



# The Hawk Herald

## Prairie View Elementary

Dr. Irene Gonzales, Principal  
Brenda Goehring, Asst Principal

**January 20, 2021**

### A Note From the Principal



Dear Parents and Guardians:

My January 5 newsletter focused on providing just the facts about the Mead School District 2021 Renewal Levy. Today, I wish to give you answers to the most frequently asked questions (FAQ) about the Mead School District 2021 Renewal Levy. All of this information plus much more can be found at:

[www.mead354.org/levy](http://www.mead354.org/levy)

Thank you so much for your continued support of our schools and for trusting us to education your child(ren).

Dr. Irene Gonzales

**MEAD SCHOOL DISTRICT  
2021 RENEWAL LEVY  
FEBRUARY 9, 2021**

### Dates to know in January

- Jan 4** Back to School  
PTO Meeting (Zoom @ 6:30pm)
- Jan 6** Town Hall Zoom Meeting  
w/superintendent  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87054956338>
- Jan 13** Town Hall Zoom Meeting  
w/superintendent  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87110146911>
- Jan 18** No School (MLK Day)
- Jan 22** Levy Ballots Mailed Out



## Mead School District Educational Programs and Operations Renewal Levy

The renewal levy supports the Mead School District commitment to learning and teaching, focuses on equity and access for all students and ensures ongoing funding for essential services to meet the needs of students and teachers.

The District has listened to the community through multiple surveys and put that feedback into action through reopening schools, developing strategic priorities and planning for future programming to help our students and teachers be successful.

Strategic priorities developed through community feedback are the backbone of the programs that will be funded with the approval of this levy. Strategic priorities that community members identified as very important include:

- Support for at-risk students K-12
- Mental health support for students K-12
- Career-track opportunities such as internships for HS students
- Much more...[click here!](#)

## ATTENDANCE CALLS

If you email a teacher about your child's absence, please also call into the office or student attendance line (465-7884) to report your child ill. We are here to answer your questions and are a great resource to help you navigate through all the protocols that are in place this year.

Also, please understand that the daily attestation you fill out does not forgo the need to let us know WHY your child is gone. A call home will be going out if your kiddo is absent without further information. *Thank you!*

## Upcoming dates in February

- Feb 9** Voting day for renewal Levy  
(In ballot box by 8 pm!)
- Feb 15** No School (Presidents Day)
- Feb 19** Early Dismissal @ 12:45 pm
- Feb 24** Early Dismissal @ 12:45 pm  
Conferences 1 – 5:45 pm
- Feb 25** Non Student Day (No School)  
Conferences 12 – 7 pm
- Feb 26** Non Student Day (No School)  
Conferences 8 – 11:25 am



# Helping Children Learn<sup>®</sup>

Tips Families Can Use to Help Children Do Better in School  
Mead School District



February 2021

## Stop a slump with strategies that encourage student motivation

The teacher wants your child to learn. You want your child to learn. But it's *your child's* desire to learn that really makes a difference to his success as a student. If his motivation is in a February slump, here are five strategies to revive it:

- 1. Tell your child** you believe he can do well in school. If he struggles, work with the teacher to find solutions.
- 2. Give your child** age-appropriate freedoms. Let him choose between two places to study, or whether to do assignments before or after dinner.
- 3. Correct mistakes** in a positive way. Don't say, "You had difficulty with spelling." Instead, try, "You spelled everything right except these three words. I bet you can learn them with practice."
- 4. Offer specific compliments.** Don't just say "Great job! Nice handwriting!" Say, "Your report is written so neatly. I can tell that put careful effort into it."
- 5. Add a real-life dimension** to learning. Let school lessons spark your imagination. Visit age-appropriate educational websites with your child. Visit a museum, in person if possible, or online. Do a science experiment or create a savings plan for a family purchase together.



## Promote math and science

Research suggests that children's attitudes toward math and science tend to be set in elementary school, and their parents' attitudes play a part in this. To make sure your child stays interested in math and science:

- **Play games together** that involve math and science skills.
- **Help your child see** herself as someone who can learn to master these subjects. Remind her that "Smart is something you get, not something you just are."
- **Point to diverse role models.** Math and science are for everyone, not just one kind of person.

Source: "Changing the Game in STEM with Family Engagement,"  
Stem Next Opportunity Fund, [nswc.com/prostem](http://nswc.com/prostem).

## Suggest a holiday letter

Celebrate Presidents Day (Feb. 15) with a writing activity. What would your child like to say to the president? Which issues does your child think are important? What does he think the president should do? Have him put his thoughts in a letter. Be sure to follow the guidelines at [www.whitehouse.gov/get-involved](http://www.whitehouse.gov/get-involved).





