

# Chimacum School Matters

*News from Your Chimacum School District*

Volume Twenty-Six, Issue One

January 2021

## Success in remote learning is thanks to levies

This last year has been one wild ride. Keeping our community safe, while continuing to educate our students, has been a monumental task for teachers, parents and students.

Thanks to Chimacum's decades-long focus on using levy dollars to support technology, we were able to move to remote learning quickly and efficiently. Many districts struggled to do so.

For decades, the residents of the Chimacum School District have voted in favor of the schools' special levies and supported the district's quest to provide our youth with the best education possible within the constraints of an ever-tightening budget.

In these challenging times, the community's support of our levies has allowed for take-home laptops for all students who need one; IT support

for families and staff; and Internet security. Already trained on using online teaching tools, our staff chose to ramp up their knowledge with more training over the summer—just in case the pandemic mandated remote learning in the new school year.

**Levy requests on the Feb. 9 ballot fund the future.**

In-person learning will return. And when it does, sports, music, drama, clubs—and all of those face-to-face activities we love—will be available thanks to levy dollars.

The Educational Programs and Operations (EP&O) levy on the ballot is to **REPLACE** the current levy, due to expire in 2021.

The four-year levy request is not "a new tax" or "extra" money. This

levy essentially replaces the one voters approved in 2017 for collection in 2018 through 2021.

A school levy supplements basic education dollars. The monies are used for educational programs and technology; to provide staffing and training; to cover maintenance and operations costs; and to provide a safe and secure environment for students and staff.

The Chimacum School Board has requested only enough levy dollars to allow Chimacum Schools to continue to provide the services and programs currently offered within the district.

The levy totals are \$2.1 million for 2022; \$2.15 million for 2023; \$2.2 million for 2024; and \$2.25 million for 2025.

The Chimacum School District insists on sound financial practices. The district has a history of excellent state audit reports, per the Washington State Auditor's Office. Each year, the school board approves the budget. Budgets and financial statements are then reviewed by our Educational Service District 114 and the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

**Homeowner taxes resulting from this levy may be a deductible expense on your federal income tax. A disabled person, or someone 61 years of age and older, may be eligible for a levy tax exemption. If you have questions regarding this program, please contact the Jefferson County Assessor's Office at 360.385.9105.**



Robotics allows students to use science, technology, engineering, art, math, creativity and more to build their masterpieces. Competitions add to the fun!

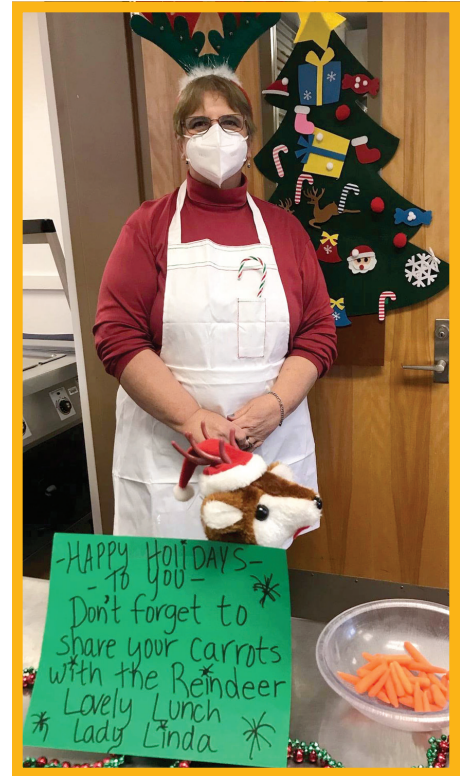
# CSD classified staff ensure the schools run smoothly

The greatest portion of your school levy dollars goes toward staff—those responsible adults who work daily with your children.

The schools would not operate smoothly without the support of technology, food service, custodial, educational assistants, librarians, counselors, school nurse, office staff and others. Many of these positions are levy funded.

## Shout-out!

Our food service staff has gone above and beyond through the pandemic, ensuring healthy breakfasts and lunches were prepared for all children in the district. Our buses transported the food and schoolwork to bus stops for student pick up.



“Lovely Lunch Lady Linda” Boyd has served the children for 33 years. There’s no doubt a big smile behind that mask. Trust us.



For 23 years, administrative assistant Connie Barrows has been one of the classified (non-teacher) staff members we can always count on. Just ask little Kadence Lunde.

★  
GO COWBOYS!  
★



Eric Bulliman was one of our custodians to receive a Silver Spurs Award for all of the extra hours and care he put in to ensure the safety and cleanliness of the facilities throughout this pandemic. The Chimacum School District maintains its facilities well. In non-pandemic times, the facilities are available for community and school use in the evenings and during the weekends.

## Comments/questions?

Dr. David Engle  
Acting Superintendent  
360.302.5896

or Art Clarke, Assistant  
Superintendent of Operations  
360.302.5895

QR code  
takes you to  
[CSD49.org](https://CSD49.org).



# BUILDING STEAM

Chimacum Schools strive to engage students of all levels in Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math.





Of all of the cool stuff on the CSD49.org website, this just might top the list. Under the Library, each school has an age-appropriate Symbaloo page with safe, clickable links to tons of resources.



