



NORTH KITSAP
SCHOOL DISTRICT

Report ^{TO OUR} Community

**WINTER
2025-26**

PROPOSITIONS 1 & 2 • REPLACEMENT LEVIES • VOTE BY FEB. 10

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MESSAGE FROM YOUR SUPERINTENDENT

Dear North Kitsap Community,

Each time I visit our schools, I'm reminded of what makes North Kitsap such a special place. Our students are curious and engaged, our staff are dedicated to their success, and our families and community play an important part in that work. It truly takes all of us to help students reach their potential.

This February, voters will be asked to consider two levy measures that provide local funding for educational programs, services, and facility needs that the state does not fully fund. The feedback we gathered this fall helped us understand local priorities and guide the recommendations we shared with the School Board. Our Facilities Advisory Committee has also continued its thoughtful work identifying facility needs across our district.

Local levy dollars stay here in North Kitsap and help fund the programs and learning environments our students experience every day. I encourage you to learn more about both propositions, attend an upcoming community open house, and be an informed voter. Ballots will be mailed in mid-January and are due by Tuesday, February 10.

Thank you for being an active part of our North Kitsap community and for staying engaged in this important work.

Warmly,

DR. RACHEL DAVENPORT
Superintendent, North Kitsap School District



The North Kitsap School Board has adopted two replacement levy propositions after reviewing community feedback, district needs, and recommendations from the Facilities Advisory Committee. These levies support students and families across all our communities.

The North Kitsap School District will provide equal education opportunity and treatment for all students in all aspects of the academic and activities program without discrimination based on sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, immigration status, age, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, disability, or the use of a trained guide dog or service animal and provides equal access to the Scouts and other designated youth groups. Questions or complaints of alleged discrimination can be directed to the district's Title IX/RCW 28A.640 Compliance Officer, Gender Inclusive Schools Coordinator, ADA coordinator and/or the 504 Coordinator: address - 18360 NE Caldart Ave. NE, Poulsbo WA 98370 and phone (360) 396-3001.



ATHLETICS PROGRAMS



LEARNING TECHNOLOGY

WHAT'S ON THE FEBRUARY 2026 BALLOT?

North Kitsap has two levies on the February 2026 ballot. These are replacement levies, meaning they renew funding that already exists and is set to expire. They help fund the parts of public education that the state does not fully cover, including classroom staffing, student support, extracurricular activities, athletics, fine arts programs, building maintenance, safety, and technology.

PROPOSITION 1: REPLACEMENT EP&O LEVY

The current Educational Programs & Operations (EP&O) levy, approved by voters in 2022, is set to expire in 2026 and supports classroom instruction, staffing, student programs, and daily school operations. **This levy is a renewal, not a new tax.**

PROPOSITION 2: REPLACEMENT CAPITAL PROJECTS LEVY

Capital levies fund building improvements, safety and security upgrades, and the building systems that keep schools functioning well. The proposed capital projects levy is a six-year measure that replaces existing funding and supports rebuilding Pearson Elementary.



Local levy dollars stay in North Kitsap and directly support the schools our students use every day.



CLASSROOM LEARNING

EP&O LEVY
DETAILS, PAGES 4-5 >>>

CAPITAL LEVY
DETAILS, PAGES 6-7 >>>

Join us at a community open house!

All community members are invited to join us in-person at an upcoming open house to learn more about our funding measures and ask questions.

Mon., January 12
6:00 p.m.
Hilder Pearson
Elementary

Tues., January 20
6:00 p.m.
Kingston Middle
School Commons

Tues., January 27
6:00 p.m.
Hilder Pearson
Elementary

Learn more about
school funding



nkschools.org/school-funding

Proposition 1: Replacement EP&O Levy

SUPPORTING EVERY STUDENT, EVERY DAY

The EP&O Levy helps fund the day-to-day learning, staffing, and student support services that make up a complete educational experience. These local funds stay in North Kitsap and help fill the gap between what the state funds and what it actually costs to operate schools.

This levy is a renewal, not a new tax. It replaces the levy approved in 2022, which expires at the end of 2026. The proposed renewal would fund the years 2027 through 2030.



