

Welcome!

Levy Advisory Committee
September 30, 2025
Meeting 4



Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that we are on the Indigenous Land of Coast Salish peoples who have reserved treaty rights to this land, specifically the Snoqualmie Indian Tribe and Duwamish. We thank these caretakers of this land who have lived and continue to live here since time immemorial.



OBJECTIVES

- Ground ourselves in our collective purpose.
- Review preliminary package and supporting data.
- Provide feedback and learn about next steps.

01

AGENDA

Welcome & Recap

- Revisit our shared purpose
- Recap of previous meeting
- School funding review

02

Content Review and Recommendations

- Review of content from previous meetings, including Menti results
- Provide recommendation on each levy proposal
- Final Levy Package Recommendation

03

Closeout

- Closeout and next steps

Welcome!

Take a moment to say hi to someone sitting at a different table

Purpose & Goals

Purpose

To advise the Superintendent as she prepares a recommendation for the School Board to approve a levy issue for the 2026 ballot.

Goals

Recommend for Superintendent Tow-Yick's approval the proposed content, total cost, and tax impact of 3 ballot measures:

- Educational Programs and Operations Levy
- Capital Levy (Technology and Capital)
- Transportation

Parameters

Aiming to keep local school taxes stable, each levy package will include funding essential to:

- Ensure the Issaquah School District has all the resources possible to meet its mission and student learning goals
- Maintain facilities according to state and District use standards, while reflecting community expectations
- Prioritize safety and security for students, staff, and visitors across all schools
- Future opportunities

Log into Menti

(Menti available for committee members' participation during meeting).



Recap

Recap from last meeting

Recap – EP&O Levy

What We Heard

- Strong support for maintaining student well-being services (nurses, mental health counselors, VOICE mentors, safety staff).
- Value placed on enrichment and academic opportunities such as the 7-period high school day, dual language, Gibson EK, and early learning.
- Recognition that EP&O fills gaps in state funding for special education, substitutes, and transportation.
- Desire for levy stability and flexibility to adjust programs as needs change.
- Questions about levy size, overall tax rate balance, and transparency in how funds are used.

Recap – EP&O Levy

What We Did

- Analyzed committee input on priorities, tax rate sensitivity, and flexibility to protect essential services.
- Confirmed a levy framework that preserves high-value programs within the combined tax rate and reflects committee preferences for expansion, prioritizing mental health and behavior supports, with positive support for early learning, and some additional interest in safety/security staff and dual language.
- Created the final four-year EP&O proposal (2027–2030), sustaining student well-being, academic opportunities, and organizational effectiveness, with capacity for future adjustments.

School Funding Review

Funding Student Learning



Levies Under Committee Consideration

- **Educational Programs & Operations (EP&O) Levy**
 - Safeguard essential student services, enrichment and safety beyond state and federal funding
 - Consider expanding student well-being supports and broadening academic opportunities
 - Provides 16.6% of the general fund operating budget
- **Capital Levy (Technology and Critical Repairs)**
 - Delivers up-to-date classroom technology, applications, device support and network infrastructure
 - Addresses urgent safety needs, prioritizing the highest-impact repairs to buildings and systems
 - **No funding provided by the State**
- **Transportation Levy**
 - Advances safe, sustainable, and reliable transportation while managing maintenance costs through fleet modernization, including adding electric buses and expanding charging infrastructure.

