

REPORTS TO THE BOARD

- 2022 Capital Facilities Planning: Cory Plager (DA Davidson) will present on this topic.
- Tumwater Virtual Academy: Kyle Grunenfelder and Andrew Landowski will present on this topic.

Election Trends and Capital Financing Options



Tumwater School District
June 17, 2021

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D | A | DAVIDSON
D.A. Davidson & Co. member SIPC

- Election History and Tax Rate Review

- Capital Financing Options

- Projections

School District Property Taxes

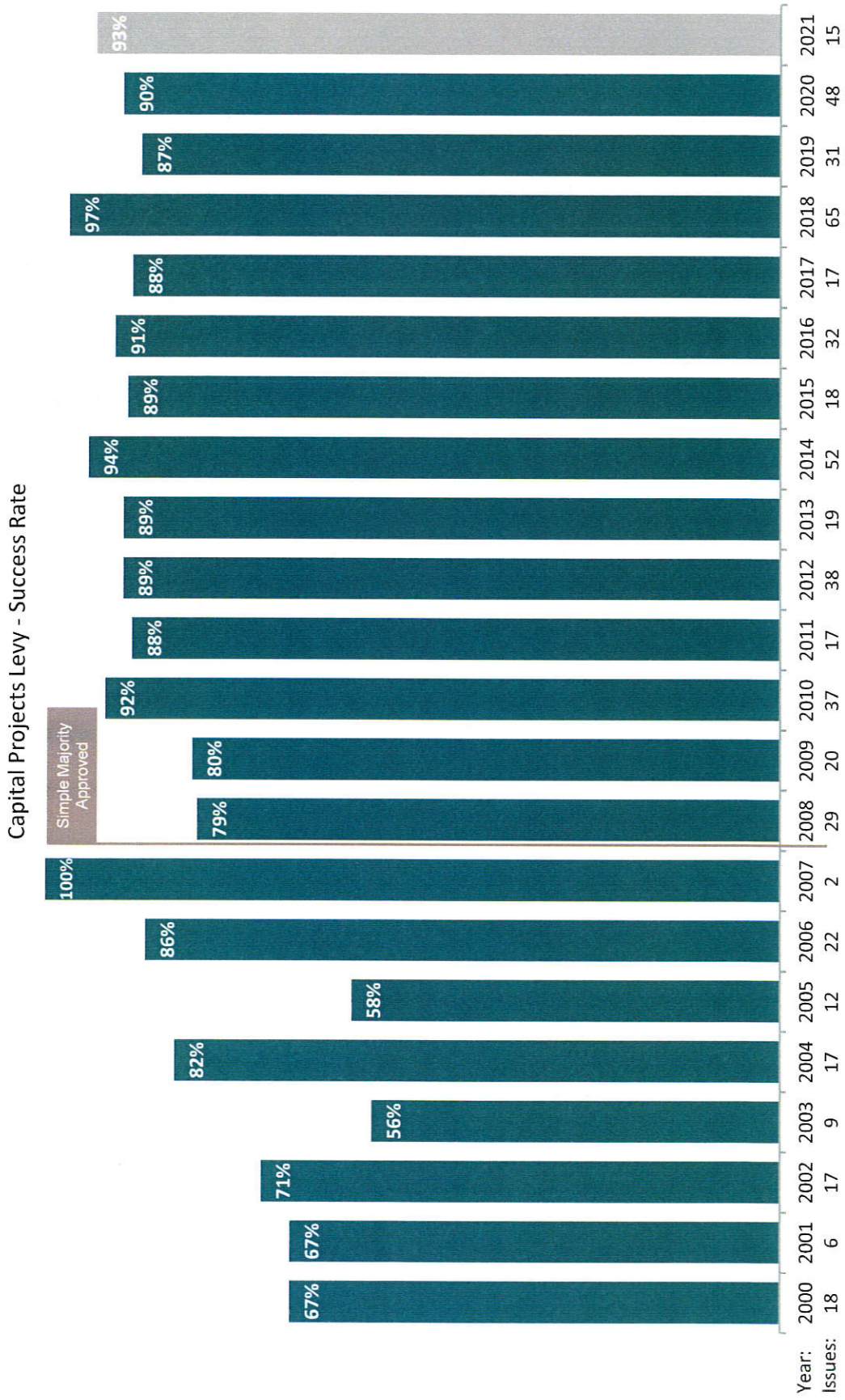
- Maintenance & Operation Levy/Educational Programs and Operation Levy (1 to 4 years)
 - *Tumwater SD passed a 4 year levy in 2020*
- Capital Levy (1 to 6 years)
 - *Tumwater SD passed a 2 year capital levy in 2020*
- Transportation Vehicle Levy (1 to 2 years)
- Bonds (varies, but 20 years most common)

School Election Voting History

Education Program & Operations Levies – Success Rate



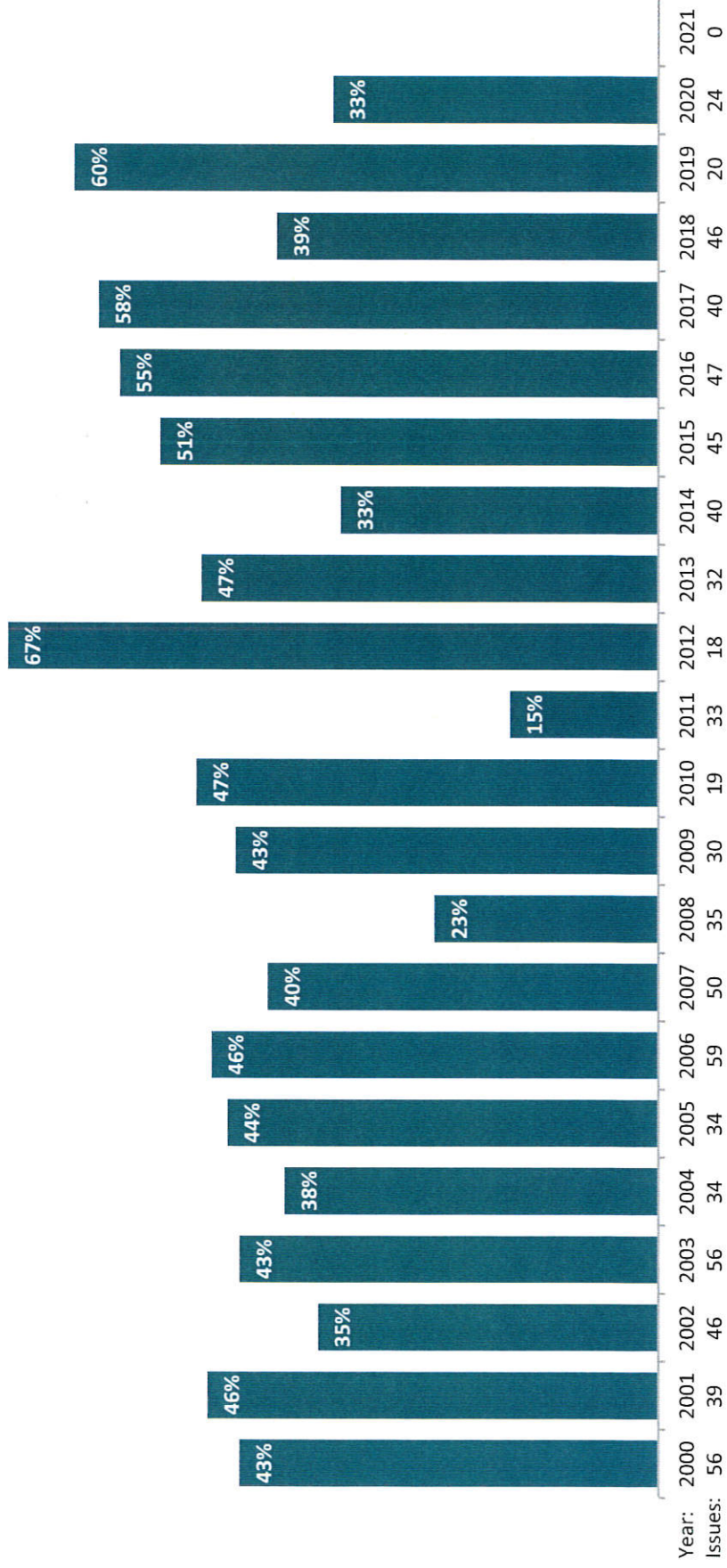
School Election Voting History



Source: State of Washington, Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, County Elections

School Election Voting History

School Bonds – Success Rate



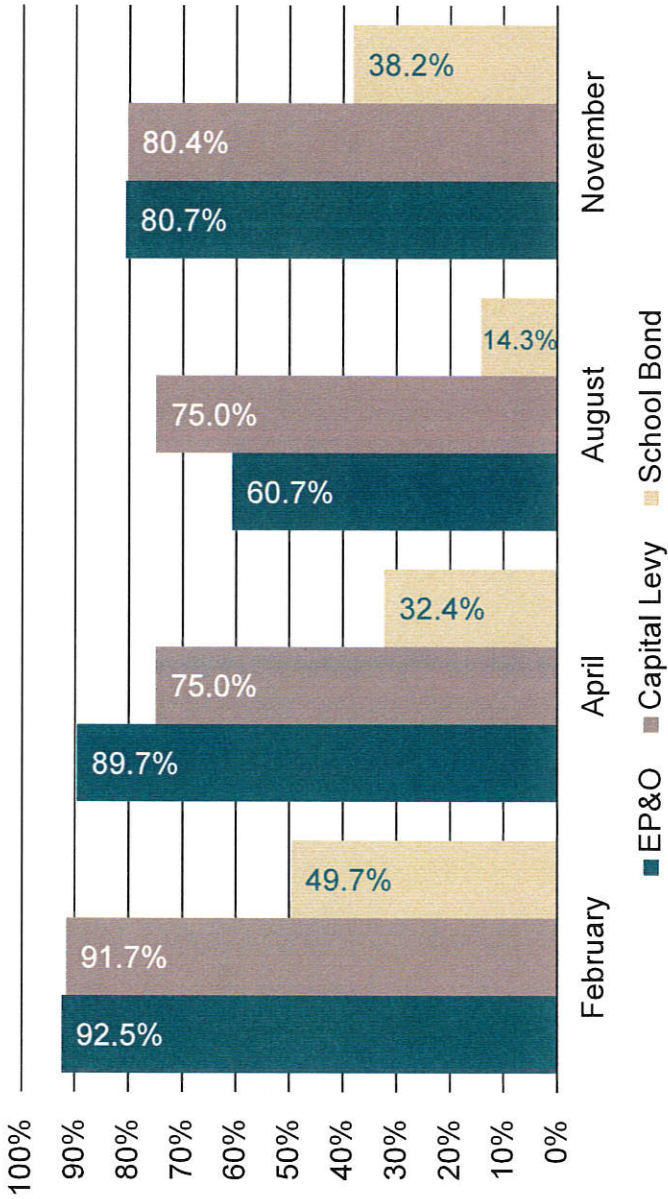
Source: State of Washington, Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, County Elections



School Election Voting History

When is the best time to submit a proposition to the voters?

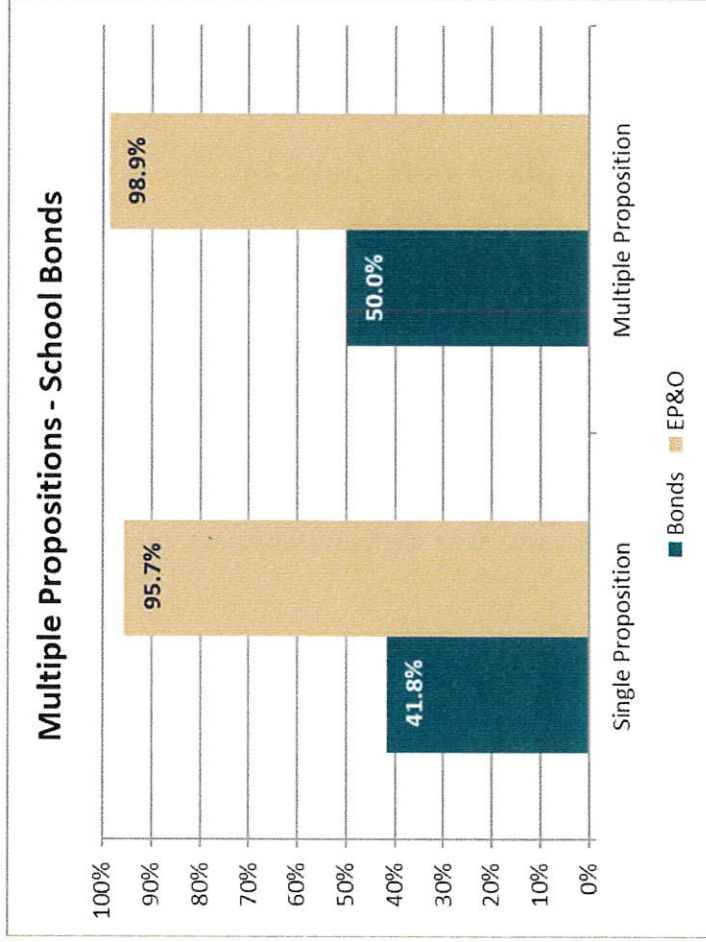
Passing Rate by Month Since 2000



School Election Voting Patterns

Bonds and EP&O Levies on the Same Ballot

Average Success Rates (Since 2008)



Important Dates

2022 Special Election and Resolution Filing Dates

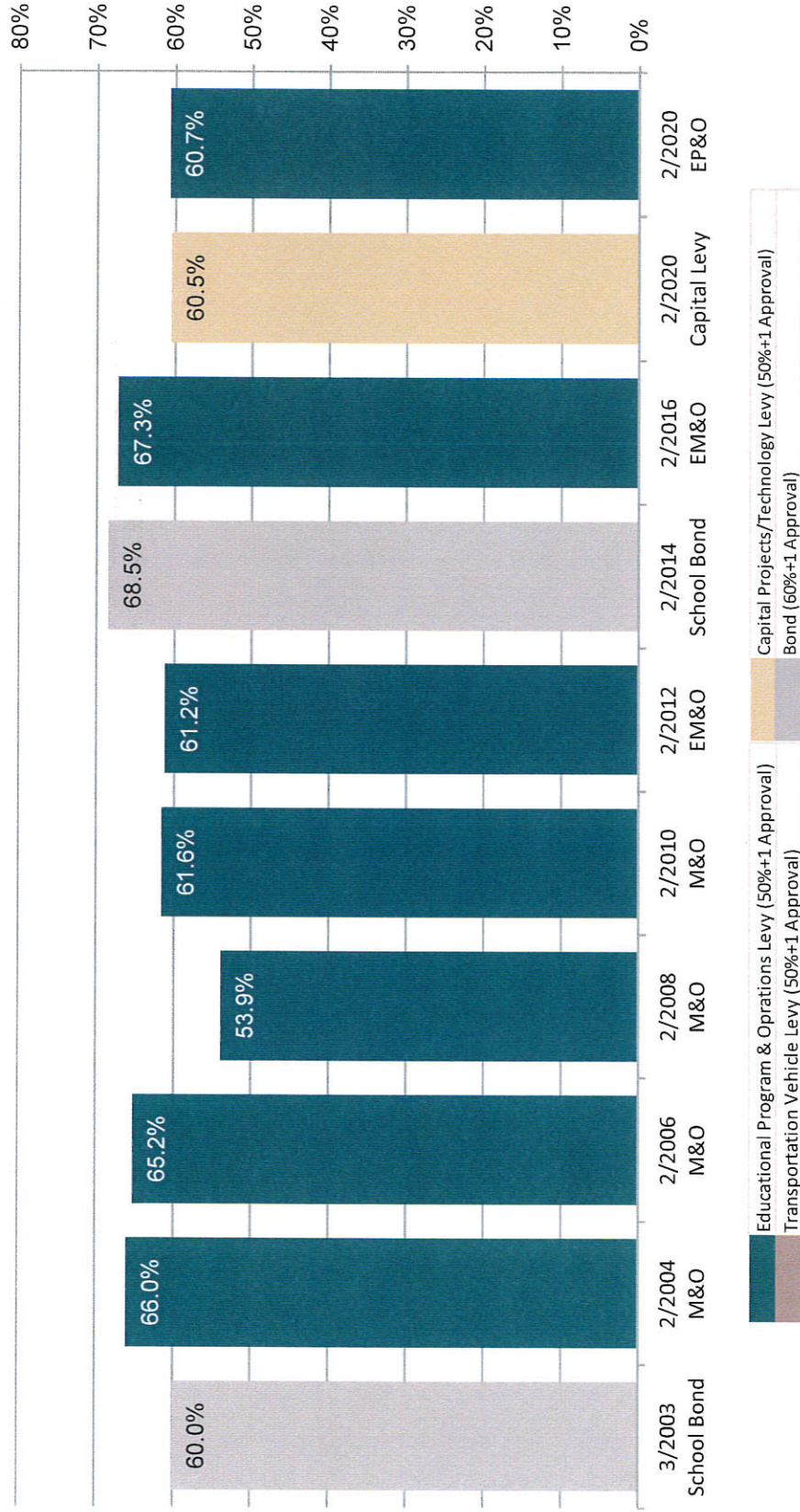
The 2022 special election dates and ballot resolution filing deadlines pursuant to the Revised Code of Washington ("RCW") are listed below for your information.⁽¹⁾ These are the dates permitted under current law, which are subject to change by the Legislature.