NKSD
ANNUAL
OPERATING
BUDGET

approx.

16% of our budget comes
from our EP&O levy



Our EP&O levy helps fill the g

STUDENT LEARNING

*Supporting classroom instruction
and educational programs*



- Classroom supplies, curriculum materials, and updated instructional resources
- Technology and software used in daily teaching and learning
- Art, music, career and technical education, and advanced course options
- Professional learning for teachers and staff

STUDENT SUPPORT

*Meeting academic, social,
and emotional needs*



- Counselors, nurses, social workers, and mental health support staff
- Safety and health services across all schools
- Athletics and extracurricular programs (district budgeted portions are fully funded through this levy)
- After-school and enrichment programs
- Note: State law now directs districts to use basic education funds for Special Education, but no additional state dollars were provided. As a result, other areas rely more on local levy funds to maintain programs and services.



LEARN MORE ABOUT THE EP&O LEVY
nkschools.org/2026-epo-levy



CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION



STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Gap in funding for:

OPERATIONS COSTS

Keeping schools open, safe, and functioning

- Transportation, maintenance, and custodial services
- Utilities, insurance, and material costs that have risen over time
- Food service operations and student nutrition support
- Districtwide services that maintain safe, clean, and functional learning environments



STAFFING AND COMPENSATION

Supporting the people who support students

The state uses a funding model that does not fully cover the actual cost of school staffing. Local levy funds help fill that gap so students have access to the staff they need.

- Salaries and benefits for teachers, paraeducators, and support staff not fully funded by the state
- School office, health, departmental, and technical staff
- Competitive compensation that helps attract and retain qualified staff



REPLACEMENT EP&O LEVY AMOUNTS & RATES



TAX YEAR	COLLECTION AMOUNT	PROJECTED TAX RATE*
2026 Expiring EP&O Levy		
2026	\$19,558,500	\$1.39
Proposed 2027-2030 Renewal		
2027	\$21,010,031	\$1.43
2028	\$21,834,134	\$1.43
2029	\$22,549,886	\$1.42
2030	\$23,966,542	\$1.45

AVERAGE TAXPAYER COST

If the EP&O levy is renewed, the cost increase for the owner of a \$600,000 home is estimated to be about **two dollars per month** for 2027.



*Tax rates are per \$1,000 assessed property value. Future tax rates are estimates. Tax rates may fluctuate, based on community growth and assessed values, but the district cannot collect more than the amount approved by voters.



Renewing the EP&O Levy maintains funding for programs, staff, and services the state does not fully support. Without this renewal, the district's operating budget would decrease by approximately 16%, affecting every school and department.

Proposition 2: Replacement Capital Projects Levy

MAINTAINING SAFE, FUNCTIONAL, AND UPDATED SCHOOLS

The proposed Facilities and Technology Capital Projects Levy supports major facility improvements, safety and security upgrades, and the building systems that help schools operate every day.

The state does not provide funding for most school building maintenance, major repairs, or safety upgrades. Local capital levies allow the district to care for school facilities and plan for long-term building needs.

REPLACEMENT CAPITAL LEVY AMOUNTS & RATES

TAX YEAR	COLLECTION AMOUNT	PROJECTED TAX RATE*
Proposed 2027-2032 Renewal		
2027	\$13,550,000	\$0.92
2028	\$14,092,000	\$0.92
2029	\$14,655,680	\$0.92
2030	\$15,241,907	\$0.92
2031	\$18,700,000	\$1.09
2032	\$19,488,000	\$1.09

Districtwide projects:

IMPROVE SAFETY AND SECURITY

Projects in this area support safer, more accessible learning environments, including:

- Fire alarm system replacements
- Accessibility improvements
- Bell and paging system upgrades
- Safer pedestrian and traffic flow
- Fencing and walkway improvements



IMPROVE BUILDING OPERATIONS

These projects update or replace aging building systems that schools rely on each day, such as:

- Heating and ventilation system upgrades
- Electrical and mechanical system improvements
- Technology and network systems that support district operations
- Maintenance and operations equipment upgrades



MAINTAIN COMMUNITY ASSETS

These projects preserve the community's investment in school buildings with:

- Roof repairs and replacements
- Exterior painting and sealing
- Asphalt, flooring, and site improvements
- Removal of older portables and structures



VIEW THE FULL PROPOSED
SCHOOL-BY-SCHOOL
PROJECT LIST:

nkschools.org/2026-capital-projects-levy



74-YEAR OLD HILDER PEARSON ELEMENTARY

Full school replacement project:

HILDER PEARSON ELEMENTARY

Hilder Pearson Elementary was built in 1951 and all of its major systems are past their service life. This levy would fund a full replacement of the school at an estimated cost of about \$50 million. The new building would be designed for about 350 students and constructed at the south end of the existing property so the current school can remain in use during construction.

The replacement school will include improved safety and accessibility, modern and energy-efficient systems, flexible learning spaces, and the gym planned through the 2022 levy. Design work would begin in 2027 with completion anticipated by fall of 2030.



AGING SCHOOL INTERIOR

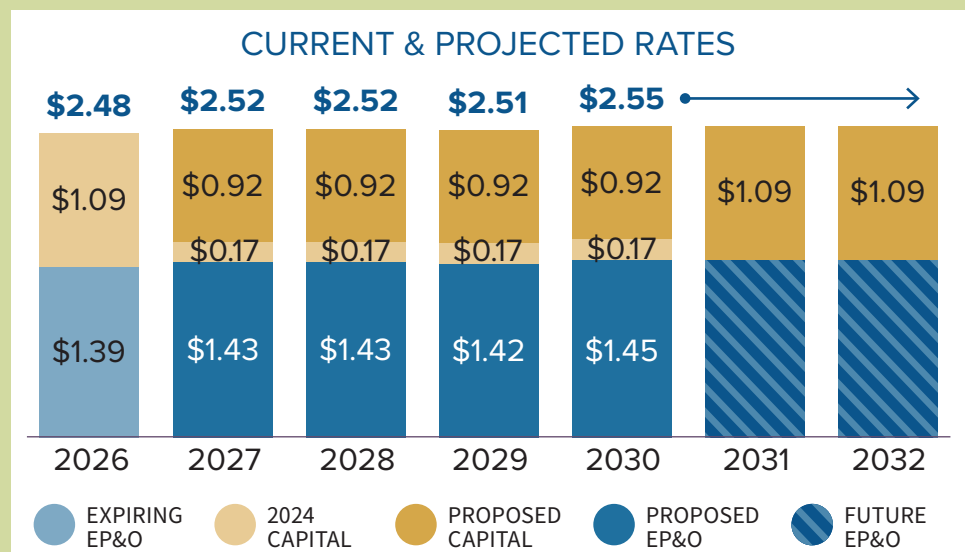
ESTIMATED TOTAL LOCAL SCHOOL TAX RATES*

Our goal is a stable local school tax rate.

The current EP&O Levy ends in December 2026. The 2024 Capital Levy continues through 2030 but shifts to a smaller technology and maintenance amount after 2026. **The proposed 2026 levies would replace expiring funding.**

AVERAGE TAXPAYER COST

If both levy replacements are approved, the cost increase for the owner of a \$600,000 home is estimated to be about **two dollars per month** for 2027.



*Tax rates are per \$1,000 assessed property value. Future tax rates are estimates. Tax rates may fluctuate, based on community growth and assessed values, but the district cannot collect more than the amount approved by voters.



18360 Caldart Ave. NE, Poulsbo WA 98370
(360) 396-3000 • www.nkschools.org

REMEMBER TO VOTE BY FEBRUARY 10, 2026

PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS

If you are a senior or disabled, you may qualify for a property tax exemption from the county. The qualifying criteria for the program is based upon your age and/or disability, residency, and income. For information on property tax exemptions and relief programs, call the Kitsap County Assessor's Office at **(360) 337-7160**.



LEARN MORE ABOUT THE
REPLACEMENT LEVIES
nkschools.org/2026levy

VOTER INFORMATION

Ballots arrive in the mail around January 23, and they must be postmarked by February 10, 2026.

Need to register or update your address? Visit **voter.votwa.gov**.

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nkschools.org