ISD Combined Tax Rate History and 2026 Levy Parameter



Tax Rate Summary

Current Proposals For Committee Consideration

Proposed Funding Amounts (in \$1,000's)

Year	Bonds	Transportation Levy	Technology Levy	Critical Repairs Levy	EP&O Levy
2027	69,492	2,000	24,866	14,303	75,200
2028	79,148	-	25,379	12,427	78,200
2029	84,571	-	26,006	13,335	81,000
2030	91,163	-	26,658	14,536	82,800

Estimated Resulting Tax Rates

Year	Bonds	Transportation Levy	Technology Levy	Critical Repairs Levy	EP&O Levy	Combined Tax Rate
2027	\$ 1.19	\$ 0.03	\$ 0.43	\$ 0.24	\$ 1.28	= \$ 3.17
2028	\$ 1.29	\$ -	\$ 0.41	\$ 0.20	\$ 1.27	= \$ 3.17
2029	\$ 1.31	\$ -	\$ 0.40	\$ 0.21	\$ 1.25	= \$ 3.17
2030	\$ 1.34	\$ -	\$ 0.40	\$ 0.21	\$ 1.22	= \$ 3.17

Existing
Bond Debt

Content Review & Recommendations

Review content from previous 3 meetings and provide recommendations



ISSAQUAH
SCHOOL DISTRICT 411

Transportation Levy

Review and Recommendation

Transportation Levy: Content Review

- Individual review: please review the 2026 Transportation Levy document at your table – 3 minutes



Activity: Turn and talk at your table

-5 minutes

Prompts:

- What resonates with you the most?
- What are you most curious about?



Transportation Levy

Initial Proposal

- One-year levy (2027 collection) totaling \$2 million (~\$0.03 per \$1,000 AV).
- Replace aging diesel buses while expanding the district's electric bus pilot launched in 2025.
- Purchase plan through 2029–30 to include 61 buses (42 diesel, 19 electric) and 6 additional charging units, phased to maintain reliability while preparing for a majority-electric fleet at the plateau transportation facility.

Transportation Levy

Committee Feedback

- Support for including a Transportation Levy focused on electric bus purchases and charging infrastructure.
- Preference to expand pilot deployment beyond a single region, ensuring buses are distributed and tested districtwide.

Transportation Levy

The district levy package should include a one-year, \$2M Transportation Levy?

3.4

Strongly disagree

Strongly agree

Transportation Levy

The district should pursue 2 million, 1 year transportation levy with electric buses operating throughout the district (not just the plateau)?



4.1

Strongly disagree

Strongly agree

Transportation Levy

Modified Proposal

- One-year levy (2027 collection) totaling \$2 million (~\$0.03 per \$1,000 AV).
- Replace aging diesel buses while expanding the district's electric bus pilot launched in 2025.
- Purchase plan through 2029–30 includes 61 buses (44 diesel, 17 electric), 6 additional charging units at the plateau transportation facility, and installation of charging infrastructure at the main transportation facility.
- Conduct pilot routes **across the district**, rather than concentrating in one region, to test performance and gather data.

Transportation Levy

Alternate Option

- Do not run a transportation levy, reducing the overall levy proposal by \$2M (~\$0.03 per \$1,000 AV).
- Continue replacing diesel buses using existing funds and state depreciation support.
- Defer electric bus purchases and charging infrastructure, extending timeline for electric bus adoption.
- Preserve levy capacity for other priorities such as critical repairs, technology, or EP&O investments.

Q&A: Clarifying Questions

-5 min



Table Exercise

Committee Consideration

At your table, individually reflect and answer the Poll

Prompt:

- Are you in favor of the modified proposal (\$2M) - purchase of diesel and electric buses spread throughout the district?
- OR are you in favor of the alternate option to not run a transportation levy?

(Menti available for committee members' participation during meeting).

Steps:

- Individual reflection and Menti poll – 2 minutes

Transportation Levy

Proposed Funding Amounts (in \$1,000's)

Year	Bonds	Transportation Levy	Technology Levy	Critical Repairs Levy	EP&O Levy
2027	69,492	2,000			
2028	79,148	-			
2029	84,571	-			
2030	91,163	-			

Estimated Resulting Tax Rates

Year	Bonds	Transportation Levy	Technology Levy	Critical Repairs Levy	EP&O Levy
2027	\$ 1.19	\$ 0.03			
2028	\$ 1.29	-			
2029	\$ 1.31	-			
2030	\$ 1.34	-			

Existing
Bond Debt

Committee
Recommendation

Capital Levy - Technology

Review and Recommendation

Technology Levy: Content Review

- Individual review: please review the 2026 Technology Levy document at your table – 3 minutes



Activity: Turn and talk at your table

-5 minutes

Prompts:

- What resonates with you the most?
- What are you most curious about?