ELECTION DATE	RESOLUTION FILING DEADLINE ⁽²⁾	APPROXIMATE DATE BALLOTS ARE MAILED ⁽³⁾	COUNTY CERTIFIES ELECTION RESULTS
February 8, 2022	December 10, 2021	January 21, 2022	February 25, 2022
April 26, 2022	February 25, 2022	April 8, 2022	May 6, 2022
August 2, 2022	May 13, 2022	July 15, 2022	August 19, 2022
November 8, 2022	August 2, 2022	October 21, 2022	November 29, 2022

(1) This data is for informational purposes only and does not take the place of local, state or federal laws. Specific RCW information can be found at: http://www.sectate.wa.gov/elections/election_laws.aspx.
(2) Some dates may have been adjusted to reflect the business day prior to actual resolution filing date, according to RCW 29A.04.330, if falling on a weekend.
(3) Applies to both mail and absentee ballots. Absentee ballots are required to be mailed no later than 18 days prior to the election date.
(4) ESB 5273 subject to change.
Source: *Washington Secretary of State's Office, Elections and Voting website.*

Election Voting History

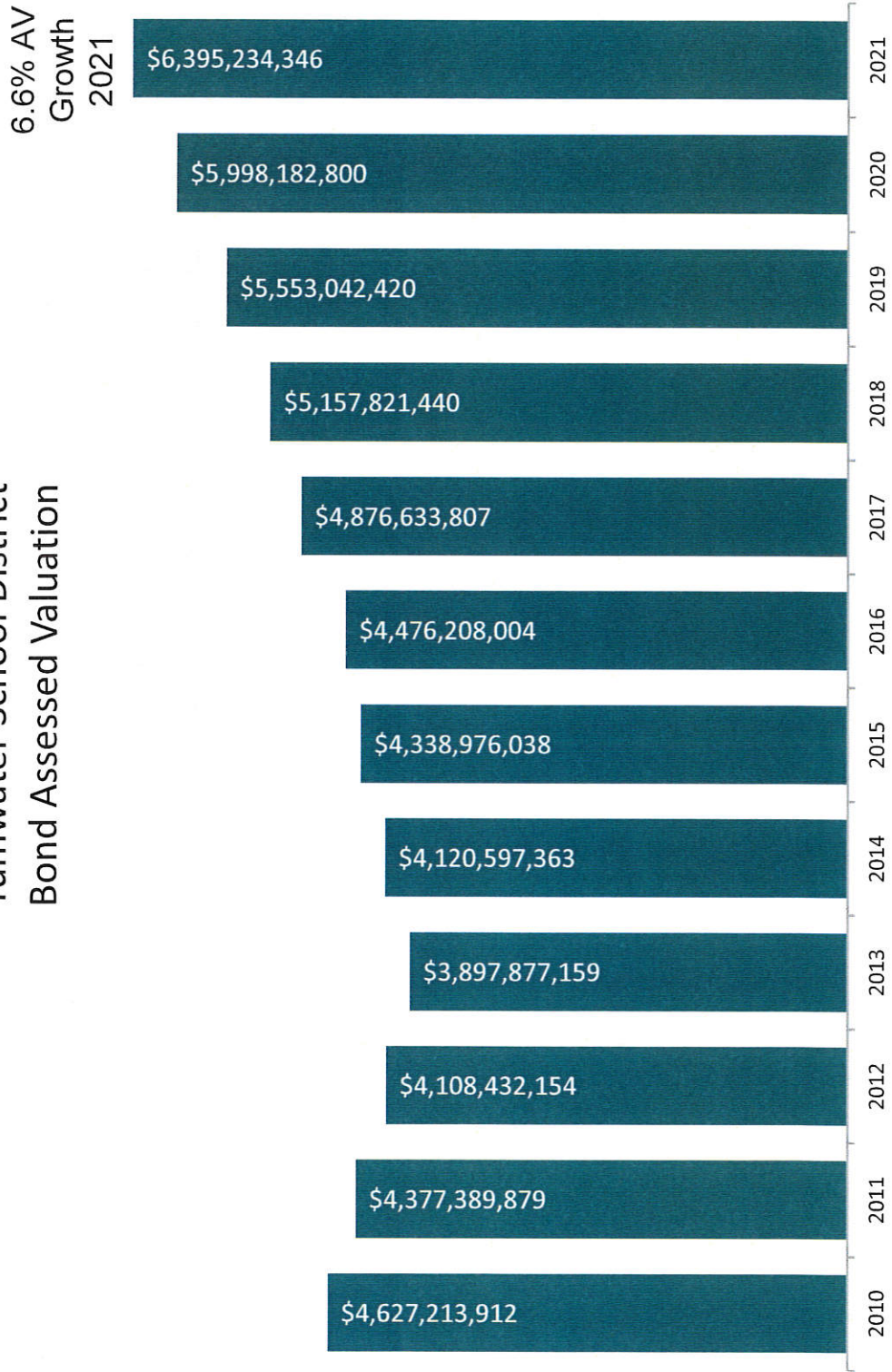
Tumwater School District Election Passage Rate History



Source: OSPI 1463-GF, 1463-BI

Assessed Valuation History

Tumwater School District
Bond Assessed Valuation

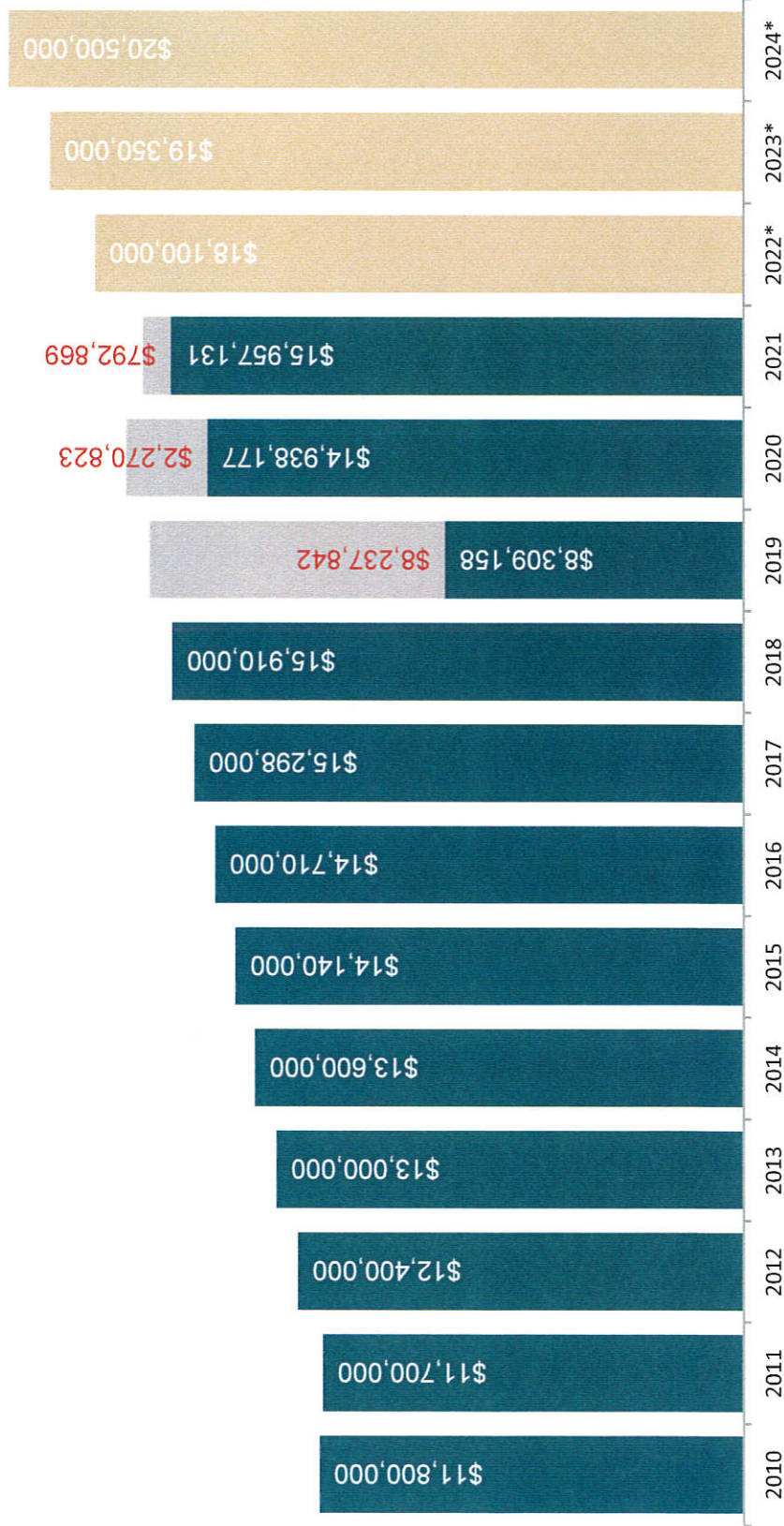


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Source: State of Washington, Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, County Assessor

Levy Ballot and Collection History

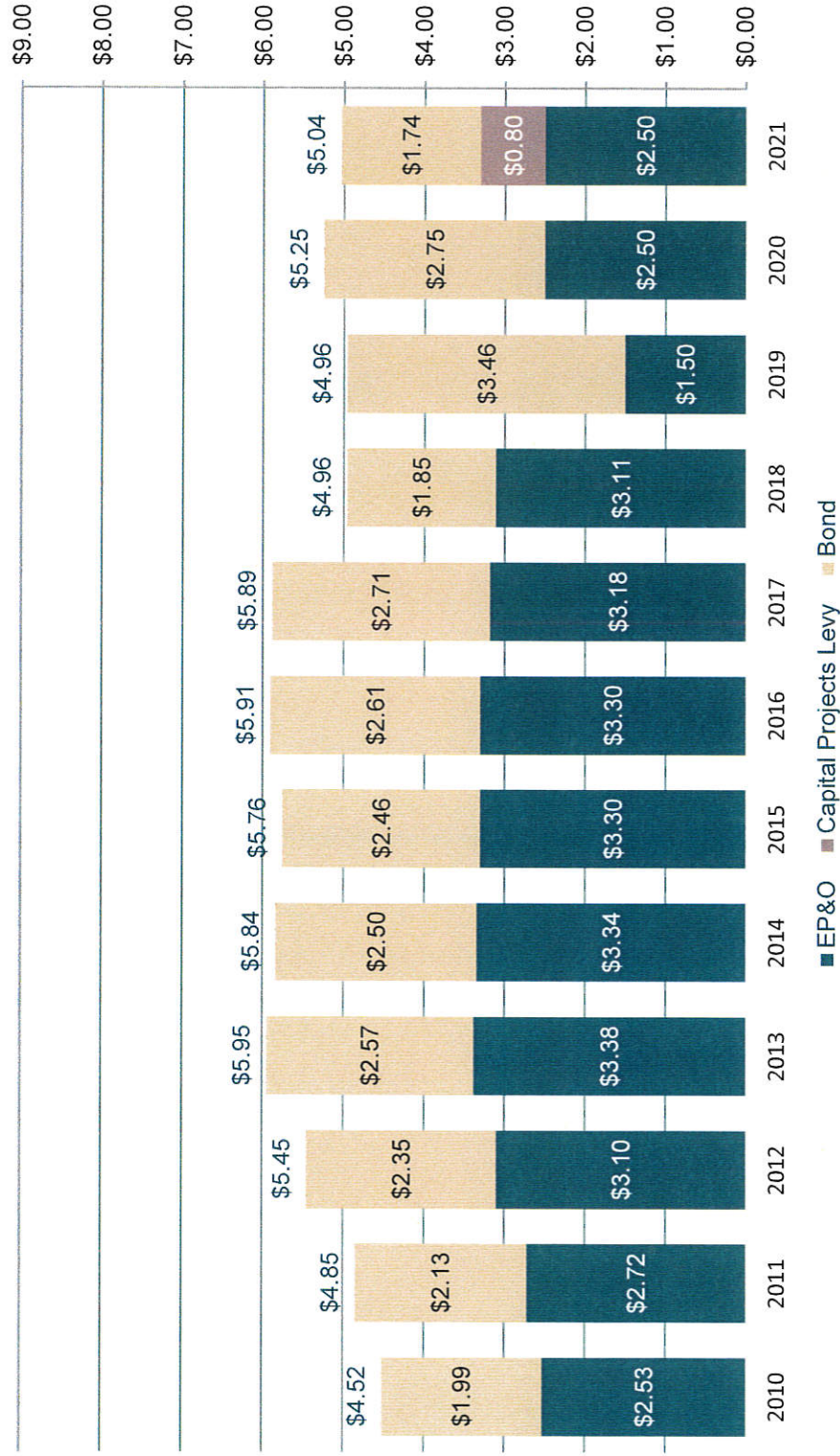
Tumwater School District EP&O Ballot Levy History – With Rollback



Source: OSPI 1463-GF, 1463-BI, County Assessor Annual Report and/or Sample Ballot

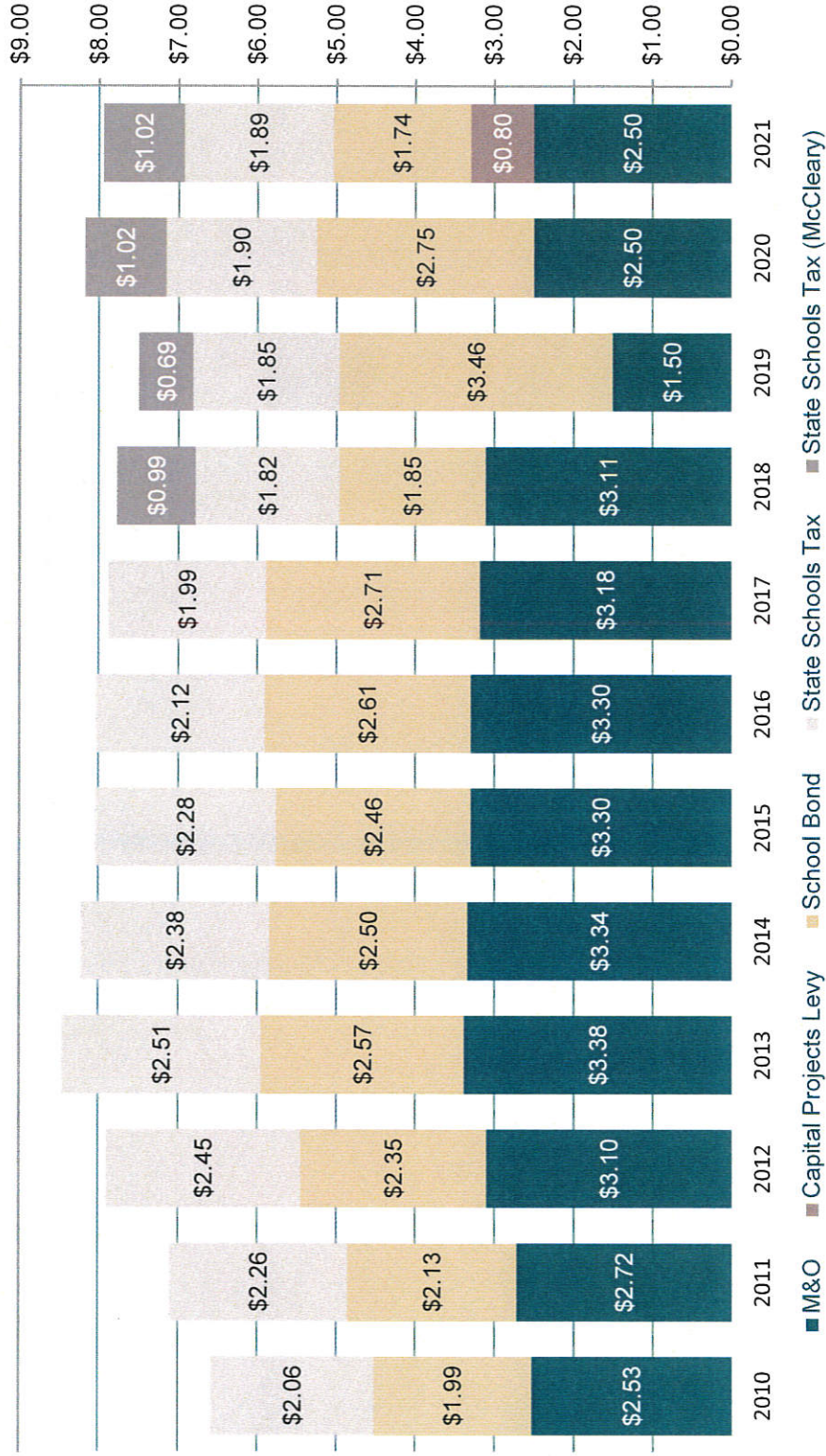
School Tax Rate History

Tumwater School District Tax Rates/\$1,000



School Tax Rate History

Tumwater School District
Tax Rates/\$1,000 (w/ State Schools Tax)



