschools.org) and all South Kitsap households will receive a factual mailer prior to receiving ballots.

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### **About South Kitsap schools**

South Kitsap School District has 16 schools and serves around 8,500 students in grades K-12. South Kitsap School District is the largest employer in Port Orchard Washington with more than 1,300 employees. South Kitsap School District is committed to nurturing growth, inspiring achievement, and building community so that every student graduates ready for the future.

For more information, contact:

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