Capital Levy - Technology

Initial Proposal (1 of 2)

- Four-year levy (2027–2030) allocating approximately \$24.9–\$26.7M annually (~\$0.42 per \$1,000 AV).
- Sustain district-provided 1:1 device program for grades 3–12, staff laptops, and shared K–2 devices.
- Fund technology infrastructure, instructional software, professional development, and cybersecurity.

Capital Levy - Technology

Initial Proposal (2 of 2)

- Maintain ongoing replacement cycles to ensure compatibility, reliability, and security.
- Invest in several new initiatives including:
 - Leveraging AI for education
 - Data warehouse
 - Wi-Fi on school buses
 - Crisis alert safety platform
 - Digital security testing and training
 - Device upgrades and modernization

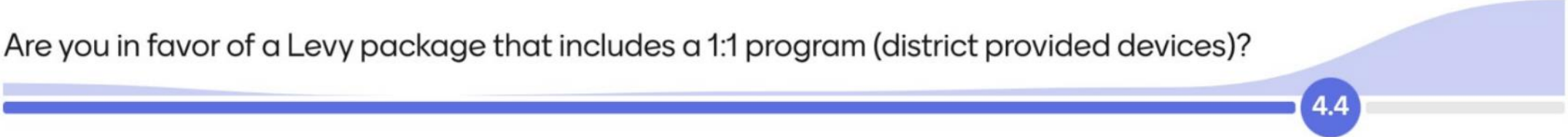
Capital Levy - Technology

Committee Feedback

- District-provided 1:1 devices rated higher than a BYOD approach.
- High levels of support for device modernization, a centralized data warehouse, and digital security testing/training.
- Positive but moderate support for AI for Education and a Crisis Alert Safety Platform.
- WiFi on school buses ranked lowest, with members instead showing strong support for device modernization and other higher-impact opportunities.

Technology Levy - Devices

Are you in favor of a Levy package that includes a 1:1 program (district provided devices)?



A horizontal bar chart with a blue bar. A blue circle with the number 4.4 is positioned at the end of the bar. A light blue shaded area is above the bar, tapering from left to right.

Response	Count
In favor	4.4

Are you in favor of a Levy package that includes a Hybrid (BYOD) option?



A horizontal bar chart with a red bar. A red circle with the number 1.9 is positioned at the end of the bar. A light red shaded area is above the bar, tapering from left to right.

Response	Count
In favor	1.9

Strongly disagree

Strongly agree

New Technology Initiatives

Leveraging AI for Education is important to me



Data Warehouse is important to me



WiFi on School Bus Pilot is important to me



Crisis Alert Safety Platform is important to me



Digital Security Testing and Training is important to me



Device Upgrades and Modernizing is important to me



Strongly disagree

Strongly agree

Capital Levy - Technology

Modified Proposal *(1 of 2)*

- Maintain four-year levy at approximately \$24.9–\$26.7M annually (~\$0.42 per \$1,000 AV).
- Confirm continuation of the district-managed 1:1 device program as a central element of the levy proposal.
- Expand investments in cybersecurity, including annual testing, staff training, and advanced threat detection.

Capital Levy - Technology

Modified Proposal (2 of 2)

- Reallocate WiFi-on-Buses funding toward Device Upgrades and Modernization, providing for reliable performance and instructional alignment.
- Refined new initiatives list:
 - Leveraging AI for education
 - Data warehouse
 - Crisis alert safety platform
 - Digital security testing and training
 - Device upgrades and modernization

Q&A: Clarifying Questions

-5 min



Table Exercise

Committee Consideration

At your table, individually reflect and answer the Poll

Prompt: Do you believe this modified Technology Levy proposal reflects the committee feedback and is ready to be sent to the Superintendent?