County Tax Rate Comparison

Thurston County School Districts 2021 Total Tax Rates ⁽¹⁾							
District	Assessed Value ⁽²⁾ (\$)	Bonds (\$)	M&O (\$)	Capital (\$)	Trans. (\$)	Total (\$)	
Centralia School District No. 401	\$ 65,061,573	1.3893	-	-	-	1.3893	
Griffin School District No. 324	\$ 1,350,601,949	-	1.6234	0.5553	-	2.1787	
North Thurston School District No. 003	\$ 15,222,427,690	2.4121	2.5000	-	-	4.9121	
Olympia School District No. 111	\$ 10,618,845,087	1.6400	2.4126	0.8710	-	4.9236	
Rainier School District No. 307	\$ 826,624,097	0.8303	2.0101	-	-	2.8404	
Rochester School District No. 401	\$ 1,343,427,538	-	2.5000	-	-	2.5000	
Tenino School District No. 402	\$ 1,215,810,776	-	2.5000	1.1145	-	3.6145	
Tumwater School District No. 033	\$ 6,370,470,272	1.7411	2.5000	0.7985	-	5.0396	
Yelm School District No. 002	\$ 3,167,550,674	2.3130	2.5000	-	-	4.8130	

(1) 2019 Bond Assessed Value does not include TAV.

(2) Thurston County values only.

Capital Financing Options

Voter Approved Bonds

(Unlimited Tax General Obligation Bonds - UTGO):

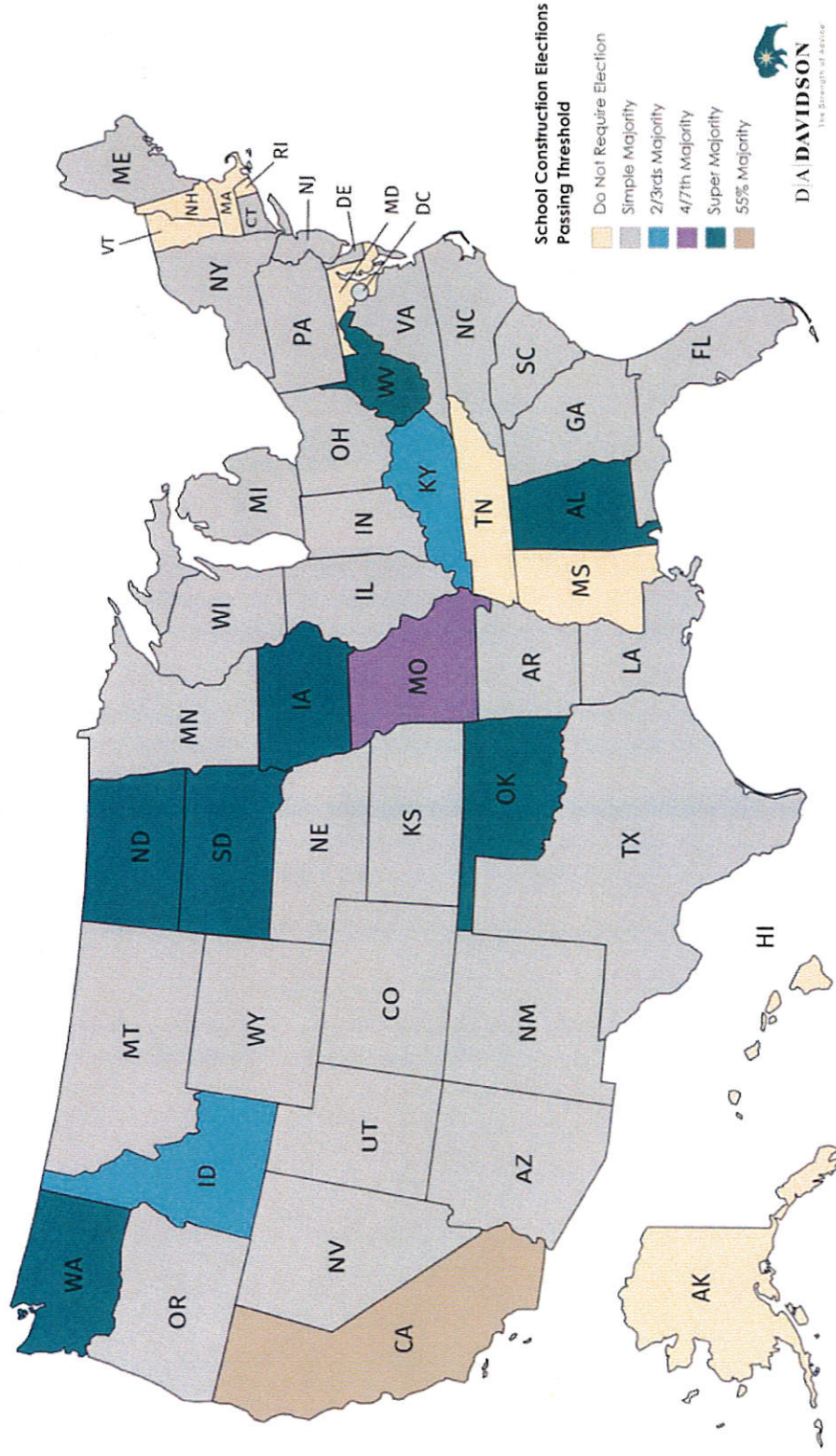
- A security issued by local governments to finance capital improvements
- Repays bond holders with property taxes
- Most issues are tax-exempt
- Approved with a 60% yes vote, 40% validation
- 5% debt capacity

Capital Financing Options

Tumwater School District No. 33	
<u>Voted Debt Capacity</u>	
2021 Bond Assessed Value	\$ 6,395,234,346
Statutory Capacity Rate	5.000%
Total Statutory Capacity	<u>\$ 319,761,717</u>
Less: Outstanding Voted Debt	\$ (91,030,000)
Less: Outstanding Non-Voted Debt	-
Plus: Debt Service Fund Balance	-
Remaining Capacity	<u>\$ 228,731,717</u>
	71.53%

School Bond Election Analysis

United States Approval Requirements



School Bond Election Analysis

There were 130 school district bond issues submitted to voters from 2017 through 2020:

- 97 school districts
- Most attempts without passing:
 - 4 (Arlington, Republic) & 3 (Castle Rock)

Voter Approval	Bond Issues	% of Bond Issues
Greater than 60%	62	47.7%
Greater than 55% (<60%)	30	23.1%
Greater than 50% (<55%)	23	17.7%
Less than 50%	15	11.5%

Capital Financing Options

Voter Approved Bonds

Pros

- Cash generated up front
- Tax rate management
- Payments spread over longer period of time
- Offset project inflation
- Lower tax rates
- Matching term to useful life

Cons

- Super majority
- Validation
- Interest costs
- Issuance costs
- Arbitrage reporting

Capital Financing Options

Capital Projects Levy (no dollar limit)

- Simple majority
- Two to six year collection
- No interest cost
- Jump start a long range capital plan

Capital Financing Options

Capital Projects Levy

Pros

- Simple majority
- No validation requirement
- No interest cost
- No issuance expenses
- No debt limit
- No arbitrage reporting
- Eligible as local share for state matching funds

Cons

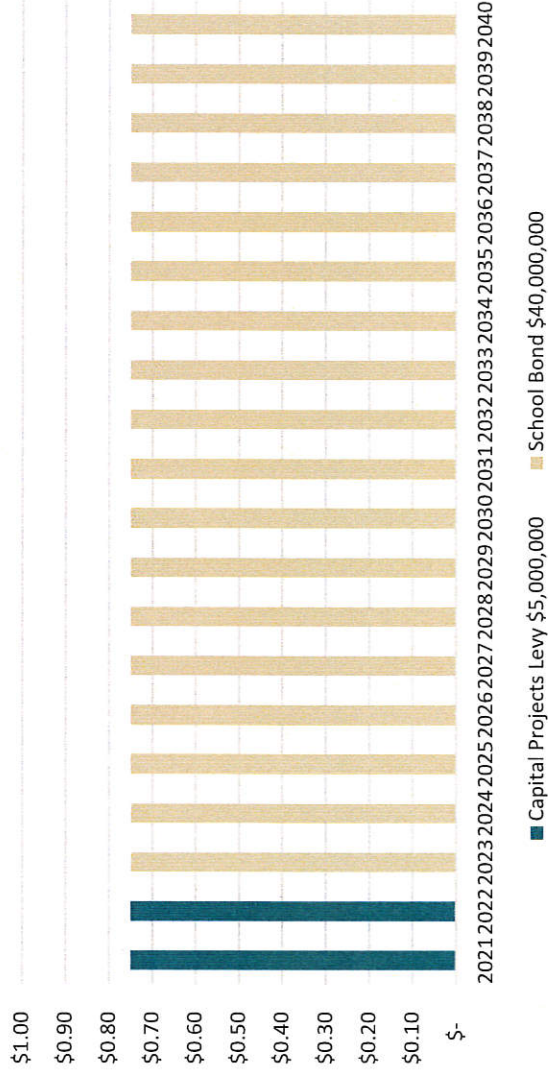
- Higher tax rate
- Reduced interest earnings
- Life cycle mismatch
- Cash flow limitations
- Inflation
- Equity
- “Pay as you go” unless...

Capital Financing Options

Capital Levy “Jump Start”

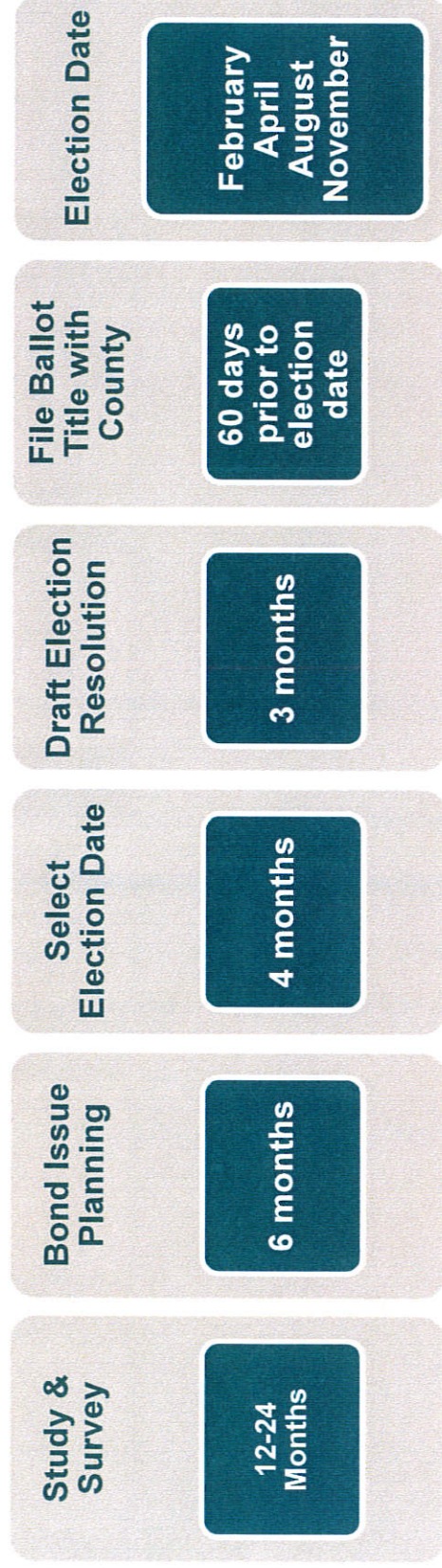
- Seek voter approval for Capital Levy at simple majority
- Successfully carryout promises made to the community with proceeds
- Place bond before voters during final year of Capital Levy
- Without tax increase
- Super Majority

Projected Tax Rates
Per \$1,000 Assessed Value
Sample



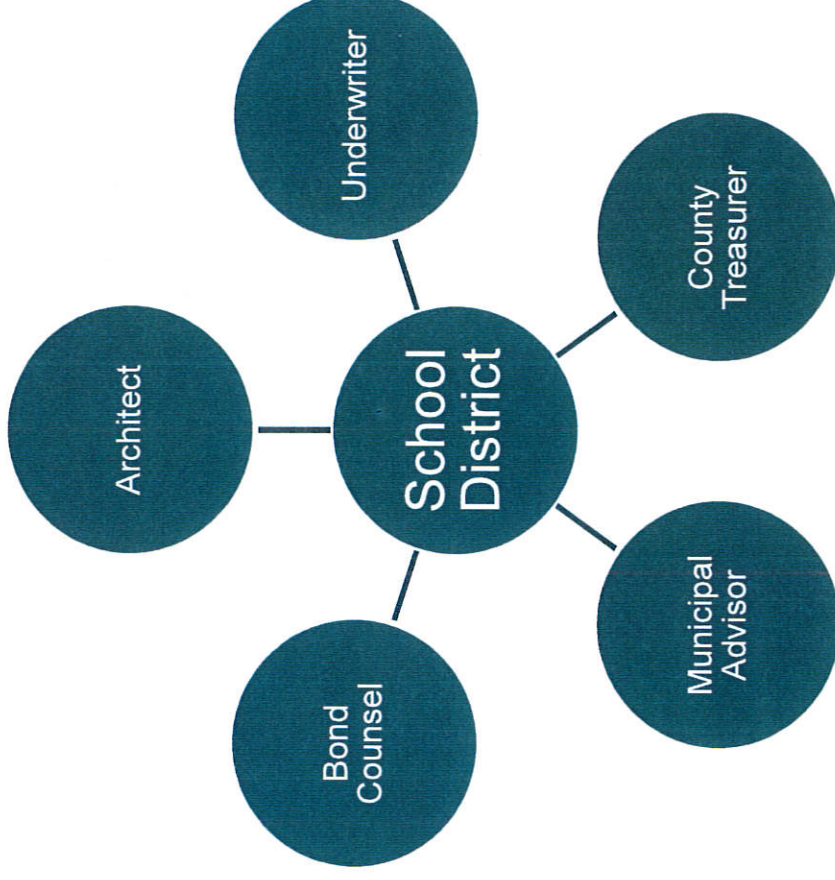
Planning a Bond Financing

Ideal Time Frame for Major Decisions



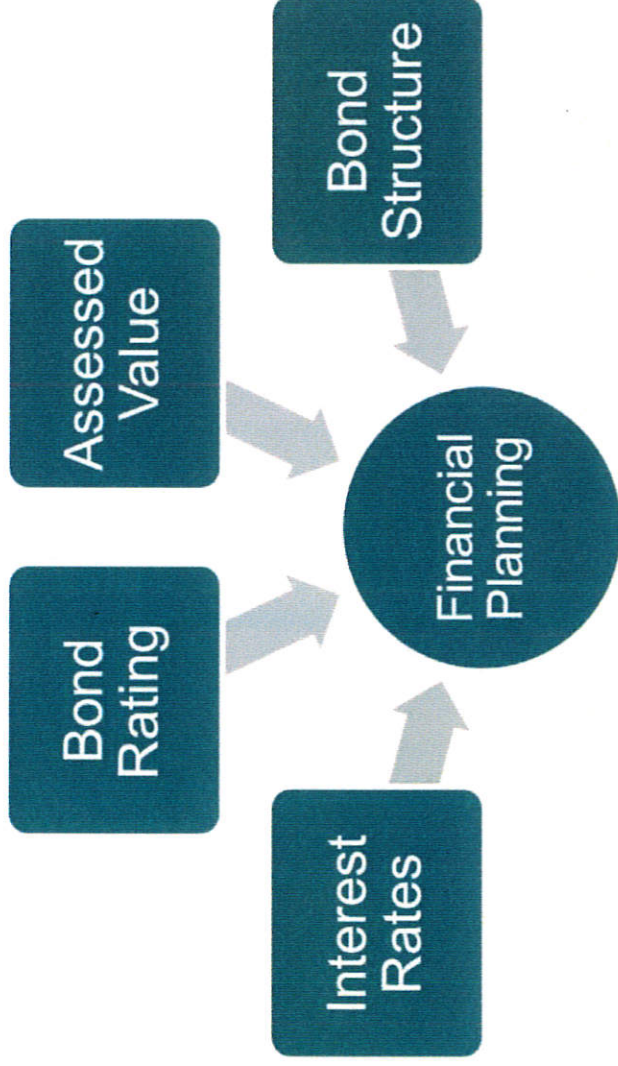
Planning a Bond Financing

- The **Architect** provides cost projections based on the project scope
- **Bond Counsel** prepares documents and provides a legal opinion
- The **Underwriter** provides financial planning and ultimately buys the bonds for resale to investors
- The **Municipal Advisor** represents the District during negotiations with the Underwriter
- The **County Treasurer** is the District's treasurer and takes receipt of the bond proceeds



