

# Edmonds School District News

A Community Supporting Success For All Students

## District Levy and Bond Election

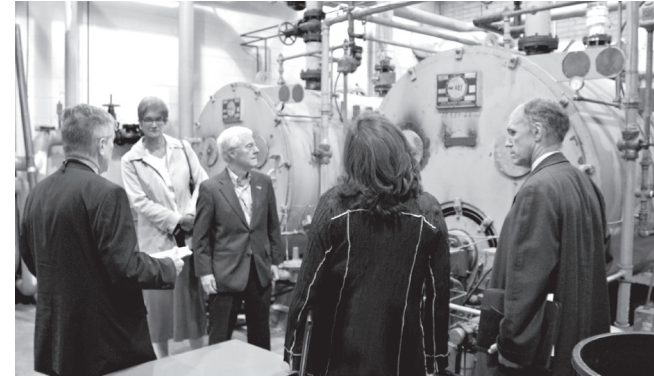
Please Remember to Vote Tuesday, February 11, 2014

The Edmonds School District is holding an election Tuesday, February 11, 2014, with two important measures on the ballot: 1) a Replacement School Programs and Operation Levy and, 2) a Capital Construction Bond.

The decision to place these measures on the ballot comes with continued study and community input. We conducted public meetings that shaped the proposal. Following the input, the School Board unanimously moved to place these measures before voters February 11, 2014.

"Both of these measures are very smart educational and financial moves for the District's students and its taxpayers," School Board President Ann McMurray said. "We need the replacement levy in order to operate each day, as it directly supports the learning and teaching in each classroom across our district. The bond will be used to improve safety, create capacity to lower class size, add all-day kindergarten classrooms, and do other important work across the whole district," McMurray added.

Superintendent Nick Brossoit added: "This is a supportive community. The replacement levy is vital for ongoing operations. Proposition 2 will take a meaningful step towards addressing a large backlog of capital project needs in the District. We appreciate the public's interest in learning more about these measures and encourage people to vote February 11, 2014."



*School Board Directors discuss with Ed Peters, Capital Projects, the old heating system at one of the schools that would be replaced if the Capital Construction Bond is approved.*

try  
**READ**



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The information in this handout is intended to provide facts and an overview of each proposition. For more information:

[www.edmonds.wednet.edu](http://www.edmonds.wednet.edu)

Community Relations 425-431-7044

[schoolelection@edmonds.wednet.edu](mailto:schoolelection@edmonds.wednet.edu)

### PROPOSITION NO. 1

#### Replacement School Programs and Operation Levy

The Board of Directors of Edmonds School District No. 15, serving the communities of Brier, Edmonds, Lynnwood, Mountlake Terrace, Woodway and portions of unincorporated Snohomish County, adopted Resolution No. 13-26. This proposition would authorize the District to replace an expiring levy for support of the District's General Fund. The replacement levy collection averages \$62.5 million per year for each of the four years, 2015 through 2018.

### PROPOSITION NO. 2

#### Capital Construction Bond

The Board of Directors of Edmonds School District No. 15, adopted Resolution No. 13-35, concerning a proposition to finance capital improvements to its education facilities. This proposition would allow the District to improve safety, upgrade heating/ventilation, replace roofs, enhance energy efficiencies and other capital improvements; reduce class size grades 1-6 at various schools; add classrooms for full-day kindergarten; modernize Spruce, Lynnwood and Mountlake Terrace elementary schools; add classroom capacity at Edmonds-Woodway; relocate/replace Alderwood Middle; replace Lynndale and Madrona; and relocate/replace Maintenance/Transportation/Warehouse facility.