(Menti available for committee members' participation during meeting).

Steps:

- Individual reflection and Menti poll – 2 minutes

Capital Levy - Technology

Proposed Funding Amounts (in \$1,000's)

Year	Bonds	Transportation Levy	Technology Levy	Critical Repairs Levy	EP&O Levy
2027	69,492	2,000	24,866		
2028	79,148	-	25,379		
2029	84,571	-	26,006		
2030	91,163	-	26,658		

Estimated Resulting Tax Rates

Year	Bonds	Transportation Levy	Technology Levy	Critical Repairs Levy	EP&O Levy
2027	\$ 1.19	\$ 0.03	\$ 0.43		
2028	\$ 1.29	\$ -	\$ 0.41		
2029	\$ 1.31	\$ -	\$ 0.40		
2030	\$ 1.34	\$ -	\$ 0.40		

Existing
Bond Debt

Committee
Recommendation

Committee
Recommendation

Capital Levy – Critical Repairs

Review and Recommendation

Critical Repairs: Content Review

- Individual review: please review the 2026 Critical Repairs Levy document at your table – 3 minutes



Activity: Turn and talk at your table

-5 minutes

Prompts:

- What resonates with you the most?
- What are you most curious about?



Capital Levy – Critical Repairs

Initial Proposal

- Four-year levy (2027–2030) totaling \$55M (~\$0.20–\$0.24 per \$1,000 AV depending on year).
- Project list was developed from extensive facility needs assessment and survey, scaled to align with most critical priorities over the next four years.

Proposed investments include:

Category	Total
Roofing Improvements	\$15.2M
HVAC / Plumbing Improvements	\$12.4M
Safety & Security Improvements	\$12M
Sports Fields Improvements	\$11.2M
Project Management	\$2M
Miscellaneous Repairs / Improvements	\$1.7M
Food Service Equipment	\$0.5M
Grand Total	\$55M

Capital Levy – Critical Repairs

Committee Feedback

- **Roofing, HVAC, Safety & Security, Food Service:** Committee noted as essential for safe and functional schools; received the strongest support.
- **Sports Fields & Vestibules:** Members recognized community value and long-term savings, with some curiosity about cost and relative priority.
- **Project Management & Misc. Repairs:** Feedback supported this area as important for accountability, flexibility, and addressing smaller-scale needs.
- **Overall:** Committee feedback reflected confidence that the proposal is thorough and fiscally responsible, covering the right priorities and providing a clear plan for maintaining safe, operational schools and protecting critical infrastructure.

Critical Repairs Levy

I believe this list covers the most critical needs for students over the next 4 year cycle

