



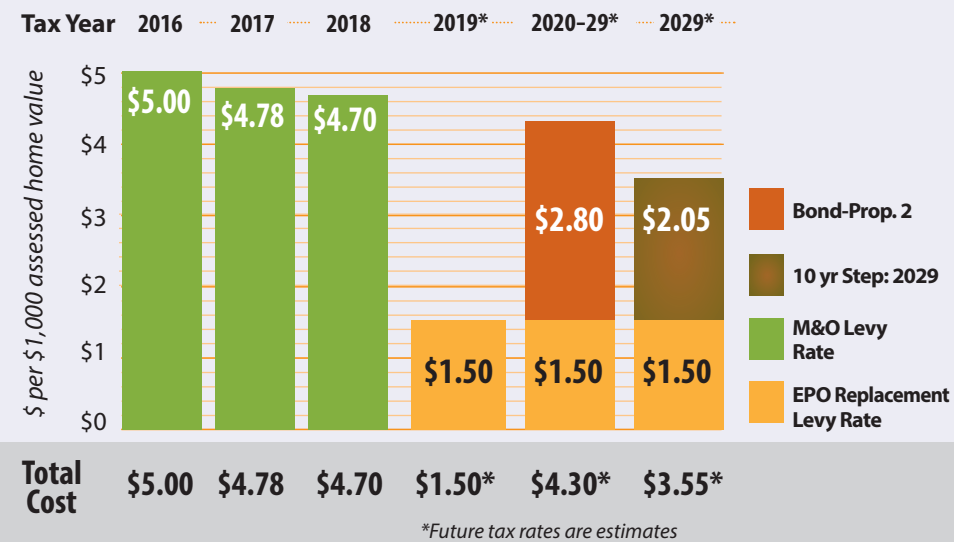
Ephrata School District
111 4th Ave NW
Ephrata, WA 98823

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Ephrata, WA 98823

Ephrata SD - Property Tax Rate Projection

EPO Levy & Bond Costs Combined **\$27.89M, 20 years w/ 10 year step**



NEWS for homeowners:



If the bond and levy pass, property owners will pay less per year in local taxes for both measures than in 2018 for the levy alone.

(see chart above)

A message from the superintendent

Dear Ephrata Community,

On February 12, patrons will have an opportunity to cast their vote on two Ephrata School District funding measures. The first is a proposed two-year replacement levy.

This local funding provides 4.3% of our district's operating budget, which includes day-to-day expenses like co-curricular security, technology, professional development, and College in the High School. Levy equalization of about \$2.5 million is provided by the state *only* if the EPO Levy passes.

The second proposition is a capital bond, which will allow the district to make needed safety and security updates: build three new multi-purpose gyms with stages and music teaching areas at Grant, Columbia Ridge Elementary and Ephrata Middle School, renovate the existing PAC and remodel the PAC gym, replace school roofs, build eight new permanent classrooms at Columbia Ridge, and remodel Grant and Columbia Ridge offices.

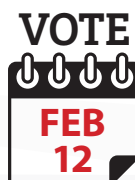
Inside this publication you can read the details of the proposed measures. I hope you'll take the time to consider the information and let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Daniel E. Martell, Superintendent

For More Information

Contact the superintendent's office
dmartell@ephrataschools.org
Phone: 509-754-2474

ephrataschools.org



Please Vote by February 12!

Ballots will arrive in the mail by January 25th and must be postmarked by 8 p.m.

Low-income senior citizens and disabled adults may qualify for tax exemptions. Please call the Grant County Assessor's Office at (509) 754-2011 for further information.



EPHRATA School District

Preparing students for living, learning and working in a continuously changing world



Ephrata voters will decide on two funding measures for schools on February 12, 2019



1. Levy

A two-year replacement levy to fund **student programs and services**.



2. Bond

A 20-year bond to:

- Increase safety and security district-wide
- Build eight permanent classrooms to replace portables
- Build new multi-purpose gyms & stages at Columbia Ridge, Grant, & Ephrata Middle School
- Enlarge cafeterias at Columbia Ridge, Grant, & Ephrata Middle School
- Remodel offices at Columbia Ridge & Grant
- Renovate Performing Arts Center (PAC) and remodel PAC gym
- Replace the roof at Columbia Ridge, Grant, Ephrata Middle School & Ephrata High School

Your vote counts on February 12, 2019!
Read inside for details on both of these measures.

An Educational Programs & Operations (EPO) Levy to fund student programs and services



The Ephrata School District is running a two-year Educational Programs & Operations (EPO) replacement levy. **This is not a new tax**; it replaces the 2015 voter-approved levy which expires in 2019. Levy funds help bridge the gap between what the state pays for education and what it *actually* costs to run a school district.