### What the Replacement Levy Funds...

- Additional teachers to help keep class sizes smaller
- Paraeducators and staff who support the educational program
- Textbooks and instructional materials
- Student transportation
- Athletics, music and drama
- Co-curricular activities
- Services for special-needs students
- Support for programs, services and technology
- Staff training to improve teaching and student learning

Questions? Call Stewart Mhyre, Business and Operations, 425-431-7015

### What the Bond Will Fund...

Improve safety, heating/ventilation, roofing, energy efficiency and other capital improvements	\$40,000,000
Reduce class size grades 1-6, various schools; add classrooms for full-day kindergarten; add classroom capacity at Edmonds-Woodway	\$30,000,000
Modernize Spruce, Lynnwood, Mountlake Terrace elementary schools	\$40,000,000
Relocate/replace Alderwood Middle School	\$59,000,000
Replace Lynndale Elementary	\$32,000,000
Replace Madrona K-8 School	\$44,000,000
Relocate/replace Maintenance and Transportation facility	\$30,000,000
Total	\$275,000,000

Questions? Call Ed Peters, Capital Projects, 425-431-7170

### Serving...



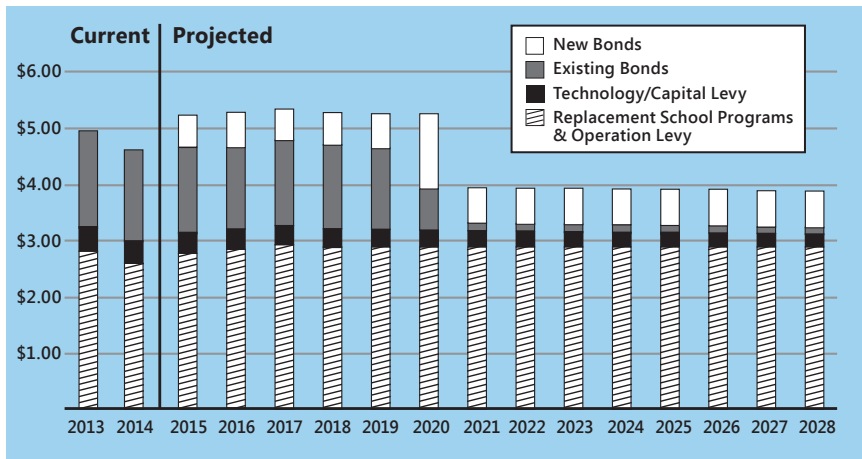
and Portions of Unincorporated  
Snohomish County

**CUSTOMER**  
**RESIDENTIAL**  
**ECRWS**

**PERMIT NO. 23**  
**LYNNWOOD, WA**  
**PAID**  
**U.S. POSTAGE**  
**NON-PROFIT ORG.**

# Overall Tax Impact

If both the Replacement Levy and Bond issues were approved



Questions? Call Stewart Myhre, Business and Operations, 425-431-7015

## Academic Growth and Success

For over a decade, the Edmonds School District has realized sustained growth and success for its students. Most recently, our students again met or surpassed state percentages in the areas of reading, writing, math and science in the majority of grades on the state assessments.

On the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT), an objective measure of the quality of our system, staff, students and community, our students surpassed the state and national averages in math, reading and writing.



We are working to build on this success. District leaders, principals and teachers are working to put into place new standards with the goal that effective student learning is meaningful, relevant and exciting.

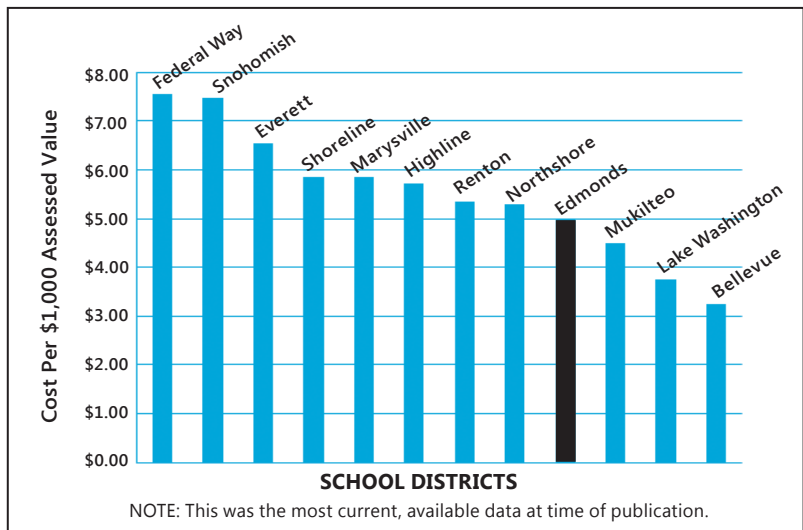
We are continuing to remove barriers, create a supportive culture and use student data properly to ensure best practices for staff, students and families.