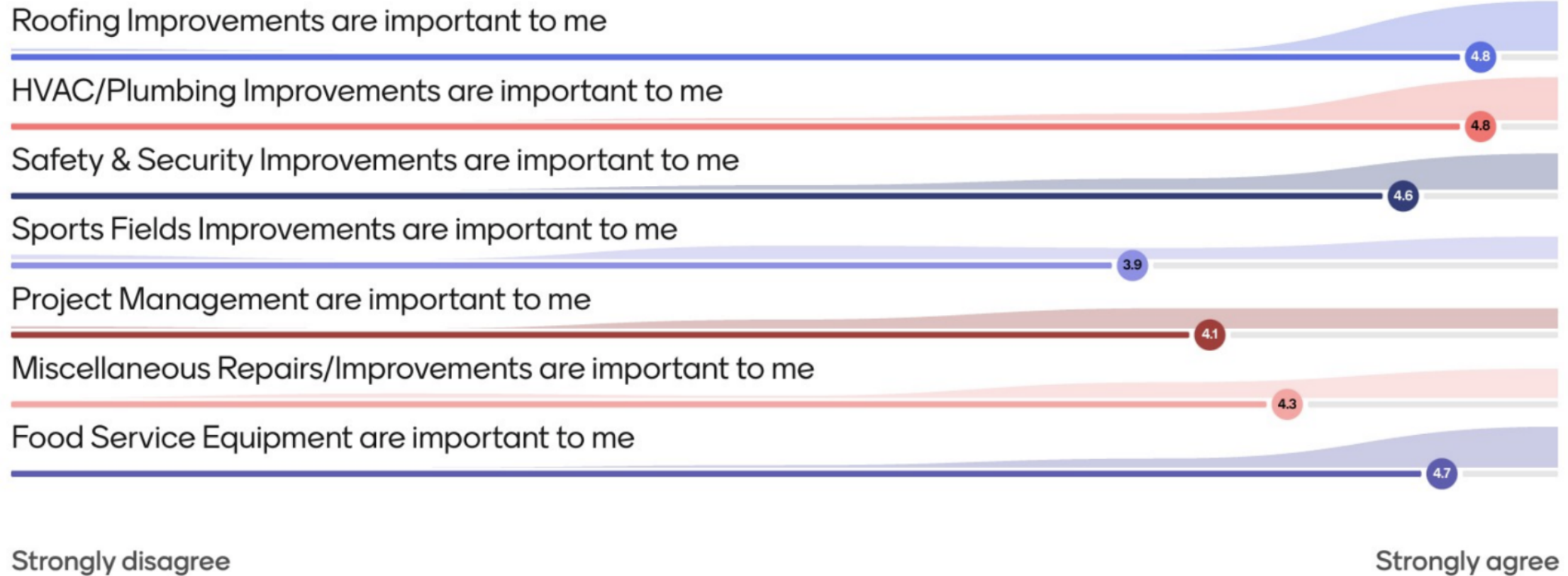
4.5

Strongly disagree

Strongly agree

Category	Total
Roofing Improvements	\$15.2M
HVAC / Plumbing Improvements	\$12.4M
Safety & Security Improvements	\$12M
Sports Fields Improvements	\$11.2M
Project Management	\$2M
Miscellaneous Repairs / Improvements	\$1.7M
Food Service Equipment	\$0.5M
Grand Total	\$55M

Critical Repairs Levy: How important are each of the items to you?



Capital Levy – Critical Repairs

Summary of Questions / Comments (themes)

To be provided to Superintendent with recommendation

- **Prioritization:** Keep Roofing, HVAC, Safety & Security, and Food Service Equipment at the center of the proposal and communications, as these received the strongest support.
- **Clarify project choices:** Illustrate how projects were prioritized from the larger list to demonstrate careful decision-making and fiscal responsibility.
- **Recognition of multiple viewpoints:** Sports fields and vestibules were seen by some as valuable community investments, while others questioned their necessity.

Capital Levy – Critical Repairs

Final Proposal - *Unmodified*

- Four-year levy (2027–2030) at \$55M total (~\$0.20–\$0.24 per \$1,000 AV).
- Include all proposed investments:

Category	Total
Roofing Improvements	\$15.2M
HVAC / Plumbing Improvements	\$12.4M
Safety & Security Improvements	\$12M
Sports Fields Improvements	\$11.2M
Project Management	\$2M
Miscellaneous Repairs / Improvements	\$1.7M
Food Service Equipment	\$0.5M
Grand Total	\$55M

Q&A: Clarifying Questions

-5 min



Table Exercise

Committee Consideration

At your table, individually reflect and answer the Poll

Prompt: Do you believe this Critical Repairs Levy proposal reflects the committee feedback and is ready to be sent to the Superintendent?

(Menti available for committee members' participation during meeting).