Planning a Bond Financing

Assumptions for Tax Rate Planning

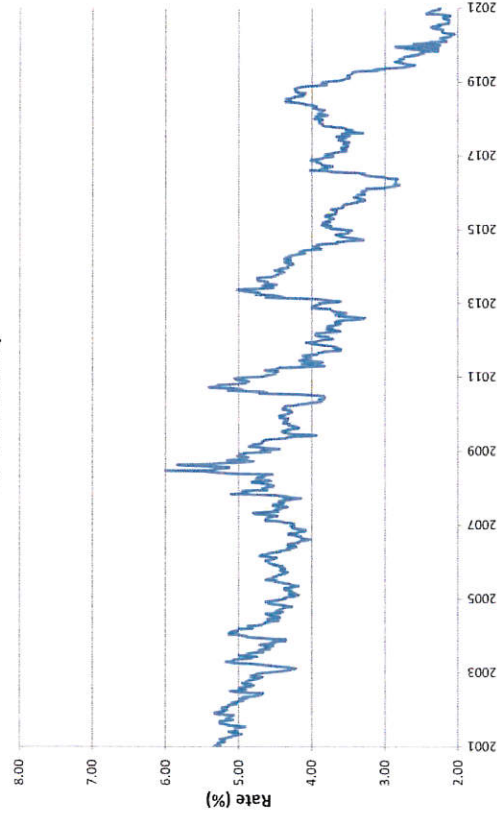


Planning a Bond Financing

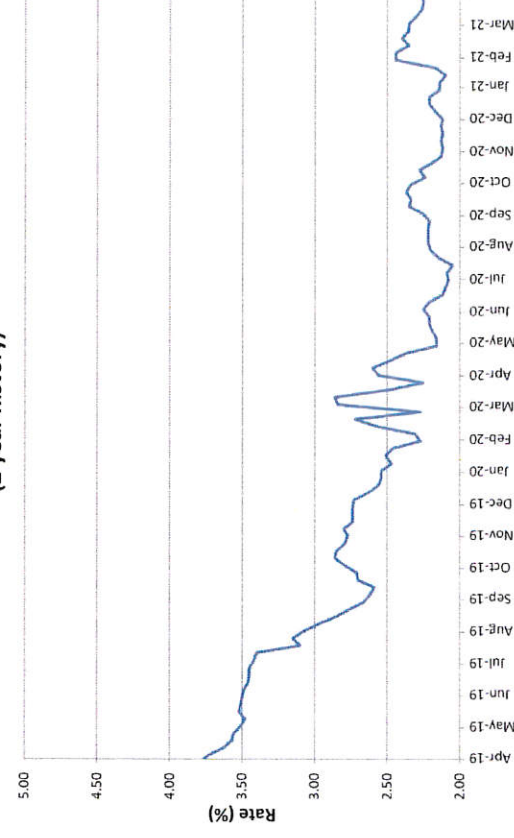
Interest Rates

- Lower interest rates result in lower tax rates for bonds.
- Interest rates are determined when bonds are actually sold.
- Initial projections assume an interest rate cushion (1.5%).

Bond Buyer Index
20-Year General Obligation Bonds
20 Year History



Bond Buyer Index
20-Year General Obligation Bonds
(2 year history)



Planning a Bond Financing

Bond Rating

- A measure of the credit quality of the bond issuer
- Assists bond investors with assessing likelihood that they will be paid in full and on time
- A higher bond rating results in lower interest rates.
- Tumwater current rating Aa2
- State Guarantee rated Aaa (Moody's)
- New rating methodology places higher weight on district fund balance



Moody's Rating	WA Districts	%
AAA	5	3.5%
Aa1	3	2.1%
Aa2	20	14.1%
Aa3	52	36.6%
A1	35	24.6%
A2	26	18.3%
A3	1	0.7%
Baa1	0	0%
Baa2	0	0%
Baa3	0	0%

Investment Grade Credit

Planning a Bond Financing

Bond Rating

- In January, Moody's Investors Service created a new methodology for rating K-12 school districts.
- Fund balance is now 30% of the weighted score:
 - Available Fund Balance Ratio (General Fund and Debt Service Fund combined) in the new rating methodology for Aa rated districts is between 17.5% - 25%.
- Moody's determined that our State's financial statements are not aligned with the Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB),
 - Therefore placed negative adjustments on the rating for the lack of disclosure on Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB) liabilities, depreciation and capitalized assets.
- This framework change resulted in 16 school districts receiving downgrades in 2021.

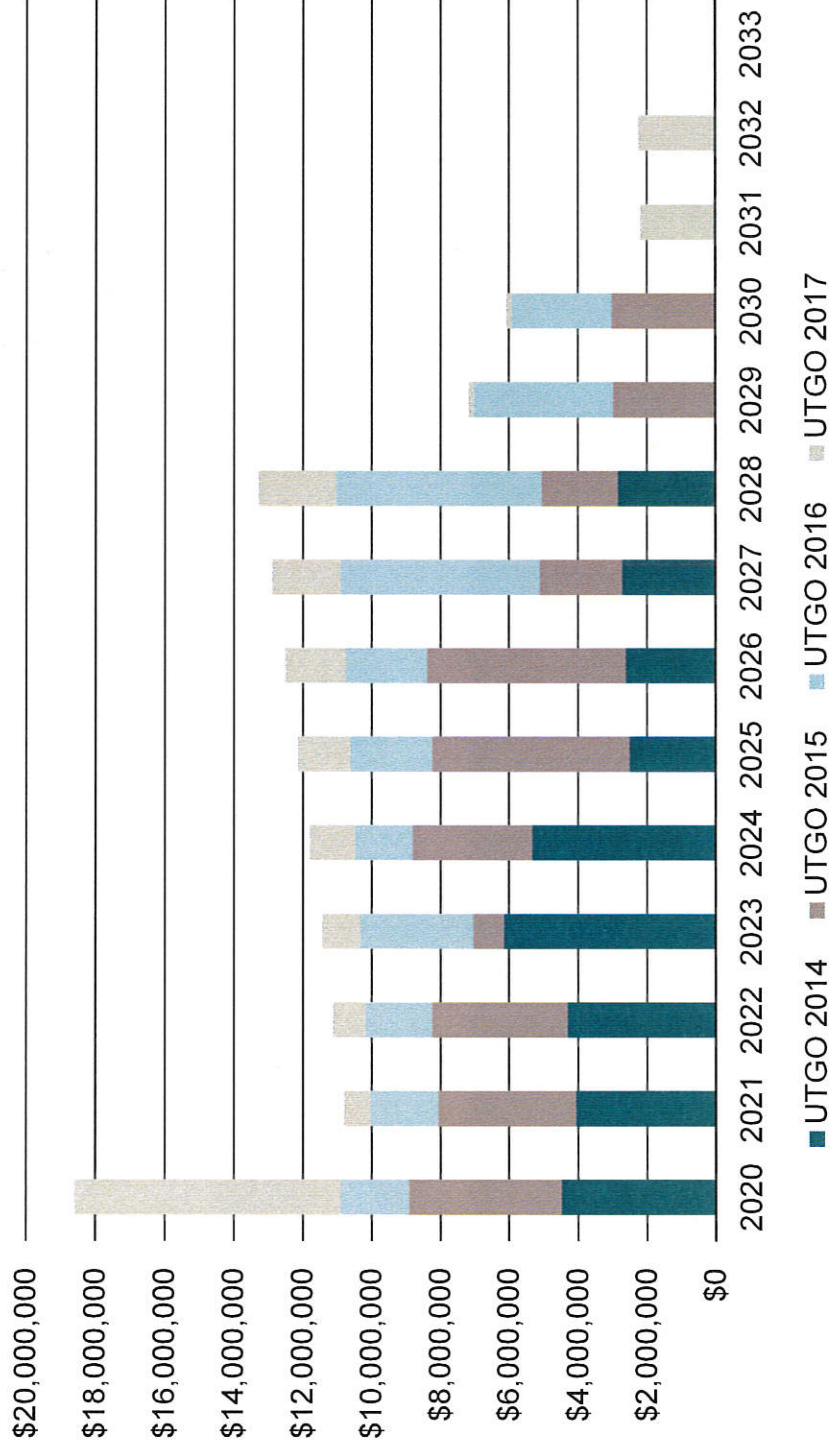
Planning a Bond Financing

Assessed Value Considerations

- Higher Assessed values will lower the District's bond tax rates (*but not overall payment*).
- An individual's taxes will be based on the assessed value for their own property.
- Growth from new construction (\$116.6 Million in 2021).
- We typically use conservative growth factors during planning process.

Planning a Bond Financing

Tumwater School District Debt Profile (Principal and Interest Payments by Calendar Year)



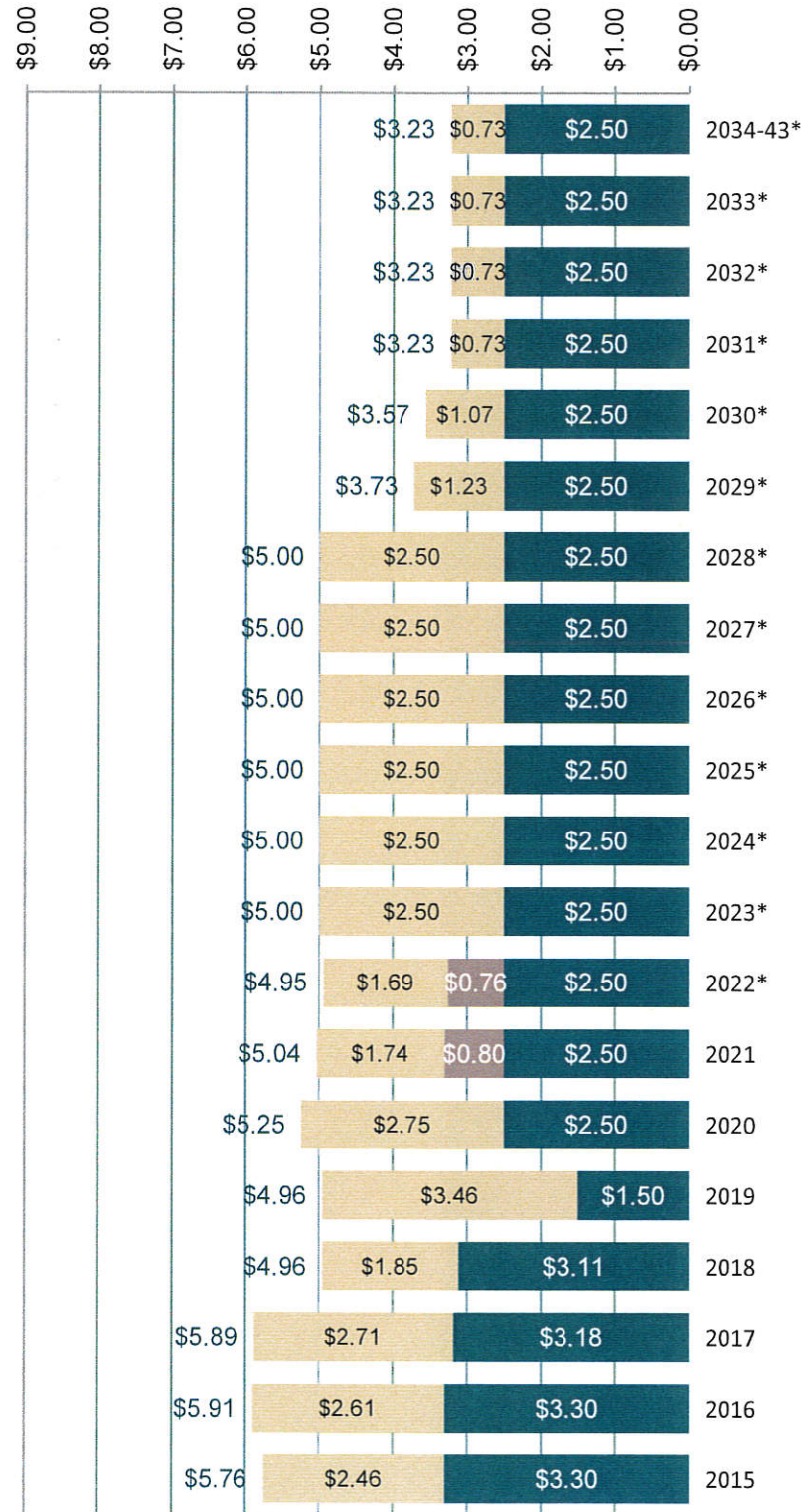
Bond and Levy Projections

We prepared two bond projections and a capital levy projection for discussion:

	Bond Scenario 2	Bond Scenario 3	Capital Levy Scenario
Term	20 years	20 Years	2 Years
Tax Rate Notes	Not to exceed \$5.00/\$1,000		Renew at \$0.75/\$1,000
Bond Proceeds	\$85,000,000	\$100,000,000	\$10,329,712

Bond Projection Scenario 1

Tumwater School District
 \$85,000,000 Bond Projection, February 2022 Election
 Tax Rates/\$1,000



Source: County Assessor Annual Report, *projected with 3%/2% AV growth

Bond Projection Scenario 1

Tumwater School District No. 33

February 2022 Bond Election, 5.00 Tax Rate Goal, \$85 million

Scenario: 2
Underlying Rating: Aa2

Issue 1 Issue 2 Total
6/1/22 12/1/23
Bonds Issued: \$42.500M \$85.000M
Auth Amount: \$42.500M \$85.000M
Interest Rate Cushion: 150bps 150bps
Term (Years): 19.5 20.0