For more information visit [www.edmonds.wednet.edu](http://www.edmonds.wednet.edu) or call 425-431-7000

Teacher Kari Park and student Christian Paulos display some of the 580 different titles available in the Guided Reading Book Rooms installed in all 22 elementary schools two years ago.

## How Edmonds Compares

2013 Overall Property Tax Impact



## Tax Exemption for Seniors

Anyone age 61 now or who will be 61 by December 31 of this year or retired because of a physical disability may qualify for an exemption and/or a reduction on next year's property taxes, including these local school tax measures. The total, combined gross household income maximum is \$30,000 or less. For more information: Snohomish County Assessor's Office, Mail Stop 510, 3000 Rockefeller, Everett, WA 98201 or 425-388-3540.

## Message from the Superintendent

### Questions & Answers



Nick Brossoit,  
Superintendent

#### ABOUT USING DISTRICT PROPERTY: Status of Both Sale and Lease of District Properties

##### What is the progress on the sale and lease of various District properties?

During the long recession, our property values dropped just as those in the private sector. Now that the economy is turning around there is renewed interest. Exactly when and how much revenue these surplus properties generate we do not know at this time, however we cannot wait to complete necessary and timely capital project work. For an overview of "Progress On District Properties" see right of this column, page 3.

#### ABOUT PROPOSITION 1: Replacement of the School Programs and Operation Levy

##### What does renewal of the School Programs and Operation Levy fund?

The School Programs and Operation Levy represents approximately 23 percent of the District's total general operating budget. These funds allow the District to provide local support for: 90 teachers to keep class sizes smaller; 112 paraeducators and staff who support the educational program; books and instructional materials; transportation and safe student travel; athletics, music and drama; co-curricular activities; services for special needs students; support staff for programs, services and technology; training, utilities and insurance. This levy will replace the current levy which ends in 2014. This is not an additional or new tax levy.

##### Why do communities have local programs and operation levies?

People want their local schools to provide better programs and services than what is possible when only funded by the state. In order to continue the present level of programs and services, the law requires that these replacement levies be renewed by voters.

##### Doesn't the state have to invest more in K-12 public education as a result of the McCleary case and the Supreme Court order?

Yes, however it will take years and the local replacement levy is still necessary for local support of schools.

#### ABOUT PROPOSITION 2: The Capital Construction Bond

##### How were the projects identified?

Some of the capital project work included in this Bond proposal represents years of work by the Citizens Planning Committee (CPC) and District staff and were identified as early as 2005 as needing to be completed. The projects were selected based on objective criteria and established through this comprehensive and extensive process. Adding classrooms to reduce class size in grades 1-6 and providing additional classrooms for full-day Kindergarten is the result of the State providing additional funding for classroom teachers. The state funding cannot be used to construct or provide the additional space needed across the majority of the District's 22 elementary schools.

*continued on page 3*

# We Have Made, Continue to Make Gains in Sale and Lease Efforts

Beginning in 2004, the District conducted a study of its properties, determining that some could provide revenue either through sale or lease since they were no longer needed as school or operation sites. Revenue from surplus properties will help, but does not come close to meeting the capital projects needs in the District.

During the downturn in the economy, our property values dropped just as those in the private sector. Now that the economy is improving there is renewed interest. Exactly when and how much revenue the surplus properties will generate will develop over the next few years; however, we cannot wait to complete necessary and timely capital project work. All proceeds from the below listed properties must be used for capital purposes as approved by our Board of Directors.