Steps:

- Individual reflection and Menti poll – 2 minutes

Capital Levy – Critical Repairs

Proposed Funding Amounts (in \$1,000's)

Year	Bonds	Transportation Levy	Technology Levy	Critical Repairs Levy	EP&O Levy
2027	69,492	2,000	24,866	14,303	
2028	79,148	-	25,379	12,427	
2029	84,571	-	26,006	13,335	
2030	91,163	-	26,658	14,536	

Estimated Resulting Tax Rates

Year	Bonds	Transportation Levy	Technology Levy	Critical Repairs Levy	EP&O Levy
2027	\$ 1.19	\$ 0.03	\$ 0.43	\$ 0.24	
2028	\$ 1.29	\$ -	\$ 0.41	\$ 0.20	
2029	\$ 1.31	\$ -	\$ 0.40	\$ 0.21	
2030	\$ 1.34	\$ -	\$ 0.40	\$ 0.21	

Existing
Bond Debt

Committee
Recommendation

Committee
Recommendation

Committee
Recommendation

EP&O Levy

Review and Recommendation

EP&O: Content Review

- Individual review: please review the 2026 EP&O Levy document at your table – 3 minutes



Activity: Turn and talk at your table

-5 minutes

Prompts:

- What resonates with you the most?
- What are you most curious about?



EP&O Levy

Initial Proposal *(1 of 2)*

- Four-year levy (2027–2030) at ~\$1.28 per \$1,000 AV within the \$3.17 combined rate.
- Provide for essential programs and services not fully funded by state or federal sources, such as:

Student Well-Being

Nurses, mental health counselors, behavior specialists, security officers, VOICE mentors, equity programs, and extracurricular activities.

Academic Opportunities

7-period high school day, summer school, dual language expansion, Gibson Ek, curriculum and materials, special education services, and secondary interventions.

Organizational Effectiveness

Additional teachers and compensation above state formula, teacher workdays, substitutes, custodians, maintenance staff, and transportation.

EP&O Levy

Initial Proposal (2 of 2)

- Levy designed to maintain stability below full legal authority, providing flexibility to adapt programs over time.
- New levy authority structure may create up to \$2M in additional capacity for expansion.

EP&O Levy

Committee Feedback

Student Well-Being

- Strong support for mental health counseling, nursing, behavior supports, security staff, VOICE mentors, equity programs, and activities.
- Viewed as highly visible services that directly impact student safety, health, and belonging.

Academic Opportunities

- Widespread support for 7-period high school day, summer school, interventions, dual language, Gibson Ek, and special education.
- Committee recognized importance of addressing gaps in state funding and critical for graduation/readiness.

Organizational Effectiveness

- Broad agreement that investments in staffing and operations (teachers, substitutes, custodians, maintenance, transportation) are foundational for sustaining daily operations, manageable class sizes, and continuity of learning.

EP&O Levy

Committee Feedback

Top Rated Priorities:

- Mental Health Counseling
- MTSS / Behavior Supports

Strongly Endorsed:

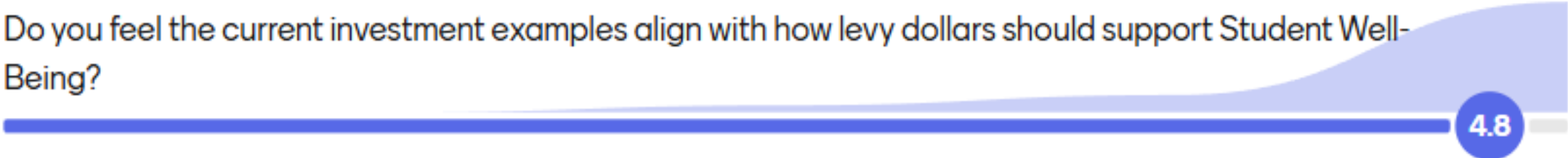
- Early Learning opportunities
- Safety & Security Staff
- Expanded Dual Language

Overall:

Committee emphasized that while some areas ranked lower, all expansion options represent meaningful investments; mental health and behavior supports clearly stood out as top priorities.