The levy will help fund these items:

- Safety & security
- Co-curricular bus trips and activity supplies
- Technology software and hardware
- Professional development and staff training
- College in the High School

Replacement Levy Proposed Costs

Year	Amount collected	Rate per \$1,000 of assessed valuation	Average cost for a \$200K homeowner
2017	\$3,859,409	\$4.78	\$956 per year
2018	\$3,935,622	\$4.70	\$940 per year
2019	\$1,400,000	\$1.50	\$300 per year
2020	\$1,540,000	\$1.50	\$300 per year
2021	\$1,694,000	\$1.50	\$300 per year

Current 4-Year M&O Levy

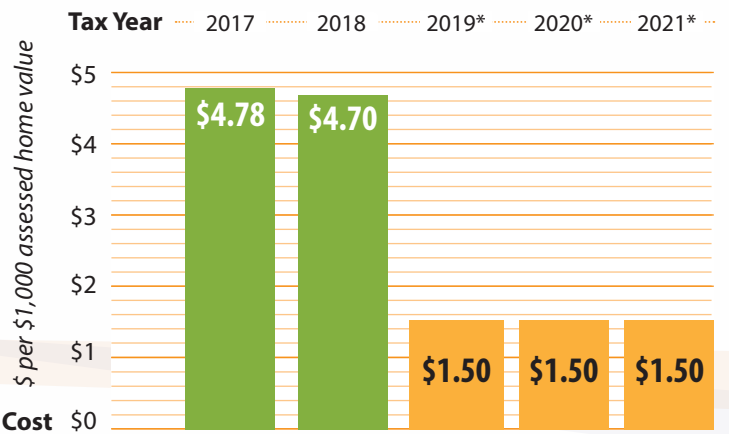
Proposed 2-Year EPO replacement Levy

NEWS for homeowners

» The replacement levy rate is **lower** than the current levy rate.



Because Ephrata School District is a property-poor district, **we are eligible to receive an additional \$2.5 million in levy equalization from the state**, but only if the levy passes.



*Future tax rates are estimates

» In 2019, the local levy will be capped at \$1.50 (per \$1,000 assessed home value) thus **reducing** the local share.

A Bond to improve **safety, security** and **other facilities needs**

The Ephrata School District divided the long-term needs in two phases. Phase I consists of the items listed below. Phase II will be reviewed in 2028-2029 when Parkway becomes eligible for state matching funds.



Increased Safety & Security

- » Improve and add lighting.
- » Upgrade video systems, add keyless entry & automatic locking doors.
- » Install fencing to create a safety barrier for students & staff.



New Classrooms

- » Construct eight permanent classrooms to replace portables at Columbia Ridge. Also addresses long-range planning.



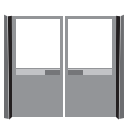
New Multi-purpose Gymnasiums

- » Multi-purpose gymnasiums will be large enough to address current and future enrollment as well as co-curricular needs.
- » Build multi-purpose gymnasiums at Columbia Ridge and Grant to accommodate PE, music, band & community events.
- » Build multi-purpose gymnasium at Ephrata Middle School to accommodate a weight room, PE locker rooms, a standard basketball court, bleachers & music.



Enlarging Cafeterias

- » Remove music stages from Columbia Ridge and Grant cafeterias.
- » Enlarge and reconfigure cafeterias after relocating the music programs to the new gymnasiums.



Office Remodels

- » Remodel office spaces at Columbia Ridge and Grant to allow staff to have a direct line of sight to the front door & the ability to control entry into the buildings.



Performing Arts Center (PAC) & PAC Gym

- » **Renovate existing PAC:** Increase ceiling height, replace stage & rigging, upgrade to theater seating, adding new entry doorway, upgrade sound and lighting along with control panels.
- » **Remodel PAC gym area used for band & choir performances:** Upgrade sound and lighting, new control panels, new seating and acoustical treatments, while maintaining the ability to house all current PE and athletic events.

Roofs

- » Replace roofs with a 15 year roofing product to protect our schools' assets.



Bond Proposal: Local Cost

The owner of a \$200,000 home would pay approx. **\$560 per year** or **\$47 per month** for the first 10 years (Phase 1), and **\$410 per year** or **\$35 per month** the next 10 years.

The proposed \$27.89 million, 20-year bond would cost property owners approximately **\$2.80 per \$1,000** (of assessed value) and **\$2.05 per \$1,000** for the next 10 years.