- **Lynnwood Place** (old Lynnwood High School):
  - Zoning change and development agreement approved by City of Lynnwood
  - Project design for Costco submitted to City for approval
  - Current proposed schedule: start site work spring 2014
  - Tentative Costco opening summer 2015
- **Alderwood South** (Maintenance and Transportation site):
  - There are interested developers, but need to build a new facility on district property located at 52nd Avenue West in order to sell or lease property on Alderwood Mall Boulevard
- **Lynnwood City Center** (across from Convention Center):
  - Dividing property into two parcels
  - One parcel is under a purchase contract and the buyer is in their due diligence period
  - Second parcel has interested developers
- **Melody Hill** (I-5 on ramp at 220th Street SW):
  - Building is vacated and demolished; will be on the market soon
- **Former Evergreen Elementary** (next to the 236th Street SW off ramp):
  - Working with the City of Mountlake Terrace on road placement
  - City of Mountlake Terrace re-zoned the property to freeway/tourism

Current Maintenance and Transportation Site



2927 Alderwood Mall Blvd., Lynnwood

Proposed Maintenance and Transportation Site



20601 52nd Ave. W., Lynnwood

## Information Regarding Sound Transit

The District plans to move our Maintenance and Transportation Facility to the property we own on 52nd Avenue. Because the District is planning to use the property, Sound Transit will need to look at alternative sites. For more detailed information, see our online Q&A at [www.edmonds.wednet.edu](http://www.edmonds.wednet.edu).

## Questions & Answers *continued*

### How much will the passage of the bond cost me?

By managing the timing of the sale of the bonds and the work/projects, the District can stabilize the overall rate paid by taxpayers.

If approved, the approximate cost of the bond issue (Proposition 2) to a house valued at \$300,000 would be just under \$12.00 per month. Please see Overall Tax Impact chart in upper left corner of page 2.

### How can I get more information or have someone speak to my group or organization about the levy or bond?

The District will host a special election meeting with Superintendent Nick Brossoit Wednesday, Nov. 20 at 7 p.m. in the Edmonds-Woodway Theater. The meeting is open to all in the community.

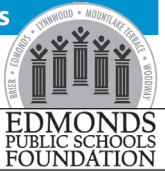
Additionally, if you or your organization would like a person to come to your meeting to make a presentation, please call Chris Hansen at 425-431-7003. Please visit [www.edmonds.wednet.edu](http://www.edmonds.wednet.edu) for more information; send email to [schoolelection@edmonds.wednet.edu](mailto:schoolelection@edmonds.wednet.edu) or call DJ Jakala in Community Relations at 425-431-7044.

## Mark Your Calendar!

- Nov. 20** Superintendent's Special Election Meeting at Edmonds-Woodway High Theater, 7:00 p.m.
- Nov. 26** School Board Meeting at ESC\*, 6:30 p.m.
- Nov. 27** No School, Teacher Professional Development Day
- Nov. 28-29** No School, Thanksgiving Break
- Dec. 4** Superintendent's Roundtable at ESC\*, 12:00-1:00 p.m. Program Topic: Special Education
- Dec. 10** School Board Meeting at ESC\*, 6:30 p.m.
- Dec. 23-Jan. 3** No School, Winter Break
- Jan. 8** Superintendent's Roundtable at ESC\*, 12:00-1:00 p.m.
- Jan. 14** School Board Meeting at ESC\*, 6:30 p.m.
- Jan. 20** No School, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- Feb. 11** Levy Bond Election Ballots due by 8:00 p.m. today

## Support Edmonds Public Schools Foundation Events

- Feb. 22** STEM EXPO 2014 at Edmonds-Woodway High, 9:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.
- March 1** Read Across America Dr. Suess's Birthday Celebration, Downtown Edmonds, 11:00 a.m.- 6:00 p.m.



\* The Educational Service Center (ESC) is located at 20420 68th Ave. W., Lynnwood, 98036 (just south of Edmonds Community College).

## Edmonds School District Board of Directors



Ann McMurray  
Director District 2  
Board President



Susan Phillips  
Director District 4  
Vice President



Diana White  
Director District 3  
Legislative Rep.