Student Well-Being Levy Investments

Do you feel the current investment examples align with how levy dollars should support Student Well-Being?



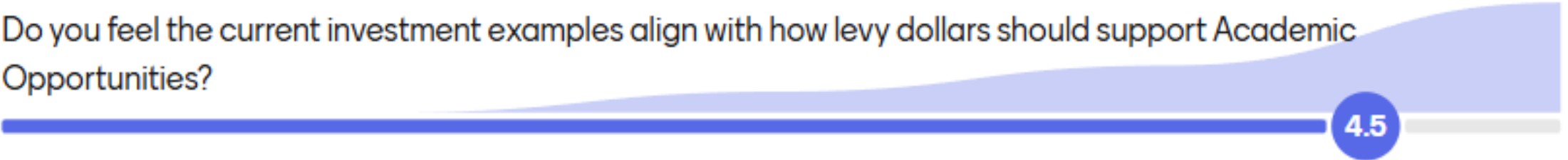
4.8

Strongly disagree

Strongly agree

EP&O: Academic Opportunities

Do you feel the current investment examples align with how levy dollars should support Academic Opportunities?



4.5

Strongly disagree

Strongly agree

EP&O: Organizational Effectiveness

Do you believe these organizational effectiveness investments are valuable and contribute to the staffing, services, and environments....