Notes:
- Debt Service Fund build up 2023-25

AV Summary (\$000's)			Levy Amount Detail (\$000's)					Levy Rate Detail						
Year	Bond AV	Bond Growth Rate	EP&O AV	EP&O Growth Rate	EP&O Levy	Capital Levy	Prior Debt	2022	2023	Total New Bonds	Total Bond Levy	Total School Levy	Total Bonds	Total School Levy Rate
2007	3,818,116	17.92%	3,807,819	17.94%	9,050	-	8,040	-	-	-	8,040	17,090	-	2.11
2008	4,516,586	18.29%	4,506,041	18.34%	9,600	-	9,173	-	-	-	9,173	18,773	-	4.48
2009	4,784,659	5.94%	4,771,756	5.90%	10,839	-	8,604	-	-	-	8,604	19,443	-	4.07
2010	4,627,214	-3.29%	4,618,803	-3.21%	11,666	-	9,211	-	-	-	9,211	20,878	-	4.52
2011	4,377,390	-5.40%	4,366,372	-5.47%	11,833	-	9,311	-	-	-	9,311	21,144	-	4.85
2012	4,108,432	-6.14%	4,099,175	-6.12%	12,633	-	9,642	-	-	-	9,642	22,276	-	5.45
2013	3,897,877	-5.12%	3,886,282	-5.14%	13,060	-	10,000	-	-	-	10,000	23,060	-	5.94
2014	4,120,597	5.71%	4,090,524	5.20%	13,661	-	10,300	-	-	-	10,300	23,961	-	5.84
2015	4,338,976	5.30%	4,304,820	5.24%	14,200	-	10,664	-	-	-	10,664	24,864	-	5.76
2016	4,476,208	3.16%	4,464,806	3.2%	14,714	-	11,748	-	-	-	11,748	26,462	-	5.91
2017	4,876,634	8.95%	4,862,237	8.90%	15,438	-	13,265	-	-	-	13,265	28,703	-	5.90
2018	5,157,821	5.77%	5,149,210	5.90%	16,002	-	13,265	-	-	-	13,265	29,968	-	4.96
2019	5,553,042	7.66%	5,539,438	7.58%	8,309	-	19,204	-	-	-	19,204	27,513	-	3.46
2020	5,998,183	8.02%	5,975,271	7.87%	14,938	-	16,515	-	-	-	16,515	31,453	-	5.25
2021	6,395,234	6.63%	6,382,852	6.82%	15,957	-	11,135	-	-	-	11,135	32,199	-	5.04
2022	6,587,091	3.00%	6,574,338	3.00%	16,436	5,000	11,123	5,150	-	5,150	16,966	32,558	1,69	4.95
2023	6,784,704	3.00%	6,771,568	3.00%	16,929	-	11,455	2,758	-	2,758	17,985	33,895	0.81	5.00
2024	6,988,245	3.00%	6,974,715	3.00%	17,437	-	11,803	2,646	-	2,646	18,913	35,308	0.81	5.00
2025	7,197,893	3.00%	7,183,957	3.00%	17,960	-	12,156	2,775	-	2,775	19,985	36,893	0.81	5.00
2026	7,413,829	3.00%	7,399,475	3.00%	18,499	-	12,520	2,947	-	2,947	21,112	38,605	0.81	5.00
2027	7,562,106	2.00%	7,547,465	2.00%	18,869	-	12,894	2,949	-	2,949	22,341	40,546	0.81	5.00
2028	7,713,348	2.00%	7,698,414	2.00%	19,246	-	13,284	3,199	-	3,199	23,729	42,725	0.81	5.00
2029	7,867,615	2.00%	7,852,382	2.00%	19,631	-	13,686	3,482	-	3,482	25,211	45,136	0.81	5.00
2030	8,024,967	2.00%	8,009,430	2.00%	20,024	-	14,102	3,795	-	3,795	26,806	47,742	0.81	5.00
2031	8,185,467	2.00%	8,169,619	2.00%	20,424	-	14,533	4,124	-	4,124	28,530	50,572	0.81	5.00
2032	8,349,176	2.00%	8,333,011	2.00%	20,833	-	14,987	4,462	-	4,462	30,404	53,634	0.81	5.00
2033	8,516,160	2.00%	8,499,671	2.00%	21,249	-	15,464	4,819	-	4,819	32,523	56,927	0.81	5.00
2034	8,686,483	2.00%	8,669,665	2.00%	21,674	-	15,963	5,194	-	5,194	34,897	60,454	0.81	5.00
2035	8,860,212	2.00%	8,843,058	2.00%	22,108	-	16,484	5,596	-	5,596	37,523	64,227	0.81	5.00
2036	9,037,417	2.00%	9,020,319	2.00%	22,550	-	17,037	6,023	-	6,023	40,406	68,250	0.81	5.00
2037	9,218,165	2.00%	9,200,317	2.00%	23,001	-	17,609	6,486	-	6,486	43,892	72,542	0.81	5.00
2038	9,402,528	2.00%	9,384,324	2.00%	23,461	-	18,200	6,984	-	6,984	47,876	77,526	0.81	5.00
2039	9,590,579	2.00%	9,572,010	2.00%	23,930	-	18,811	7,516	-	7,516	52,292	83,238	0.81	5.00
2040	9,782,390	2.00%	9,763,450	2.00%	24,409	-	19,372	8,082	-	8,082	57,174	89,470	0.81	5.00
2041	9,978,038	2.00%	9,958,719	2.00%	24,897	-	19,973	8,682	-	8,682	62,556	96,222	0.81	5.00
2042	10,177,599	2.00%	10,157,894	2.00%	25,395	-	20,604	9,316	-	9,316	68,472	103,596	0.81	5.00
2043	10,381,151	2.00%	10,361,052	2.00%	25,903	-	21,266	10,000	-	10,000	74,972	111,568	0.81	5.00
2044	10,588,774	2.00%	10,568,273	2.00%	26,421	-	21,957	10,729	-	10,729	82,001	120,097	0.81	5.00

Total Debt Service: \$59,094 \$63,688 \$122,782
Total Interest: \$19,179 \$23,498 \$42,677
Avg. Interest Rate: 2.97% 3.14%

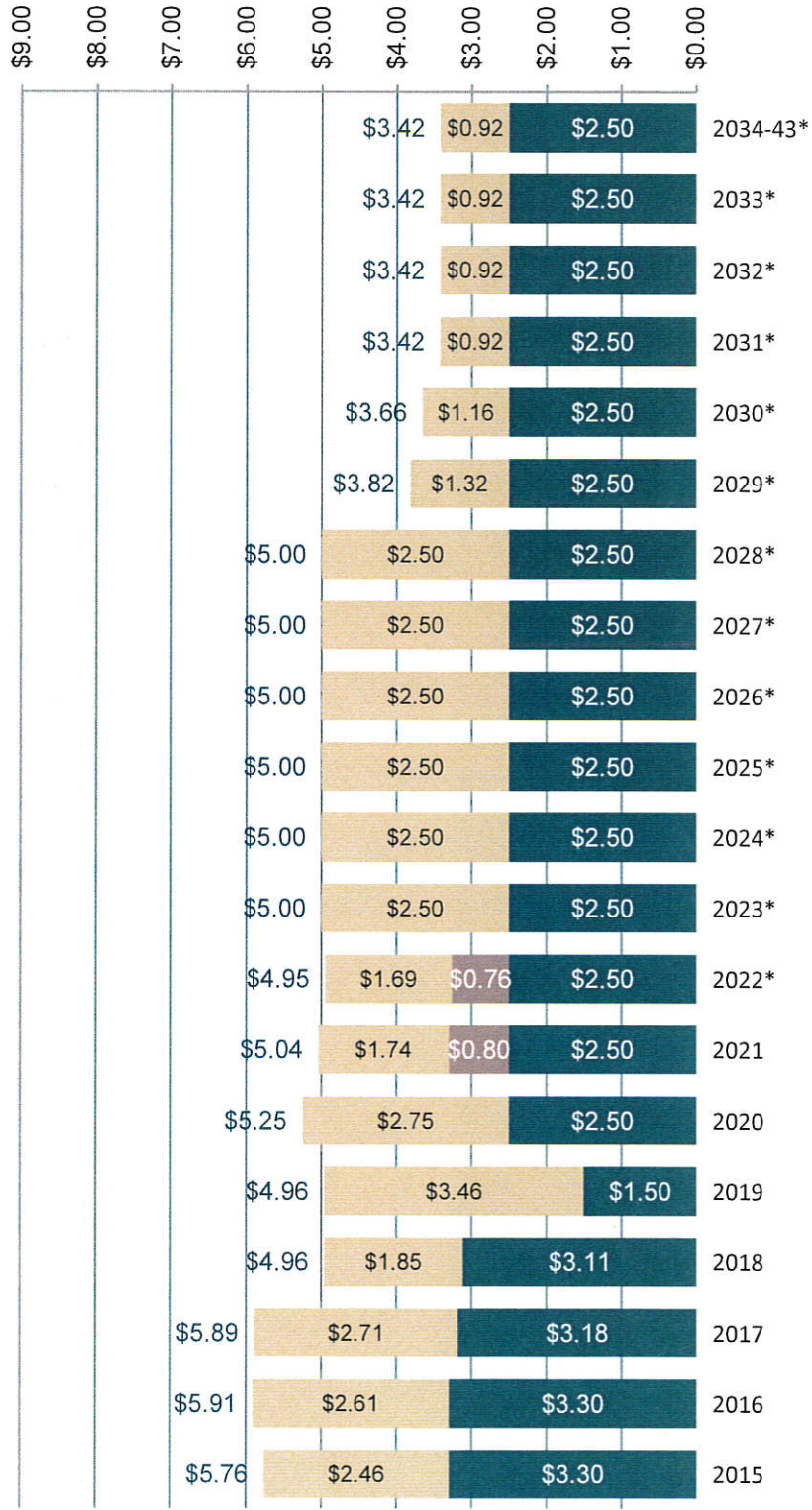
Est. 2023 Tax Rate Increase over 2021 (Bonds Only): \$0.76
Annual tax rate impact on a 300K home: \$228



Assumptions: current market rates, 1.5% interest rate cushion, Aa2, 3% through 2026, then 2% assessed value growth rate

Bond Projection Scenario 2

Tumwater School District
 \$100,000,000 Bond Projection, February 2022 Election
 Tax Rates/\$1,000



Source: County Assessor Annual Report, *projected with 3%/2% AV growth

Bond Projection Scenario 2

Tumwater School District No. 33

February 2022 Bond Election, 5.00 Tax Rate Goal, \$100 million

Scenario: 3
Underlying Rating: Aa2

Bonds Issued: 6/1/22 Issue 1 12/1/23 Issue 2 Total
Auth Amount: \$50.00M \$50.00M \$100.00M
Interest Rate Cushion: 150bps 150bps 150bps
Term (Years): 19.5 20.0 20.0

Notes:
- Debt Service Fund build up 2023-25

AV Summary (\$000K)										Levy Amount Detail (\$000K)										Levy Rate Detail									
Year	Bond AV	Growth Rate	EP&O AV	EP&O Growth Rate	Capital Levy	Prior Debt	Total New Bonds	Total Bond Levy	Total School Levy	Year	EP&O Levy	Capital Levy	Prior Debt	2022	2023	2022	2023	Total New Bonds	Total Bond Levy	Total School Levy									
2007	3,815,116	17.92%	3,807,819	17.94%	9,050	8,040	8,040	17,090	17,090	2007	2,38	2,11	2,11	2007	2,38	2,11	2,11	2,11	2,11	2,11	4,48								
2008	4,516,586	18.29%	4,506,041	18.34%	9,600	9,173	9,173	18,773	18,773	2008	2,13	2,03	2,03	2008	2,13	2,03	2,03	2,03	2,03	2,03	4,16								
2009	4,784,659	5.94%	4,771,756	5.90%	10,839	8,604	8,604	19,443	19,443	2009	2,27	1,99	1,99	2009	2,27	1,99	1,99	1,99	1,99	1,99	4,07								
2010	4,627,214	-3.29%	4,618,803	-3.21%	11,666	9,211	9,211	20,878	20,878	2010	2,53	2,13	2,13	2010	2,53	2,13	2,13	2,13	2,13	2,13	4,52								
2011	4,377,390	-5.40%	4,366,372	-5.47%	11,833	9,311	9,311	21,144	21,144	2011	2,72	2,13	2,13	2011	2,72	2,13	2,13	2,13	2,13	2,13	4,85								
2012	4,108,432	-6.14%	4,099,175	-6.12%	12,633	9,642	9,642	22,276	22,276	2012	3,10	2,35	2,35	2012	3,10	2,35	2,35	2,35	2,35	2,35	5,45								
2013	3,897,877	-5.12%	3,888,282	-5.14%	13,060	10,000	10,000	23,060	23,060	2013	3,38	2,57	2,57	2013	3,38	2,57	2,57	2,57	2,57	2,57	5,94								
2014	4,120,597	5.71%	4,090,524	5.20%	13,661	10,300	10,300	23,961	23,961	2014	3,34	2,50	2,50	2014	3,34	2,50	2,50	2,50	2,50	2,50	5,84								
2015	4,338,976	5.30%	4,304,820	5.24%	14,200	10,664	10,664	24,864	24,864	2015	3,30	2,46	2,46	2015	3,30	2,46	2,46	2,46	2,46	2,46	5,76								
2016	4,476,208	3.16%	4,464,806	3.72%	14,714	11,748	11,748	26,462	26,462	2016	3,30	2,61	2,61	2016	3,30	2,61	2,61	2,61	2,61	2,61	5,91								
2017	4,876,634	8.95%	4,862,237	8.90%	15,438	13,265	13,265	28,703	28,703	2017	3,18	2,72	2,72	2017	3,18	2,72	2,72	2,72	2,72	2,72	5,90								
2018	5,157,821	5.77%	5,149,210	5.90%	16,002	9,552	9,552	25,554	25,554	2018	3,11	1,85	1,85	2018	3,11	1,85	1,85	1,85	1,85	1,85	4,96								
2019	5,553,042	7.66%	5,539,438	7.58%	8,309	19,204	19,204	27,513	27,513	2019	1,50	3,46	3,46	2019	1,50	3,46	3,46	3,46	3,46	3,46	4,96								
2020	5,998,183	8.02%	5,975,271	7.87%	14,938	16,515	16,515	31,453	31,453	2020	2,50	2,75	2,75	2020	2,50	2,75	2,75	2,75	2,75	2,75	5,25								
2021	6,352,234	6.62%	6,382,852	6.82%	15,957	5,107	11,135	32,092	32,092	2021	2,50	0,80	1,74	2021	2,50	0,80	1,74	1,74	1,74	1,74	5,04								
2022	6,587,091	3.00%	6,574,338	3.00%	16,436	5,000	11,123	32,558	32,558	2022	2,50	0,76	1,69	2022	2,50	0,76	1,69	1,69	1,69	1,69	4,95								
2023	6,784,704	3.00%	6,771,568	3.00%	16,929	5,163	11,423	33,909	33,909	2023	2,50	0,81	1,69	2023	2,50	0,81	1,69	1,69	1,69	1,69	5,00								
2024	6,985,245	3.00%	6,974,715	3.00%	17,437	2,656	17,489	34,926	34,926	2024	2,50	0,39	0,39	2024	2,50	0,39	0,39	0,39	0,39	0,39	5,00								
2025	7,197,893	3.00%	7,183,957	3.00%	17,960	2,791	18,013	35,972	35,972	2025	2,50	0,40	0,40	2025	2,50	0,40	0,40	0,40	0,40	0,40	5,00								
2026	7,413,829	3.00%	7,399,475	3.00%	18,499	2,965	18,553	37,051	37,051	2026	2,50	0,41	0,41	2026	2,50	0,41	0,41	0,41	0,41	0,41	5,00								
2027	7,562,106	2.00%	7,547,465	2.00%	18,869	2,964	18,926	37,794	37,794	2027	2,50	0,41	0,41	2027	2,50	0,41	0,41	0,41	0,41	0,41	5,00								
2028	7,713,348	2.00%	7,698,414	2.00%	19,246	3,292	19,302	38,548	38,548	2028	2,50	0,43	0,43	2028	2,50	0,43	0,43	0,43	0,43	0,43	5,00								
2029	7,867,615	2.00%	7,852,382	2.00%	19,631	3,204	19,691	39,302	39,302	2029	2,50	0,41	0,41	2029	2,50	0,41	0,41	0,41	0,41	0,41	5,00								
2030	8,024,967	2.00%	8,009,430	2.00%	20,024	3,084	19,284	40,068	40,068	2030	2,50	0,41	0,41	2030	2,50	0,41	0,41	0,41	0,41	0,41	5,00								
2031	8,185,467	2.00%	8,169,619	2.00%	20,424	2,193	16,700	40,843	40,843	2031	2,50	0,27	0,27	2031	2,50	0,27	0,27	0,27	0,27	0,27	3,42								
2032	8,340,176	2.00%	8,333,011	2.00%	20,833	2,257	16,700	41,633	41,633	2032	2,50	0,27	0,27	2032	2,50	0,27	0,27	0,27	0,27	0,27	3,42								
2033	8,516,160	2.00%	8,499,671	2.00%	21,249	2,257	16,700	42,448	42,448	2033	2,50	0,27	0,27	2033	2,50	0,27	0,27	0,27	0,27	0,27	3,42								
2034	8,686,483	2.00%	8,669,685	2.00%	21,674	6,346	16,700	43,302	43,302	2034	2,50	0,73	0,73	2034	2,50	0,73	0,73	0,73	0,73	0,73	3,42								
2035	8,860,212	2.00%	8,843,058	2.00%	22,108	3,734	16,700	44,212	44,212	2035	2,50	0,42	0,42	2035	2,50	0,42	0,42	0,42	0,42	0,42	3,42								
2036	9,037,417	2.00%	9,019,919	2.00%	22,550	3,813	16,700	45,173	45,173	2036	2,50	0,42	0,42	2036	2,50	0,42	0,42	0,42	0,42	0,42	3,42								
2037	9,218,165	2.00%	9,200,317	2.00%	23,001	3,899	16,700	46,185	46,185	2037	2,50	0,42	0,42	2037	2,50	0,42	0,42	0,42	0,42	0,42	3,42								
2038	9,402,528	2.00%	9,384,324	2.00%	23,461	3,982	16,700	47,257	47,257	2038	2,50	0,42	0,42	2038	2,50	0,42	0,42	0,42	0,42	0,42	3,42								
2039	9,590,579	2.00%	9,572,010	2.00%	23,930	4,071	16,700	48,391	48,391	2039	2,50	0,42	0,42	2039	2,50	0,42	0,42	0,42	0,42	0,42	3,42								
2040	9,782,390	2.00%	9,763,450	2.00%	24,409	4,157	16,700	49,586	49,586	2040	2,50	0,42	0,42	2040	2,50	0,42	0,42	0,42	0,42	0,42	3,42								
2041	9,978,038	2.00%	9,958,719	2.00%	24,897	4,248	16,700	50,845	50,845	2041	2,50	0,43	0,43	2041	2,50	0,43	0,43	0,43	0,43	0,43	3,42								
2042	10,177,599	2.00%	10,157,894	2.00%	25,385	9,396	16,700	52,181	52,181	2042	2,50	0,92	0,92	2042	2,50	0,92	0,92	0,92	0,92	0,92	3,42								
2043	10,381,151	2.00%	10,361,052	2.00%	25,903	9,584	16,700	53,585	53,585	2043	2,50	0,92	0,92	2043	2,50	0,92	0,92	0,92	0,92	0,92	3,42								
2044	10,588,774	2.00%	10,568,273	2.00%	26,421	9,584	16,700	55,005	55,005	2044	2,50	0,92	0,92	2044	2,50	0,92	0,92	0,92	0,92	0,92	3,42								