# MEAD SCHOOL DISTRICT 2021 RENEWAL LEVY

## FEBRUARY 9, 2021

The Mead School District is asking its community to consider a three-year renewal levy for educational programs and operations on the Special Election ballot on February 9, 2021. This renewal levy is not a new tax, it replaces a three-year levy that will expire in 2021.

The renewal levy supports the Mead School District's commitment to learning and teaching, focuses on equity and access for all students and ensures ongoing funding for essential services that meet needs of students and teachers.

### WHAT DOES THIS RENEWAL LEVY FUND?

#### ACADEMICS

- Elective Course Offerings
- Advanced Placement Courses
- Elementary Specialists
- Staff for Small Class Sizes

#### EXTRA-CURRICULARS

- Band, Choir, Orchestra, Art
- Athletics in MS and HS
- Speech and Drama
- Student Clubs

#### FUTURE READINESS

- Work-Based Learning
- Career-Track Opportunities
- STEM Courses
- Technology

#### STUDENT SUPPORT

- Nurses & Para Ed Support
- Counselors & Social Workers
- English Language Learning
- Student Intervention Support

**VISIT [MEAD354.ORG/LEVY](https://mead354.org/levy)  
FOR MORE INFORMATION**



**EACH STUDENT FUTURE READY  
EMPOWERED TO DREAM, BELIEVE, ACHIEVE**



### IS THIS A NEW TAX?

No. It is a proposed three-year renewal of the current levy that expires in 2021.

### WHAT ARE LEVIES FOR?

Levies provide local funding that bridges the gap between what the state and federal governments pay and the actual costs of operating our schools. Levies make up about 11.7% of the district's total operating revenue.

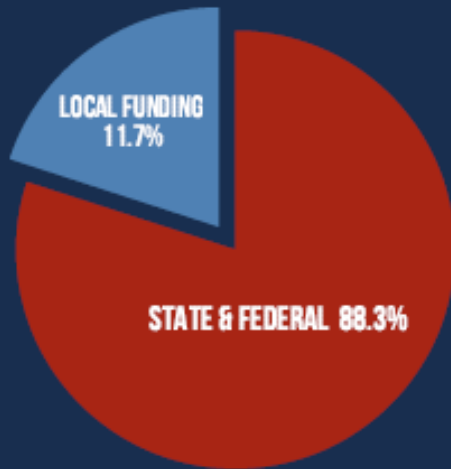
School levies also activate equalization dollars from the state called Local Effort Assistance (LEA). When a levy is passed, the state provides matching dollars to enhance student access to educational enrichments.

The Mead School District has been supported by a levy for the past 40 years.

### LEVY BREAKDOWN

11.7 percent of the Mead School District's budget comes from local funding, while the other 88.3 percent comes from a combination of federal and state funding.

With state revenues down, state funding cuts are anticipated. Locally-approved funding would help fill the gap between what the state funds and what our students and teachers need to maintain success.



### IMPORTANT ELECTION DATES

Jan. 22 - Ballots mailed out

Feb. 1 - Online or mail registrations must be received 8 days before elections

Feb. 9 - Deadline for in-person voter registration or updates

Feb. 9 - Election day: ballots must be postmarked by today or returned to a ballot drop box by 8 p.m.

Throughout the past year, the Mead School District conducted a combination of surveys, focus groups and community engagement meetings with staff and community members. The feedback gained has directly informed the District's strategic plan and top priorities for continuing to develop a well-rounded education. Levy resources can help fund our community-driven strategic priorities such as:

- Support for our at-risk students
- Access to mental health support for our students
- Increased emphasis on building a talent pool for local industry and beyond through partnerships
- Choice programs at the elementary level

### WHAT WOULD THIS RENEWAL LEVY COST TAXPAYERS?

If approved by voters on Feb. 9, the estimated levy tax rate for Mead School District would be \$2.00 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation, which is lower than 2018 and prior years.

For a \$300,000 home, that equals \$600/year or \$50/month.

### RECENT SCHOOL TAX RATE HISTORY

YEAR	LEVY RATE	BOND RATE	TOTAL TAX RATE
2017	\$4.01	\$1.27	\$5.28
2018	\$3.68	\$1.19	\$4.87*
2019	\$1.50	1.93	\$3.43
2020	\$1.47	\$1.86	\$3.33
2021	\$1.47	\$1.86	\$3.33
2022-24	\$2.00	\$1.86	\$3.86**

\*Before the Washington State "McCleary Decision" that capped school levies

\*\* Includes this proposed Renewal Levy's estimated future tax rate

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