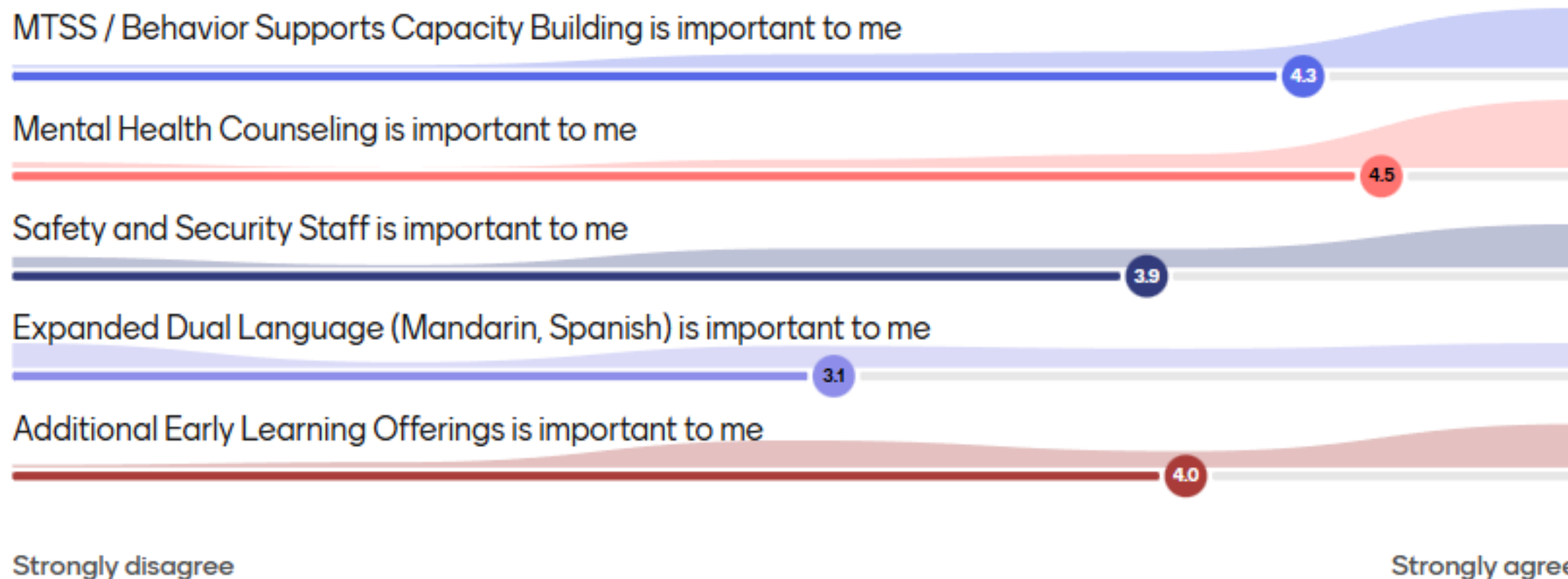


4.8

Strongly disagree

Strongly agree

How do you view the importance of each potential expansion area under consideration?



EP&O Levy

Summary of Questions / Comments (themes)

To be provided to Superintendent with recommendation

Top Expansion Priorities

Mental Health Counseling and MTSS/Behavior Supports received the highest ratings and were identified as the most important areas if new capacity is used.

Strongly Endorsed

Interest shown in Early Learning, Safety & Security Staff, and Dual Language, highlighting a broader set of potential investments.

EP&O Levy

Final Proposal - *Unmodified*

- Four-year levy (2027–2030) at ~\$1.28 per \$1,000 AV within the \$3.17 combined local tax rate.
- Continue funding for student well-being, academic opportunities, and organizational effectiveness.
- Levy structured below full legal authority, maintaining flexibility to adjust as needs change while creating up to \$2M in additional capacity focused on the committee's identified priority items.

Q&A: Clarifying Questions

-5 min



Table Exercise

Committee Consideration

At your table, individually reflect and answer the Poll

Prompt: Do you believe this EP&O Levy proposal reflects the committee feedback and is ready to be sent to the Superintendent?

(Menti available for committee members' participation during meeting).

Steps:

- Individual reflection and Menti poll – 2 minutes

EP&O Levy

Proposed Funding Amounts (in \$1,000's)

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2029	\$ 1.31	\$ -	\$ 0.40	\$ 0.21	\$ 1.25	= \$ 3.17
2030	\$ 1.34	\$ -	\$ 0.40	\$ 0.21	\$ 1.22	= \$ 3.17

Existing
Bond Debt

Committee
Recommendation

Committee
Recommendation

Committee
Recommendation

Committee
Recommendation

All Levies – Combined Recommendation

Proposed Funding Amounts (in \$1,000's)

Year	Transportation Levy	Capital Levy	EP&O Levy
2027	2,000	39,169	75,200
2028	-	37,806	78,200
2029	-	39,341	81,000
2030	-	41,194	82,800

Estimated Resulting Tax Rates

Year	Transportation Levy	Capital Levy	EP&O Levy
2027	\$ 0.03	\$ 0.67	\$ 1.28
2028	\$ -	\$ 0.61	\$ 1.27
2029	\$ -	\$ 0.61	\$ 1.25
2030	\$ -	\$ 0.61	\$ 1.22

Technology &
Critical Repairs

Total Combined
Estimated Tax Rate:
\$3.17*

**Includes existing bond debt*

Table Exercise

Committee Consideration

At your table, individually reflect and answer the Poll

Prompt: Do you believe this combined levy proposal including Transportation, Capital (Technology, Critical Repairs), and EP&O, reflects committee feedback and is ready to be sent to the Superintendent?

(Menti available for committee members' participation during meeting).

Steps:

- Individual reflection and Menti poll – 2 minutes

Closing

HOMEWORK:

- Complete Exit ticket.
- Look for email coming from Communications with further details for meeting #5

NEXT MEETING:

- *Tuesday, October 7, 2025*
 - Location: District Administration Building
 - Key Topics: Levy communication strategy

(Menti available for committee members' participation during meeting).



ISSAQUAH
SCHOOL DISTRICT 411

QUESTIONS or CONCERNS:

Martin Turney: TurneyM@issaquah.wednet.edu
Mark Sherwood: SherwoodM@issaquah.wednet.edu