Est. 2023 Tax Rate Increase over 2021 (Bonds Only): 50.76
Annual tax rate impact on a 300K home: \$228

Total Debt Service: \$70,812 \$76,441 \$147,252
Total Interest: \$23,927 \$29,206 \$53,132
Avg. Interest Rate: 3.00% 3.17%



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Assumptions: current market rates, 1.5% interest rate cushion, Aa2, 3% through 2026, then 2% assessed value growth rate

Capital Levy Projection

In addition we prepared a capital levy projection for discussion:

- February 2022 election for 2023 tax collection (renew existing Capital Project Levy)

Tumwater School District					
Capital Projects Levy Projections, 3% Assessed Value Growth					
Continue \$0.75/\$1,000 Capital Levy					
Year	AV	AV Growth Rate	Capital Levy Amount	Capital Levy Rate/\$1000	
2020	\$5,998,182,800	8.02%	\$ 5,106,913	0.80	
2021	\$6,395,234,346	6.62%	\$ 5,000,000	0.76	
2022	\$6,587,091,376	3.00%	\$ 5,088,528	0.75	
2023	\$6,784,704,118	3.00%	\$ 5,241,184	0.75	
2024	\$6,988,245,241	3.00%	\$ 5,241,184	0.75	
TOTAL			\$10,329,712	Total	



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DA DAVIDSON OFFERS:

- Bond and Levy Planning
- Attend and Present at Facility/Community Meetings
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- Credit Evaluation and Ratings Presentations
- Continuing Disclosure Compliance
- Annual Debt Service Fund Cash Flows
- Tax Rate Projections
- Budget Support and Notes to the Financials
- Arbitrage Rebate Support
- Monitor Potential Refunding Savings

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TUMWATER VIRTUAL ACADEMY

A flexible, caring learning community
by Tumwater School District



School Board Presentation

Kyle Grunenfelder, Principal

Andrew Landowski, Assistant Principal

Why would students enroll in TVA?

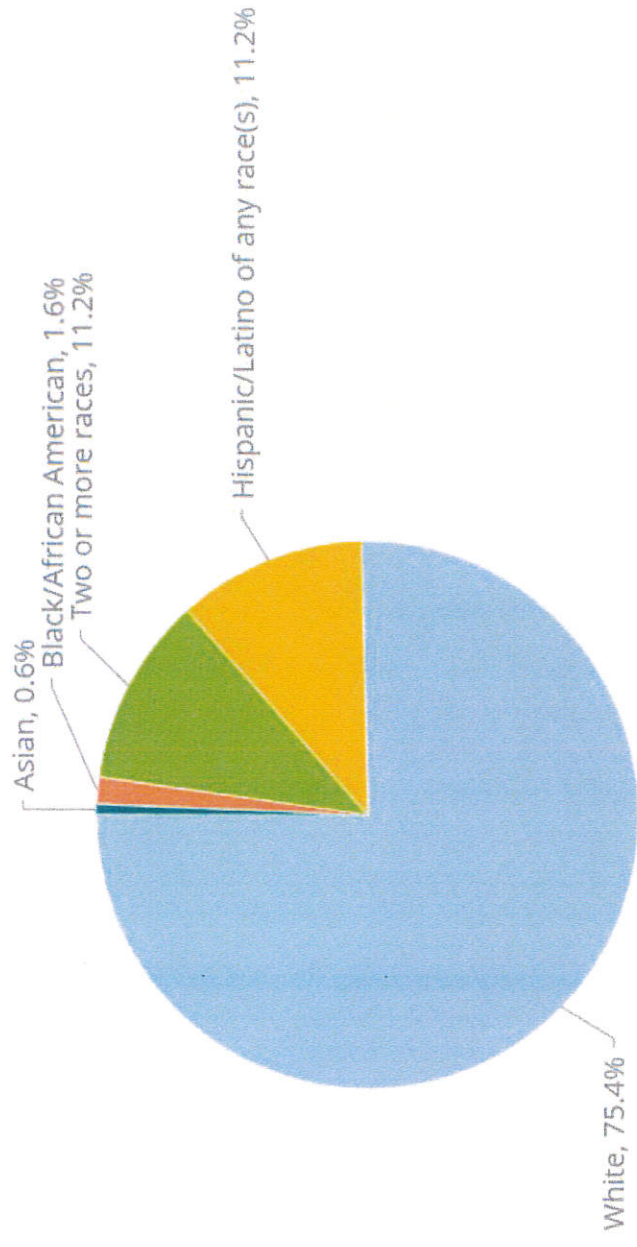


Who are We?

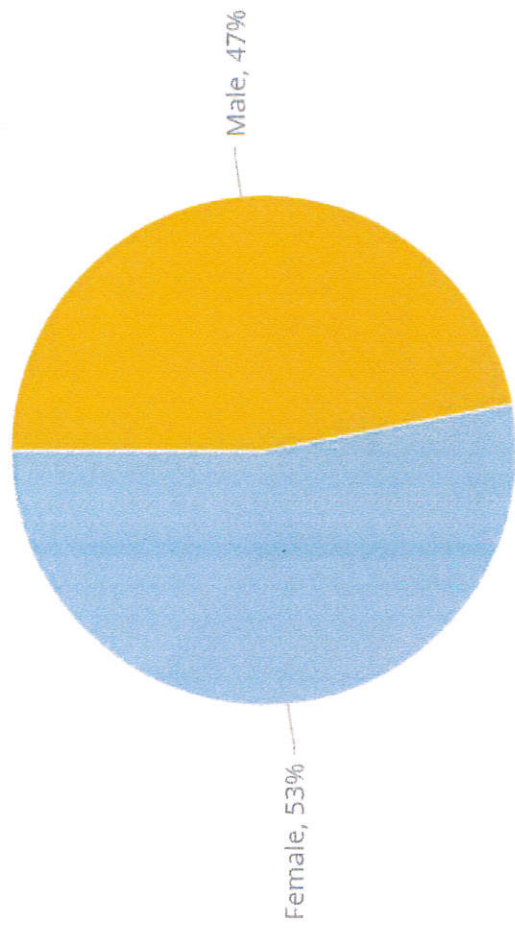
- TSD Online School for students in K-12
- Established in August 2020
- **15** certificated teachers
 - 6 teachers in elementary K-5
 - 8 teachers in secondary 6-12
 - 1 SPED teacher K-5
- **1** counselor (0.6 FTE)
- **2** office professionals
- **2** administrators (1.3 FTE)
- **304** students currently enrolled
 - 151 students in grades K-5
 - 81 students in grades 6-8
 - 72 students in grades 9-12
 - Demographic information (race, free-reduced meals, SPED/504)



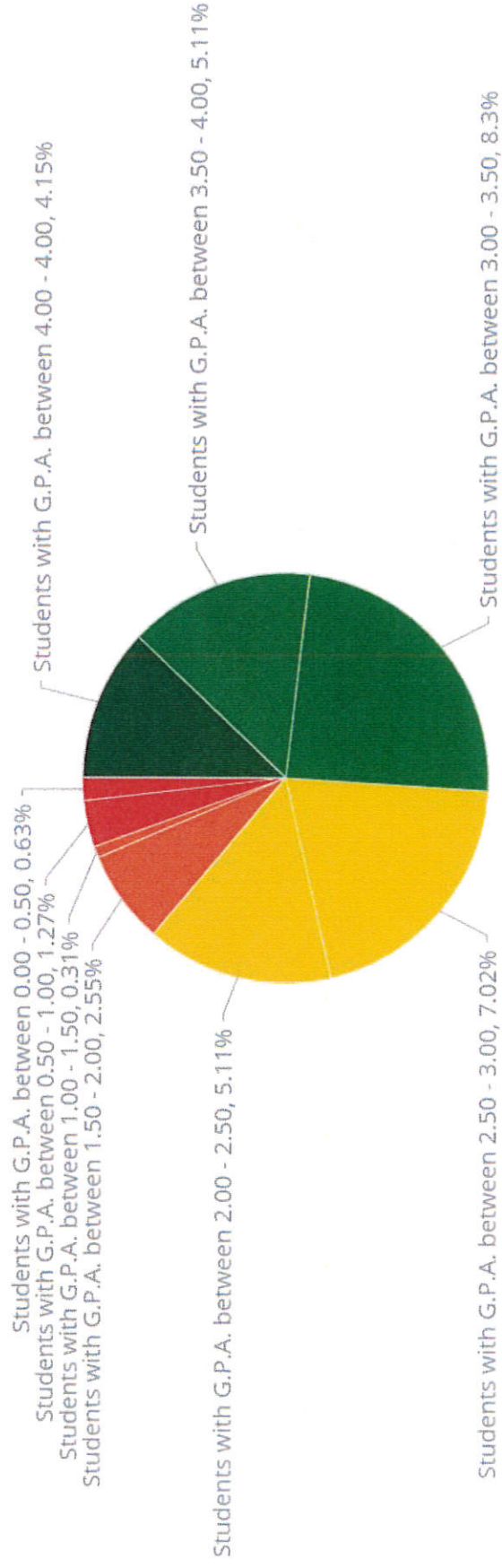
Federal Race Composition of Students attending Tumwater Virtual Academy (20/21) ▼



Gender Composition of Students attending Tumwater Virtual Academy (20/21) ▾



GPA Composition of Students attending Tumwater Virtual Academy (20/21) ▾



Who is eligible for TVA?

All TSD students in grades K-12 are eligible to enroll in TVA. We have accommodations and services for students with IEPs, 504s, and other individualized needs.

How is TVA different from Remote Learning 2.0?

- Full Online Curriculum—Teachers hold live “meetings” once per week. Students move through lessons autonomously. This allows for flexibility but requires independence.
- Many courses have material kits mailed to students.
- Parents in TVA serve as “Learning Coaches” and are actively involved in their student’s learning.





How is TVA different from other online programs?

- TVA uses Tumwater School District teachers for a local connection.
- TVA students are connected to their local secondary schools for extracurricular activities and sports.
- TVA offers the flexibility of taking some classes at your neighborhood school and taking classes online for credit retrieval, credit extension, or expanded course offerings.



What options are there for Enrollment?

1. Full Enrollment (Elementary & Secondary Students)

This option is for elementary and secondary students who wish to take all of their daily courses at TVA.

2. Dual Enrollment (Secondary Students 6-12)

Students may choose to be enrolled in their neighborhood school for part of their day and at TVA for the rest of their day. Many students benefit from the expanded flexibility in the schedule and course offerings at TVA while still having social connections and electives at their local schools.

Elementary students can still participate in local school clubs and music performing ensembles



ALE Program

- Alternative Learning Experience
 - Some or all of the instruction is delivered outside of a regular classroom schedule
 - Not homeschool, but school at home
- WSLP
 - Written Student Learning Plan (Sample)
 - Individualized
 - Monthly progress checks
 - Intervention plans
- Policies related to online learning & ALE compliance



Looking Ahead

- TVA will be the exclusive remote learning option in TSD
- Implement the ALE rules/WSLP processes
- Formally adopt curriculum
- Research home-parent partnership programs to (potentially) expand
- Expand dual-enrollment at neighborhood schools
- Pilot credit recovery with the K12 platform at TVA
- Add secondary SPED support
- Intervention help and support
- Increase in-person engagement with families and providing field trips, social groups, clubs, etc...
- Market our program



Questions?



TUMWATER
**VIRTUAL
ACADEMY**

A flexible, caring
learning community
by Tumwater School District

ACTION ITEMS

- 2nd Reading, Policy 3114-Part-Time, Home-Based, or Off-Campus Students: Sean Dotson will present on this topic.
- George Washington Bush Middle School Renaming: Laurie Wiednmeyer will present on this topic.

Tumwater School District Board Policy

PART-TIME, HOME-BASED, OR OFF-CAMPUS STUDENTS

~~The district shall permit the enrollment of and provide ancillary services for part time students~~ Part time students are permitted to enroll and receive ancillary services, provided such students are otherwise eligible for full time enrollment in the school district, and such courses/services are not available in the student's private school or an approved extension thereof. Part-time status also includes any student, who is not enrolled in a private school, and who is receiving home-based instruction. ~~Part time also includes students who are~~ and taking courses at one of our schools or receiving ancillary services from the district or both, or any student involved in an approved work training program. ~~approved by the Board. Enrollment for such students will be on a space available basis and parents may be required to provide transportation.~~

Home-based Instruction shall consist of instructional and related educational activities, including the basic skills of occupational education, science, mathematics, language, social studies, history, health, reading, writing, spelling, and the development of an appreciation of art and music. Such instruction will be equivalent, as liberally construed, to the total annual program hours per grade level as established for public schools.

- ~~1. Planned and supervised instructional and related educational activities including the basic skills of occupational education, science, mathematics, language, social studies, history, health, reading, writing, spelling, and the development of an appreciation of art and music.~~
- ~~2. 450 hours per year of instruction for Kindergarten
900 hours per year of instruction for Grades 1-3
990 hours per year of instruction for Grades 4-8
1,080 hours per year of instruction for Grades 9-12~~

Each parent whose child is receiving home-based instruction has the duty to:

1. Ensure that test scores or annual academic progress assessments and immunization records, as well as any other records, must be are kept relating to the student's instructional and educational activities. These records may be used by the public school if the student wishes to discontinue home-based instruction.
2. Ensure that a standardized achievement test, approved by the State Board of Education, must be is administered annually to the student by a qualified individual or an annual assessment of the student's academic progress is written by a certificated person who is currently working in the field of education. The standardized test results or the annual academic progress report shall be made part of the student's permanent records.

