



# LEARN ABOUT SCHOOL LEVIES

**These are not new taxes.** The Enrichment and Capital Projects Technology levies maintain current funding already in place.

**Levies are for learning.** They are a vital source of funding for schools.

**Bridging the funding gap.** The levies pay for the difference between what the state funds as "basic education" and what it actually costs to provide students with a well-rounded education.

**Vote by February 10!** Don't forget to turn in your ballots by February 10.

**Learn more about levies.** Visit [www.rsd.edu/levies](http://www.rsd.edu/levies).

➔ *Lea el folleto en español en [www.rsd.edu/levies](http://www.rsd.edu/levies).*







# RENEWAL LEVIES, NOT NEW TAXES

In February 2026, voters will be asked to renew the Richland School District’s four-year Educational Programs & Operations and Capital Projects Technology Levies.

These levies were approved by voters in 2022 and are due to expire at the end of 2026. **They are renewals, not new taxes.**

## WHAT DO SCHOOL LEVIES PAY FOR?

- **STUDENT LEARNING**  
Academic opportunities such as Advanced Placement, world languages, and courses that prepare students for college and career success.
- **STAFFING & CLASS SIZE**  
Levies fund 13% of certificated staff (teachers, specialists) and 16% of classified staff (office professionals, paraeducators), allowing for smaller class sizes and more elective opportunities.

■

**ATHLETICS**  
100% funded by local funding. Covers costs for all sports programs, coaches, athletic directors, equipment, and travel for away games.

■

**CURRICULUM & MATERIALS**  
Ensures students have access to up-to-date curriculum, textbooks, and hands-on tools that make learning engaging and relevant.

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**CLASSROOM TECHNOLOGY**  
Provides interactive tools and hardware, such as smart whiteboards, sound systems, and assistive technology, to help teachers create dynamic, hands-on learning experiences.

■

**ENRICHMENT**  
Funds before- and after-school clubs, activities, and advisors, as well as travel for competitions, field trips, and other beyond the classroom experiences. Clubs are 100% funded by levies.

■

**ART IN SCHOOLS**  
Supports creative electives and courses including visual arts, music, and drama, ensuring every student has the opportunity to explore and express their creativity.

■

**STUDENT SUPPORT**  
Provides funding for counselors, social workers, school psychologists, and other professionals who support student well-being and success.

■

**CYBERSECURITY & ONLINE SAFETY**  
Funds security systems, monitoring tools, and data protection measures that safeguard student and staff information and ensure safe learning environments.

■

**STUDENT DEVICES**  
Supports the purchase, maintenance, and replacement of Chromebooks and other devices, ensuring every student has access to technology, no matter their economic background.

## LEVY RATES

The Enrichment and Technology levies are not new taxes. They **maintain the current levy funding** already in place for our district.

The renewal enrichment levy rate would be \$2.50 per \$1,000 in assessed property value and the Technology levy rate would be \$0.50 per \$1,000.




## PROPERTY TAXES

Per the Benton County Assessor, property taxes adjust annually based on assessed property values. However, the district **does not collect additional revenue beyond the approved school levy total**. The total levy amount voters are asked to approve is a fixed dollar amount.




As more homes are built within Richland School District boundaries, the levy amount is shared among more property owners, which may **reduce the amount each individual property owner pays**.

## COST TO TAXPAYERS

What the average property owner will pay in local school taxes...

		
\$500,000 home value	\$3.92* per \$1,000 assessed home value	= \$1,960 per year
*includes existing bonds/levies		

If the renewal levies are approved, in 2027 the average property owner will pay...

		
\$500,000 home value	\$4.43** per \$1,000 assessed home value	= \$2,215 per year
**includes existing bonds/levies and new estimated levy rates		

An increase of  
\$255/year or  
\$21.25/month

To estimate your contribution to RSD schools with the renewal levies, visit [www.rsd.edu/calculator](http://www.rsd.edu/calculator)





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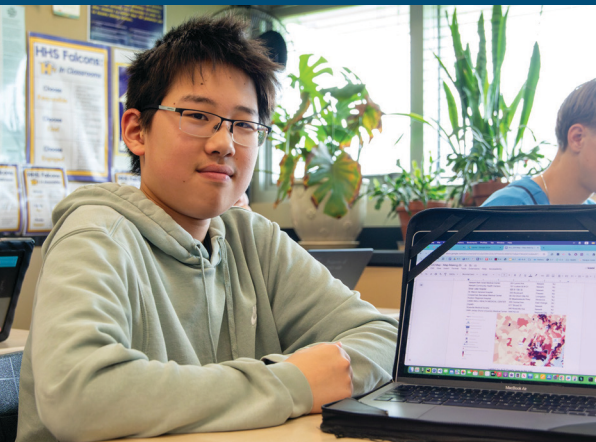
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**READY TO  
LEARN MORE?**

Get answers to more questions and  
learn more about the renewal levies:  
**[www.rsd.edu/levies](http://www.rsd.edu/levies)**



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



### WHAT IF THE LEVIES DO NOT PASS?

Local levy funding makes up about 14 percent of the district's annual budget. **Without this local support, the district would need to eliminate approximately \$30 million from areas that directly impact students,** including classroom staffing, student support services, athletics, extracurricular activities and clubs, performing and visual arts, student wellness and safety, and technology and cybersecurity needs.

### WHAT MAKES THIS A RENEWAL LEVY?

This is not a new tax. It renews an expiring local levy. This proposal renews the existing levy that is set to expire at the end of 2026. Our community has a long history of supporting school levies. Learn more at [www.rsd.edu/levies](http://www.rsd.edu/levies).

### IS THERE A TAX EXEMPTION FOR SENIORS AND LOW INCOME INDIVIDUALS?

Yes, there is assistance for low-income households. District residents should contact the Benton County Assessor's Office about their eligibility for a property tax exemption or deferral. Learn more at [www.co.benton.wa.us](http://www.co.benton.wa.us).

### NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

The Richland School District does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of sex, race, ethnicity, creed, religion, color, national origin, honorably discharged veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression, gender identity, homelessness, immigration or citizenship status, the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability, neurodivergence, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability is prohibited. This applies to all educational programs, extra-curricular activities, and employment. Learn more by visiting [www.rsd.edu/district/notifications](http://www.rsd.edu/district/notifications).

The Richland School District will also take steps to assure that national origin persons who lack English language skills can participate in all education programs, services and activities. For information regarding translation services or transitional bilingual education programs, contact the RSD Special Programs at 509-967-6050.