## EP&O is not a new tax, not a bond

The replacement Educational Programs and Operations (EP&O) levy on the ballot is NOT a capital facilities bond/levy. By law, capital facilities' dollars must be used on building-related expenses. A school EP&O levy (formerly called a Maintenance and Operations levy) supplements basic education dollars.

## Levy fills the gaps

Levy funds pay for items the state doesn't and allows us to provide additional opportunities for our students. They help fund a variety of extracurricular activities, such as bus travel, stipends for coaches and advisors, sports programs, yearbook, music, drama and student government.

Chimacum offers advanced placement (AP) college-level classes and College in the High School.

Enrichment opportunities, such as Knowledge Bowl and robotics competitions engage young minds. Drama, art and music inspire creativity. Sports build strong bodies and teamwork skills.

Technology is no longer "the future"—it's the here and now. We recognize technology is not only an important educational tool, but it will forever be a part of our students' lives. To that end, our staff ensures K-12 students are properly trained on the schools' mostly levy-funded computers.

To comply with current state standards, more rigorous materials are required for our students in the core subjects of reading, science, health, math, history, social studies, career and technical education, and technology. And levy-funded library resources support them all.

Continuing staff education is stressed at Chimacum. It's imperative our teachers be sufficiently trained to identify and handle the needs of ALL learners. Additional teachers ensure smaller class sizes, so very critical for student achievement.



Kelly Brebberman photo

As soon as it's safe to do so, Chimacum's sports programs WILL return. Athletes have been keeping in top form with fitness routines their coaches have created. Above, Henry Brebberman bunting in the 2019 playoffs vs. Klahowya.

### Projected cost of levy per homeowner

	Total collected	Tax rate*	Monthly**
2022	\$2,100,000	\$.857	\$14.28
2023	\$2,150,000	\$.844	\$14.07
2024	\$2,200,000	\$.831	\$13.85
2025	\$2,250,000	\$.817	\$13.62

\*per \$1,000 of assessed value

\*\*tax projected, based on a \$200,000 home



CSD's laptops are levy funded.



Chimacum's music program is primarily levy funded. Levy dollars provide sheet music, instrument repair and replacement, instruments for those who can't afford them, transportation to parades and contests, and instructors.

**Chimacum School Board:**  
**Dr. Kristina Mayer, chair**  
**Sarah Martin**  
**Mickey Nagy**  
**Tami Robocker**  
**Kathryn Lamka**

**Acting Superintendent:**  
**Dr. David Engle**

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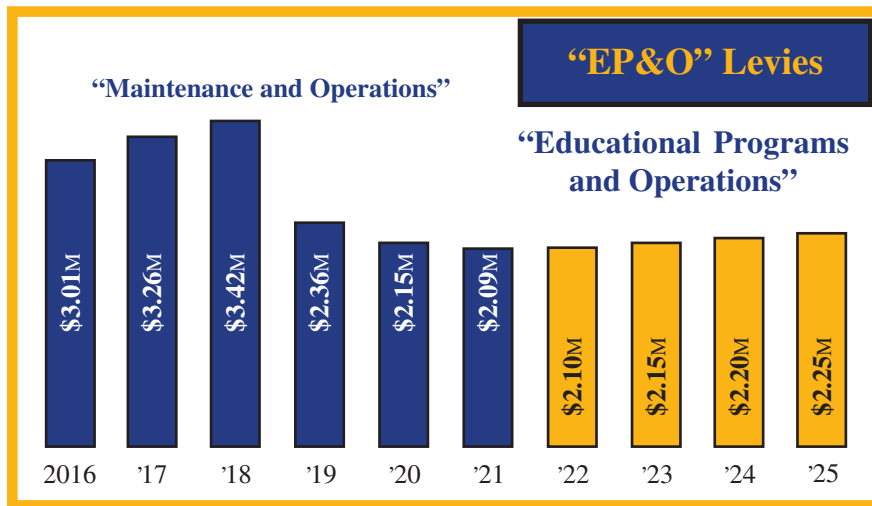
**PAID**  
 Permit No. 3  
 Chimacum, WA  
 98325

**Local Postal Patron**  
**ECRWSSDDM**

Chimacum School District does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following employee has been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination: Civil Rights, Title IX, and Section 504/ADA Coordinator Melinda Miller, 360-302-5886, [melinda\\_miller@csd49.org](mailto:melinda_miller@csd49.org), or PO Box 278, Chimacum, WA 98325. Chimacum School District will also take steps to assure that national origin persons who lack English language skills can participate in all education programs, services and activities. For information regarding translation services or transitional bilingual education programs, contact Jason Lynch at 360.302.5858.

## Replacement EP&O levy on ballot

*New name, but essentially the same levy...*



*Above dollars in millions*

**Mail-in  
 ballots  
 must be  
 returned or  
 postmarked  
 by Tuesday,  
 February 9.**

Since our last levy request in 2017, there's been a change in the way the state allows school districts to ask local voters for levy support. *McCleary, et al. v. State of Washington*—spearheaded by our district and named for a local family—began the decade-long quest to push the state to fulfill its constitutional obligation to amply fund K-12 public education. The reduced amount the Chimacum School District is asking for on the upcoming ballot is in direct response to those adjustments.