Parent Qualifications

RCW 28A.225.010(4) requires that the instructional and educational activities be:

1. Provided by a parent who is instructing his or her child(ren) only and is supervised by a certificated person (Chapter 28A.410 RCW). The supervision consists of objectives by the certificated person and the parent; a minimum each month of an average of one contact hour per week with the child being supervised by the certificated person; and evaluation of such child's progress by the certificated person. The number of children supervised by the certificated person shall not exceed thirty; or
2. Provided by a parent who is instructing his or her child(ren) only and who has either earned forty-five college level credit hours or the equivalent in semester hours; or
3. Provided by a parent who has completed a course in home based instruction at a post-secondary institution or a vocational-technical institute; or
4. Provided by a parent who is deemed sufficiently qualified to provide home based instruction by the superintendent of the local school district in which the child resides.

~~The following procedures shall be utilized for the evaluation of parental requests to provide home-based schooling to their own children in lieu of attending Tumwater Public Schools.~~

~~1. A parent requesting to provide home-based instruction to his/her own child(ren) shall file with the Tumwater School District Office no later than September 15th annually or within two weeks of the beginning of any semester for middle and/or high school students as specified by state law and district policy.~~

~~2. The statement shall include:~~

- ~~a. The intent to provide home-based instruction.~~
- ~~b. The means by which all legal requirements will be met, including but not limited to parental instructional qualifications, per state law and district policy.~~

Home-based instruction may be provided by a parent who has filed a declaration of intent with the superintendent by September 15, or within two (2) weeks of the beginning of any quarter, trimester or semester. Parents may file their declaration of intent with the school district in which they reside or in a school district that has accepted their student pursuant to [RCW 28A.225.225](#).

All decisions relating to philosophy or doctrine, selection of books, teaching materials and curriculum, and methods, timing, and place in the provision or evaluation of home-based instruction shall be the responsibility of the parent except as set forth in the signed declaration of intent. Failure of a parent to comply with the standards as specified in this policy shall constitute a violation of the compulsory attendance law.

Legal References: RCW 28A.225.220

28A.225.225

28A.195.010

Adults, children from other districts,
agreements for attending school
— Tuition

Applications to attend nonresident
district

Private schools — Extension
programs for parents to teach

- 28A.225.010 children in their custody — Scope of state control — Generally Attendance mandatory — Age — Persons having custody shall cause child to attend public school — Exceptions
- 28A.200.010 Home-based instruction — Duties of parents
- 28A.200.020 Home-based instruction — Certain decisions responsibility of parent

RCW 28A.150.350

Part-time students — Defined —
Enrollment authorized —
Reimbursement for costs--
Funding authority recognition--
Rules

WAC 392-121-182

Enrollment time credit-off-campus —
Alternative Learning Experiences
— Study time off-campus
Instruction Requirements

392-134-010

Attendance rights of part-time public
school students

ADOPTED: 1995

REVISED: 1998; 2008; October 24, 2013

**Tumwater School District
Board Policy**

PART-TIME, HOME-BASED, OR OFF-CAMPUS STUDENTS

The district shall permit the enrollment of and provide ancillary services for part time students, provided such students are eligible for full time enrollment in the school district, and such courses/services are not available in the student's private school or an approved extension thereof. Part-time includes any student who is not enrolled in a private school and who is receiving home-based instruction. Part time also includes students who are taking courses at one of our schools or receiving ancillary services from the district or both, or any student involved in a work training program approved by the Board. Enrollment for such students will be on a space available basis and parents may be required to provide transportation.

Home-based Instruction shall consist of:

1. Planned and supervised instructional and related educational activities including the basic skills of occupational education, science, mathematics, language, social studies, history, health, reading, writing, spelling, and the development of an appreciation of art and music.
2. 450 hours per year of instruction for Kindergarten
900 hours per year of instruction for Grades 1-3
990 hours per year of instruction for Grades 4-8
1,080 hours per year of instruction for Grades 9-12
3. Test scores or annual academic progress assessments and immunization records, as well as any other records, must be kept relating to the student's instructional and educational activities. These records may be used by the public school if the student wishes to discontinue home-based instruction.
4. A standardized achievement test, approved by the State Board of Education, must be administered annually to the student by a qualified individual or an annual assessment of the student's academic progress written by a certificated person who is currently working in the field of education. The standardized test results or the annual academic progress report shall be made part of the student's permanent records.

Parent Qualifications

RCW 28A.225.010(4) requires that the instructional and educational activities be:

1. Provided by a parent who is instructing his or her child(ren) only and is supervised by a certificated person (Chapter 28A.410 RCW). The supervision consists of objectives by the certificated person and the parent; a minimum each month of an average of one contact hour per week with the child being supervised by the certificated person; and evaluation of such child's progress by the certificated person. The number of children supervised by the certificated person shall not exceed thirty; or
2. Provided by a parent who is instructing his or her child(ren) only and who has either earned forty-five college level credit hours or the equivalent in semester hours; or

3. Provided by a parent who has completed a course in home based instruction at a post-secondary institution or a vocational-technical institute; or
4. Provided by a parent who is deemed sufficiently qualified to provide home based instruction by the superintendent of the local school district in which the child resides.

The following procedures shall be utilized for the evaluation of parental requests to provide home-based schooling to their own children in lieu of attending Tumwater Public Schools.

1. A parent requesting to provide home-based instruction to his/her own child(ren) shall file with the Tumwater School District Office no later than September 15th annually or within two weeks of the beginning of any semester for middle and/or high school students as specified by state law and district policy.
2. The statement shall include:
 - a. The intent to provide home-based instruction.
 - b. The means by which all legal requirements will be met, including but not limited to parental instructional qualifications, per state law and district policy.

All decisions relating to philosophy or doctrine, selection of books, teaching materials and curriculum, and methods, timing, and place in the provision or evaluation of home-based instruction shall be the responsibility of the parent except as set forth in the signed declaration of intent. Failure of a parent to comply with the standards as specified in this policy shall constitute a violation of the compulsory attendance law.

Legal References:	RCW 28A.225.220	Adults, children from other districts, agreements for attending school — Tuition
	28A.225.225	Applications to attend nonresident district
	28A.195.010	Private schools — Extension programs for parents to teach children in their custody — Scope of state control — Generally
	28A.225.010	Attendance mandatory — Age — Persons having custody shall cause child to attend public school — Exceptions
	28A.200.010	Home-based instruction — Duties of parents
	28A.200.020	Home-based instruction — Certain decisions responsibility of parent

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ADOPTED: 1995

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Tumwater School District

Dr. Sean Dotson
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TO: Tumwater School District Board of Directors
FROM: Laurie Wiedenmeyer on behalf of the BMS Renaming Committee
DATE: June 11, 2021

The BMS Renaming Committee met on May 13, 2021 at Bush Middle School. The Committee is comprised of:

- Sierra Hahn-Browne, BMS 8th Grader
- Lucy Mendoza, BMS Parent
- Leeann Mueller, BMS History Teacher
- Shawn Guthrie, BMS Principal
- Kathleen Clark, TSD Resident and owner of 5-acres of the Bush property
- Don Troser, Public History Manager – Olympia Tumwater Foundation
- Laurie Wiedenmeyer, TSD Director of Communications & Community Relations

At the meeting, Kathleen and Don presented information and research that show that George Bush that settled in Tumwater had no middle name. Census materials from Missouri show him registered as George Bush, copies of his will show his name as George Bush. There are no documents or recordings that show that Washington was part of this name. There is speculation that there was a case of mistaken identity along the way as there was a settler in Centralia whose name was George Washington, also a man of color, and that someone added Washington to our local George's name.

It was also discussed the that photo that we typically use in displays of George Bush is actually an artist's rendering of what "he may have looked like".

Attached you will find some documents that reinforce the information provided at the meeting. You will also find attached a letter of support for the change of name of the school from our student representative on the committee as well as one from the Washington State Historical Society. Of importance to note is that the Washington State Capitol is establishing a monument honoring George Bush.

It is the recommendation of the committee that the Board consider renaming George Washington Bush Middle School to **George Bush Middle School** in order to reflect the correct historic name.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MELISSA BEARD DARBY KAIKKONEN SCOTT KILLOUGH LAURIE SALE CASEY TAYLOR

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washingtonhistory.org

June 8, 2021

Tumwater School Board
621 Linwood Ave. SW
Tumwater, Wa 98512

Dear Members of the Tumwater School Board,

We applaud the district's prior decision to name a school in honor of Black pioneer George Bush. George Bush helped establish one of the first non-indigenous American settlements in Washington. George, his wife Isabella and others traveled the Oregon Trail to escape discrimination in Missouri, only to arrive in the Oregon Country to find that newly adopted racist laws prohibited Black settlers. Continuing north of the Columbia River, they established a farm called Bush Prairie near today's Tumwater. The Bush family was known to be generous and welcoming, and are credited with saving the lives of fellow settlers with food from their farm during the famine of 1852. This first settlement drew other pioneers and furthered the claim of this area by the United States. His son, William Owen Bush, served in the first Washington State legislature (1880 – 1890) and helped found Washington State University.

Recent scholarship initiated by the Office of the Secretary of State indicates that the middle name "Washington" has been incorrectly ascribed to George Bush – perhaps resulting from a conflation with another Black pioneer in Washington, George Washington of Centralia. While the Washington State Historical Society has not commissioned in-depth research into this topic, our review of the historical record across time supports the conclusions of the Office of the Secretary of State.

We are in support of removing the middle name of "Washington" when referring to Black pioneer George Bush of Tumwater as doing so is in accordance with current scholarship.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jennifer Kilmer".

Jennifer Kilmer
Director

Dear School Board,

My name is, Sierra Hahn-Browne, and I am an eighth grader at Bush Middle School and a member of the BMS renaming committee.

During the committee meeting, we spoke about the history of man my school was named after. It was fascinating to learn about how important George and Isabella Bush were to the up bringing of our community. After learning of his history and that there is no proof that his middle name was "Washington", I feel it is important for the school's name to be changed to "George Bush Middle School" so that it is accurate and properly honors George Bush.

I also found it interesting that the "photo" of George is not actually him. I agreed with my fellow committee members that the photo's should indicate that they are an artists interpretation of what he may have looked like.

As a student, I'm glad I was able to serve on the committee. Thank you for considering the name change of the school.

Sincerely,
Sierra Hahn-Browne

Out of the Archives

a newsletter from the Washington State Archives

October 2016



Nobody Actually Knows What George Bush Looked Like

- DNA attempts to tell us the story

by Dr. Jewell Lorenz Dunn, Olympia Branch Researcher

My interest in George Bush, pioneer of Washington Territorial fame, started when I undertook a family research project on the David Kindred family. The David Kindred family journeyed with George Bush on the pioneer trail from Missouri to Oregon Territory in 1844-45. Bush is most recognizable as one of the earliest men of color to own property in Thurston County—Bush Prairie in southern Thurston County is named for him. The interest reemerged when I visited the 2015 archaeological dig at the Bush Donation Land Claim by a class from The Evergreen State College.

Background: Early Writings about George Bush

The community at large and the Bush family have split ideas on the ethnicity of George Bush. There have been many stories written about New Market (now Tumwater) pioneer, George Bush. Some of them true, and some of them fictional. We know he was a man of color, as several historical records designated him as either black or mulatto. His family, mainly his grandchildren and great-grandchildren, claimed George was of West Indies descent.¹ There is not much commentary by his immediate sons about his ethnicity. Most interviews were done with later generations.

The writings of his acquaintances associated him heavily with the African-American community. Many post-1900 writers and historians have written different accounts of Bush's trek to the Oregon-Mashington



Washington Territory just a few years apart. The subsequent example of this is Samuel Patrick's depiction of what George Bush might have looked like. The sketch of George Bush was drawn by Patrick, who worked as a staff artist for the *Los Angeles Times* in the late 1960s and early 1970s. The newspaper ran a series of columns about black pioneers and George Bush was included. The likeness has been replicated so often now some people think it really is a likeness of George Bush.

of Bush's link to the Oregon/Washington Territory. Many of these writings contain numerous inaccuracies which carry no documentation and have been replicated over and over again.

The first example of these inaccuracies is the combination of George Bush and George Washington as the same person. Both gentlemen were of color and arrived in the

the text was written by George Reardon, and appeared under the booklet series title *They Had a Dream*.² The column about George Bush was published in 1973.³ No known likeness of George Bush has been found in the Bush Family memorabilia or with other pioneer families associated with him. These ideas and writings are part of what prompted the DNA project.

The Hypothesis

Because the two African-American pioneers were often mistaken for each other, it is my first hypothesis that the depiction of George Bush by Patrick is actually a depiction of George Washington, pioneer of Centralia.

When the DNA project started it was my notion that the DNA test of multiple Bush ancestors would answer the question of his ethnicity. Not only would it show the ethnicity, but it would unequivocally tell us the origin of the Bush clan.



George Washington, Centralia, WA pioneer.



Samuel Patrick's sketch of what George Bush might have looked like.

Support of the Hypothesis

The support for my first hypothesis comes from the comparison of Patrick's depiction of George Bush, to a newspaper photo of George Washington. If you look at them side-by-side they look like the same person. Furthermore, about 40 years after Bush's death, articles and stories began running with the name George Washington Bush, a fabricated combination of the two pioneers' names. There is no historical record showing George Bush had a middle name. I believe the confusion over the photo and the compound name became commonplace.

Earliest Bush Documentation

The earliest substantiated documentation of George Bush and Isabella James Bush starts in 1830 with the Clay County, Missouri Federal Census.⁴ Also found in Clay County, Missouri is the marriage of George Bush and Ibby James. They were married by John P. Smith, Justice of the Peace on July 4, 1830.⁵ It was

stated in the record that they were both of lawful age but did not indicate ethnicity. John P. Smith was one of four justices of Marshall Township which was located just south of Buchanan County. These boundaries were formed in 1838 by what was known as the Platte Purchase (Missouri).

The only outside documentation other than family lore for George Bush's birth date are the 1830, 1840, 1850 & 1860 censuses:

Census	Birth date	Birthplace
1830 Clay County, Missouri ⁶	1790 – 1800	n/a
1840 Jefferson Township, Buchanan Co., Missouri ⁷	1785 – 1805	n/a
1850 Lewis County, Oregon Territory ⁸	1794	Virginia
1860 Olympia, Thurston County, Washington Territory ⁹	1790	Pennsylvania

Analysis: DNA Testing & Results

In order to prove or disprove the hypothesis of George Bush's ethnicity, we had to trace descendants. Combing through public and private records, we were able to locate four direct living descendants to participate in our George Bush DNA project. We used

autosomal DNA tests from AncestryDNA to capture and compare the results. We also located and involved several people who took tests for exclusionary reasons, to assure there were no other ancestors from whom the participants could get African or India DNA.

The DNA analysis of the descendants are as follows:

ID	Relationship to George Bush	Percentage of African blood
KS	GGGG Grandson	1% Africa North
GL	GGG Granddaughter	2% Africa North
JC	GGG Granddaughter	4% (3% Benin/Togo, 1% Africa North)
GS	GGG Grandson	3% (1% Senegal, 1% Africa South, 1% Bantu)

The DNA drawn and tested from the participants has the percentages of African DNA you would expect from someone whose great-great-great grandfather was African American. They fall into the 2-4% which would

be about half of the 6.25% of the great-great grandfather or grandmother, as shown in the chart below. All signs indicate George Bush indeed was African American, but this is still not conclusive.