Kory DeMun  
Director District 1  
Board Member



Gary Noble  
Director District 3  
Board Member



Dr. Nick Brossoit  
Superintendent and  
Board Secretary

Comprising five director districts, the Board of Directors conducts the business of the Edmonds School District. The board meets alternate Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Room at the Educational Service Center, 20420 68th Ave. W., Lynnwood, 98036. Study sessions, at which the board does not vote on matters, are held as needed on alternate Tuesdays at 6 p.m.

## Help Influence... The District's Strategic Direction

*Community is invited to help shape a plan to successfully move us to 2020*

During the 2013-14 school year, the Edmonds School District will engage students, staff, families, partners and the broader community in **Strategic Direction 2020**. Together, we will identify the results we want for our community's students. Some examples we are considering include:

- College or Career Readiness for ALL students;
- Equity of Opportunity/Closing the Achievement Gap;
- Effective Student Learning; and
- Advance Early Learning

In the new year, we will announce opportunities for all interested community members to meet with us, discuss these areas, and ask: What resonates with you? What do you like most? Is there anything here you don't like or think could be improved? What, if anything, is missing?

Your participation will be important to developing our strategic direction! Look for meeting dates in the Winter 2014 issue of Edmonds School District News.



*School Board President Ann McMurray learns about a student's STEM Expo exhibit.*

## Your Tax Dollars at Work – Voter-Approved 2012 Technology/Capital Levy Update

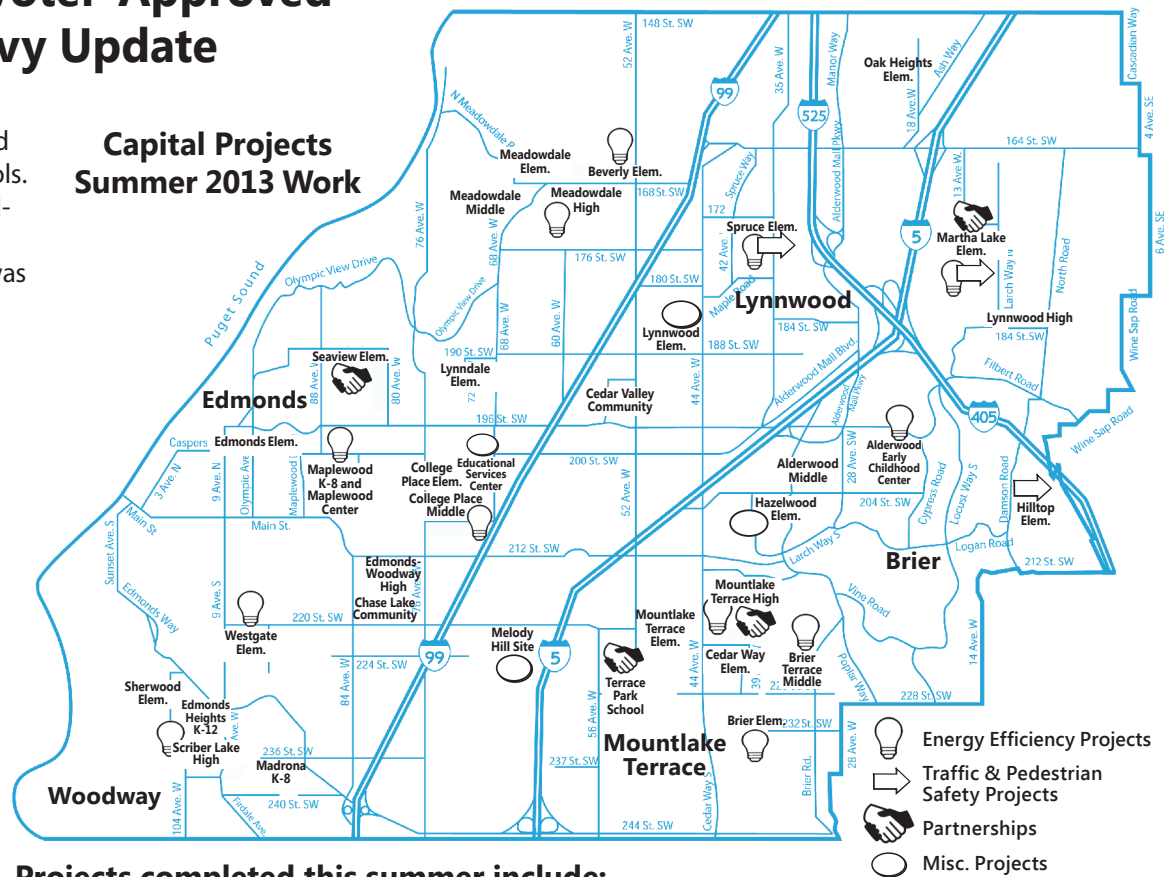
Summer months are busy in our school district with equipment replacements, building improvements and other upgrades taking place at a number of our schools. Coordinated by our Technology, Instructional Technology, Capital Projects and Facilities Operations departments, these projects were completed while school was out to minimize disruptions to student learning.