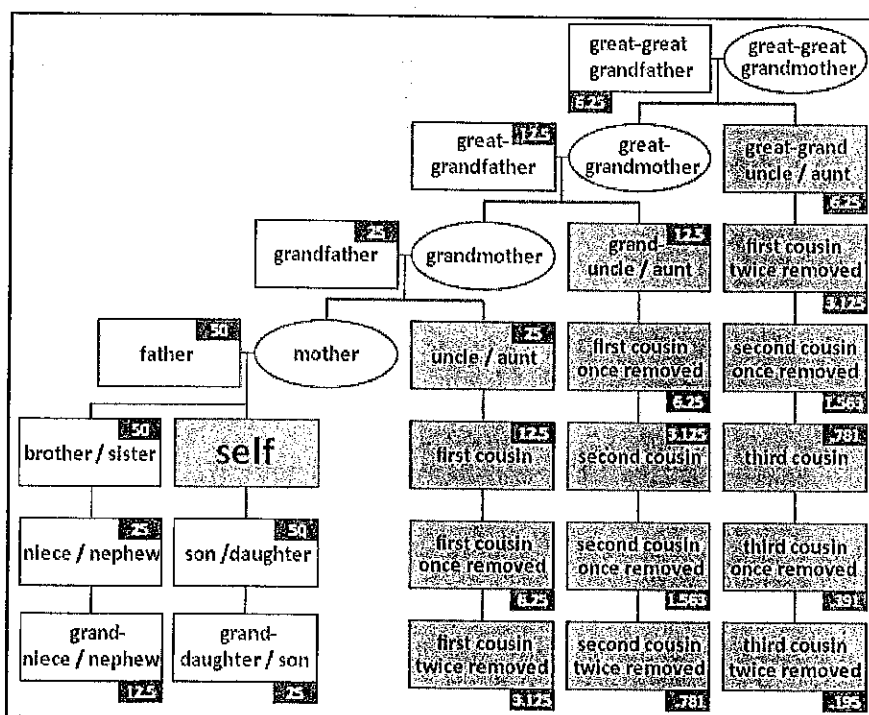


Chart from ISOGG website: http://isogg.org/wiki/Autosomal_DNA_statistics

We were lucky to have these participants available for our project. If the project had taken place years later we might've not had anyone available for testing. This is monumental as DNA results have a huge drop off between five and six generations

for autosomal DNA. The two items which worked against us for this project were having nobody to test for straight Y-DNA and the X-DNA, which in our case, could not be passed down through George Bush's mother to the present.

Conclusion

The first conclusion drawn from the supporting textual research is that many people lumped the two pioneers of color into one person. Thence George Bush and George Washington became George Washington Bush. It is still difficult to change and correct all the information already out there, in print and online.

The second conclusion is we will never be able to know through DNA the exact ethnicity or origin of George Bush. The most concrete reason being: we do not have a lineal male descendant to take a Y-DNA test. The only way to get a Y-DNA sample would be to exhume William Owen Bush or John Shotwell Bush to extract a DNA sample. This in itself would be problematic because of the time

period William Owen and John Shotwell died. The length of time they have been buried, and the embalming practices of their time, might not leave a viable DNA sample to extract.

The other issue is the sample cluster used by AncestryDNA and other DNA testing companies. It is common knowledge, none of the DNA testing labs have a large cluster sampling of DNA from India at this time, so questions of Bush's potential West Indies origin remain unanswered. There may be additional matches which become available with further cluster sampling in India by the major DNA companies in the future. This could alter the results of the Bush DNA project.

References

- ¹Interviews of Bell Bush Twohy and Kathryn Bush Hackett by Paul Thomas in 1965 for Master's Thesis on George Bush, University of Washington Special Collections. Accessed April 2016.
- ²Newspaper Clipping Bush Collection, Washington State Archives, Booklets Volumes I, II, & III were available through the Arizona Daily Star, Los Angeles, CA for \$1 in 1973.
- ³Newspaper Clipping Bush Collection, Washington State Archives, Black Pioneer Helped Settle Oregon Territory, Los Angeles Time, 1973.
- ⁴1830 United States Federal Census, Clay County, Missouri page 269, secondary page 4, line 27, George Bush, one white male between 30-40 years of age, one white female between 20-30 years of age, page 269. Retrieved from Ancestry.com September 16, 2016.
- ⁵Marriage Record George Bush and Ibbey James performed July 4, 1830 in Clay County, MO by John P. Smith Justice of the Peace, recorded August 2, 1830 on page 69, entry number two, scanned copy located on Ancestry.com. Scan is taken from Family History Library film 955303, marriage records of Clay County, Volume A 1822-1842, microfilmed in 1974. Retrieved from Ancestry.com
- ⁶1830 U.S. Federal Census, Clay County Missouri, page 269, secondary page 4, line 27, George Bush, male age 30-40. Retrieved from Ancestry.com September 16, 2016.
- ⁷1840 U.S. Federal Census, Jefferson Township, Buchanan County, Missouri, printed page 153, secondary page 4, line 17, free black male age 35 to 55. * Note his four sons are enumerated as free blacks under age 5 and there is an unidentified black male age 34-35. Retrieved from Ancestry.com September 16, 2016.
- ⁸1850 Schedule I, U.S. Federal Census, Territory of Oregon, Lewis Co., page 55, line 6, dwelling 47, George Bush age 55, Male, Color Black, occupation Farmer, \$3000 real estate, born VA. Retrieved from Ancestry.com September 16, 2016.
- ⁹1860 Schedule I, U.S. Federal Census, Washington Territory, page 212, line 18, dwelling 236, family 236, Geo. Bush age 70, Male, color Black, occupation farmer, real estate \$5500, personal estate \$2725, born Penn. Retrieved from Ancestry.com September 16, 2016.

The following bills for the relief of George Bush and Elijah White were passed without amendment, and have been approved by the President :

An act for the relief of George Bush, of Thurston County, Washington Territory.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress Assembled, That the claim of George Bush to six hundred and forty acres of land in Thurston county, Washington Territory, in virtue of his early settlement and continued residence and cultivation, as set forth in the memorial passed on the seventeenth March, eighteen hundred and fifty-four, by the legislative assembly of Washington Territory, be, and the same is hereby, confirmed—the one half to the said George Bush, and the other half to his wife ; and it shall be the duty of the surveyor general of the said Territory of Washington to designate and set apart the quantity of land aforesaid, to embrace the residence and settlement of the said George Bush, according to the lines of the public surveys, and for the claim hereby confirmed, but not in such a manner as to interfere with any reserve or valid adverse right, if any such exist to any part of the land claimed as aforesaid ; and upon the presentation of a certificate from the surveyor general, designating the land which may be officially set apart under this act, a patent shall issue, if the proceedings are found regular by the Commissioner of the General Land Office.

January 15, 1855. 2011

Notice

GEORGE BUSH, of the county of Thurston and Territory of Washington, wishes it understood that it is his wish and will, should his wife ISABELLA survive him, that his said wife Isabella Bush, be empowered with full authority, to make such disposition of the property which may be left, real and personal, belonging to, and in possession of the said George Bush, at the time of his decease, amongst the heirs-at-law, or otherwise, as the said Isabella Bush may deem right and proper. It is his will, that his said wife, in case of his decease, act as administratrix in all things pertaining to the final settlement and disposition of his estate.

Olympia, April 21st, 1855. JWPd

GEORGE BUSH.

A legend was told about a local farmer who lost his favorite Bible while mending a fence in the “back 40.” Two weeks later he was amazed when one of his cows came up to him carrying the Bible in her mouth. The farmer took the book from the cow’s mouth, raised his eyes toward Heaven, and proclaimed, “It’s a miracle!” To his further surprise the cow spoke, and said, “Not really. Your name is written inside on the front cover.”



Guess Who Came to Dinner at the Bush Farm

(899 words)

I love discovering stories from family folklore—stories passed down through the generations which are probably based on true life experiences but may be “enhanced” as they are passed down. It is not easy, and sometimes impossible to confirm the facts of the event. Researchers are often frustrated when they can’t cross-reference stories through multiple sources, but those of us who love the legends and stories are enthused about telling them, as long as we let those hearing them know clearly that it may be truth, legend, or a combination of both. With that knowledge, let’s share some folklore from a family that is an honored part of Tumwater history, the George and Isabella Bush family.

The Bush farm was located on nearly 800 acres of prairie land, part of which is today the Olympia Regional Airport. We often tell the historical facts about the Bush family, the mixed-race black family who helped inspire the Simmons/Bush party to travel the Oregon Trail in 1844 to the Oregon Territory. The race issues had taken hold on the American side south of the Columbia River. The provisional government would not allow people of color to settle there, prompting the Simmons/Bush party to decide to settle on the north side controlled by the British Hudson’s Bay Company. In doing so, they founded the first permanent American community in what is today Tumwater. They helped blaze the northern extension of the Oregon Trail, known as the Cowlitz Trail from Cowlitz Landing (near today’s Toledo in Lewis County), to Tumwater. Old Highway 99 later generally followed this route. An oasis on that trail was the Bush farm, where weary travelers were warmly welcomed. Many of those folks

experienced the generosity of the Bush family with a place to shelter for the night, enjoy a meal, and often receiving loaned seed, tools, and advice regarding the local area in the south Puget Sound.

Bush descendant Belle Twohy related the family story about one of those visitors. It was about a lone man on a horse coming off the trail who stopped at the farm to water his horse on his way to Olympia. The family didn't know who he was, but true to their nature they invited him to stay for dinner, which the man accepted. After finishing his meal, he tried to pay Mr. Bush for the service, but George and Isabella explained that they never took money from people passing through on their journey north. Their visitor then explained to them who he was, that he was Isaac Stevens, the first governor of the new territory of Washington traveling to Olympia to assume his duties of his office. He tried to donate to the generous family, but they steadfastly would not accept payment despite his status. Stevens so appreciated the warm welcome and hospitality that he found a sneaky way to express his gratefulness. When Isabella later cleared the dishes from the table after the honored visitor left she found a twenty-dollar gold piece under his plate.

An added historical note about George Bush is a description of what he looked like, since we have no known photograph of either him or his wife; we only have a drawing of an artist's conception of how he may have appeared. That drawing does not match the photos we have of his children or what his descendants said he looked like. The family described George as 6 feet tall with broad shoulders, dark eyes, a Roman nose, and a heavy beard. He weighed about 180 pounds, was quite rugged but soft spoken. George played an important role in our state's history, but never showed an interest in politics, although his oldest son, William Owen Bush certainly did. He was elected as a legislator in the first State of Washington House of Representatives. His parents would have been proud to know that their son was elected by his peers who respected his honorable character.

Great-granddaughter Emma, whose father was John Shotwell Bush, shared some family tradition and memories when they resided on the farm in later years. She said,

We used to ship some of our farm produce in to Olympia on the train, which was called the "democrat wagon." It came right through our place, which was a station, and it would usually leave a box car here. Our post office was in Olympia [actually in Tumwater] for many years, at Charles Hewitt's drug store. He was the postmaster. When rural delivery came our mail was sent from Tumwater. The Hewitt family were also among good friends. My father would go into Olympia once a week for provisions. We had a heavy-duty wagon, a two-sided carriage and a buggy. The trip to Olympia, which was about 6 miles, took us a little over an hour. The highway was called the county road.

Don notes for Bush Farm (5-4-21)

We're standing by the Bush family historical kiosk, a marker located just off Old Highway 99 and 88th Ave. It honors the family for whom Bush Prairie is named; George and Isabella Bush and their children. The family was the key reason the Simmons/Bush party moved north of the Columbia into British controlled country to found the town that is today Tumwater, making it the first permanent American community in what is today the State of Washington. The Bush family was of mixed race (part black) and weren't allowed to settle on the American south side of the Columbia River.

We don't have a photo of George Bush, this is an artist's conception. He probably more resembled his sons, shown in this photo.

The only way they could develop their own farm was to move north into the British Hudson's Bay Company area north of the Columbia River. Here they began a very productive farming operation on this prairie land.

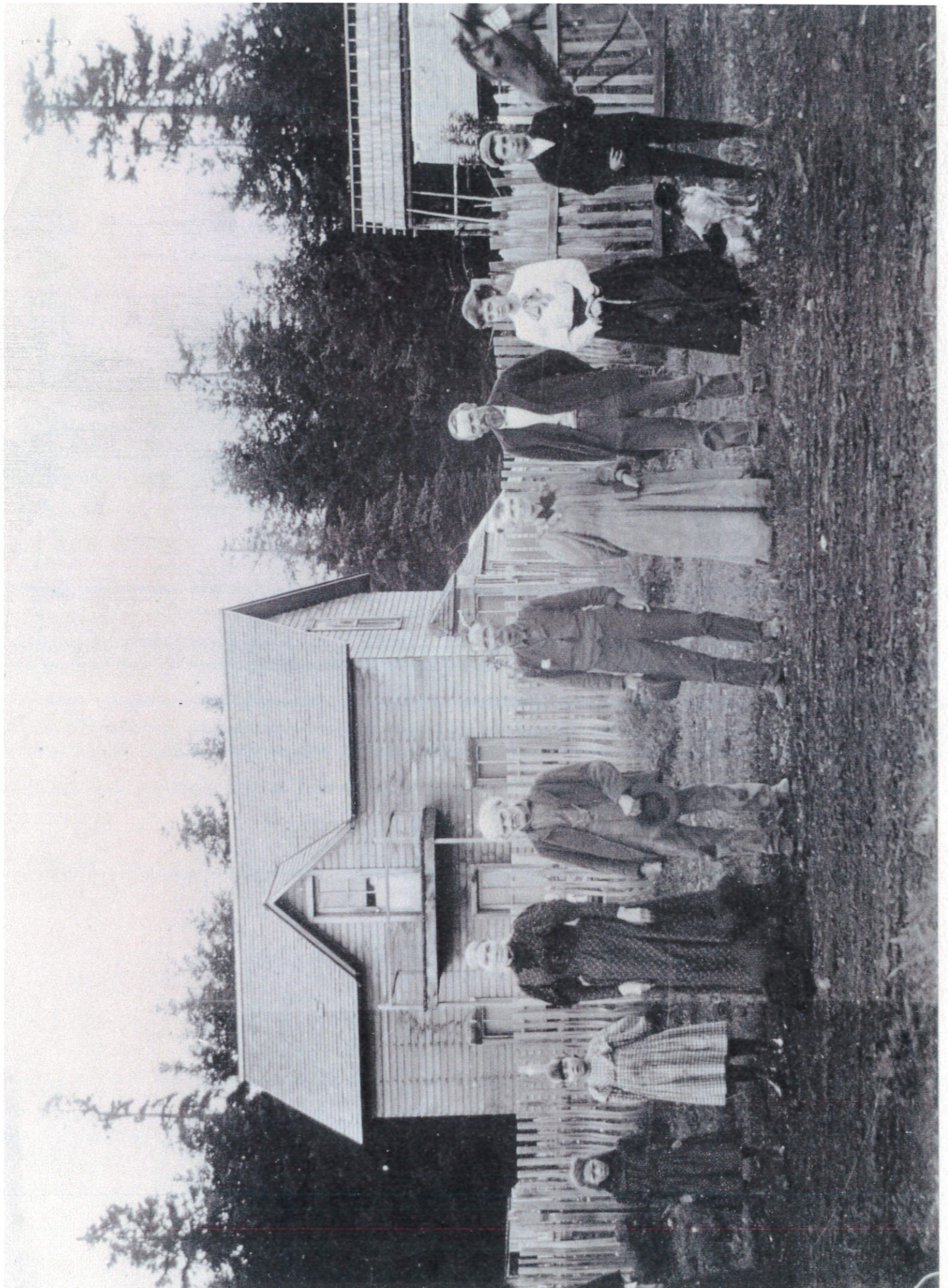
The generosity of the Bush family assisted many struggling early settlers, gaining much respect and loyalty, so much so that those early territorial settlers petitioned the U.S. Congress to allow the Bush family to legally own their farm land. That petition was approved.

The second generation to own and run the farm was William Owen Bush. He was later elected a member of the first State Legislature...helped influence the creation of the first agricultural college that became WSU...and won national prizes and awards for the crops grown on this very farm. He was a tremendous promoter of Washington State agriculture around the nation.

There was a one-room Bush schoolhouse here, a stop for the narrow gauge railway, and eventually the Pacific Coast Highway, or Old Highway 99, came through the property. The Olympia Airport is located across the highway, which was largely Bush farm land.

Today, none of the original Bush farm buildings or houses remain, although there have been archaeological digs performed, The original Bush Butternut Tree survived until May 1, 2021 on a 5 acre lot near where the house and barn once sat.

The Bush family and farm site has more than local historical significance. It is also an important part of Washington State's history.



BOARD DISCUSSION

- Equity Update: Scott Killough will present on this topic.