The voter-approved 2012 Technology/Capital Levy is providing our students with an opportunity to have continued access to technology tools that will assist in their learning and help them be prepared for the technology competency needed to graduate and for career and college readiness. We have a system in place to replace older equipment and are continuing to infuse new techniques, programs and equipment as needed into our schools.



*Next summer, with funds from the voter-approved 2012 Technology/Capital Levy, the District has plans to replace the wood fascia at Edmonds Elementary (pictured above), replace the roof at Oak Heights Elementary, and upgrade gutters and downspouts at Chase Lake Community School.*

### Capital Projects Summer 2013 Work



### Projects completed this summer include:

- Traffic and Pedestrian Safety Improvements at Hilltop, Martha Lake and Spruce elementary schools
- Energy efficiency upgrades to lighting, heating/ventilation and boiler systems at various schools
- Teacher instructional laptop, projector and document camera replacements; an ongoing project districtwide
- Capital Partnership Projects, funds raised by outside groups that are matched by 2008 Technology/Capital Levy dollars, provided a new covered playshelter at Terrace Park School, a walking path at Seaview Elementary, an auditorium sound system at Mountlake Terrace High and a gym sound system at Martha Lake Elementary
- Carpet replacement at Hazelwood and Lynnwood elementary schools
- Two new classrooms at Spruce Elementary

Edmonds School District News provides school and education information to all the residents of Edmonds School District #15. For more information about the District, please call the Administration Office at (425) 431-7000 or visit [www.edmonds.wednet.edu](http://www.edmonds.wednet.edu). To request this newsletter in a different format for people with disabilities please call (425) 431-7044. Board of Directors: Ann McMurray, President; Susan Phillips, Vice President; Diana White, Legislative Representative; and Board Members Kory DeMun, and Gary Noble; Superintendent: Nick J. Brossoit, Ed.D.; Writing, Editing: DJ Jakala and Amanda Ralston; Design: Jeanne Macdonald; Photography Scotty Dotson and David Johanson. ♻️ Printed with soy ink on paper that is recyclable and renewable.

The Edmonds School District prohibits discrimination based on age, sex, race, color, religion, creed, national origin, genetic information, sexual orientation including gender expression or identity, marital status, honorably discharged veteran or military status, or the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability or use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability, or any other basis prohibited by law or Edmonds School District policy, except as may be necessary to meet a bona fide occupational qualification, and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The Edmonds School District is an equal opportunity employer and has implemented programs to address the diversity of its workforce. This holds true for all District employment and opportunities. Inquiries regarding compliance and/or grievance procedures may be directed to the school district's Title IX/Chapter 28A.640 RCW officer, Debby Carter, Section 504 compliance coordinator, Jean Mirabal, or ADA coordinator, Debby Carter, at 20420 68th Ave. W., Lynnwood, WA 98036-7400 - (425) 431-7000.

**Why am I getting this newsletter?** This newsletter is intended to reach all residents in our District including the nearly 70 percent of households without school-age children. We use bulk mailing rather than individually addressing each newsletter because it is the least expensive way to distribute this newsletter.