



Postal Customer

A message from the superintendent

Dear Skamania Community,

On February 11, patrons will have an opportunity to vote on the Skamania School District funding measure to replace our current levy.

This local funding provides approximately 12% of our district's operating budget, which includes expenses like school counseling services, music, P.E., maintenance and operations, and administrative support. This funding is critical to the continuation of high quality education, and without it the district would be forced to make some difficult decisions.

You will have the opportunity to attend an upcoming informational session at the school on January 23rd where you can learn more. Additional dates, times and information can be found at skamianaschooldistrict.org.

I hope you'll take the time to consider the details of the proposed measure and let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Dr. Ralph Pruitt, Superintendent

You are invited...

LEVY INFORMATION SESSION JANUARY 23, 2020 AT 6:30PM AT SKAMANIA SCHOOL



Why does the Skamania School District need levy funds every year?

The state only funds part of what it costs to provide a child's public education. The balance of the money needed is expected to come from local levies and the federal government. Our school relies heavily on local levy funds that provide approximately 12% of the Skamania School District's budget.

What will the impact be if the levy does not pass?

If the levy does not receive 50% approval, the Skamania School District would have to make some difficult decisions, which may include consolidation with another district. If that were to happen, **it would mean higher tax rates that are more in line with neighboring school districts at \$2.17 per \$1,000 of assessed property value.** Skamania taxpayers would miss out on the much lower tax rate proposal.

Funding causes challenges statewide

A complex new school funding model was implemented by the Washington State Legislature in 2018. It led to an increase in state funding to education but dramatically reduced the ability for districts to fund education locally, resulting in significant financial challenges for many school districts. Local funding is now more important than ever.

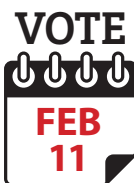
Learn more at www.esd112.org/schoolfunding

For More Information

Contact the superintendent's office
rpruitt@skamania.k12.wa.us

Phone: 509-427-8239

skamianaschooldistrict.org



Please Vote by February 11, 2020!

Ballots will be mailed to local residents beginning January 24th and must be dropped into an official ballot box by **8pm on February 11th**, or must be postmarked on or before the 11th. Low-income senior citizens and disabled adults may qualify for tax exemptions. Please call the Skamania County Assessor's Office at **(509) 427-3720** for further information.



YOUR REPLACEMENT LEVY GUIDE

What is a Replacement Enrichment Levy?

The Replacement Enrichment Levy is a funding measure that helps bridge the gap between what the state pays for education and what it actually costs to run a school district. The Skamania School District is running a three-year replacement enrichment levy that will go before voters on February 11th. This is not a new tax; but is simply the continuation of an existing tax. The proposed levy for 2020-2023 will fund programs in our district that are either not funded or not entirely funded by the state.

Replacement Enrichment Levy Estimated Rates*

Year	Amount collected	Rate per \$1,000 of assessed valuation
2020-21	\$229,400	\$1.52
2021-22	\$229,400	\$1.50
2022-23	\$229,400	\$1.48

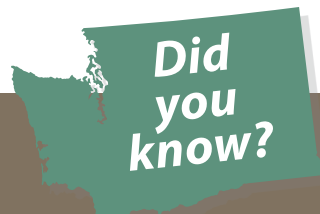
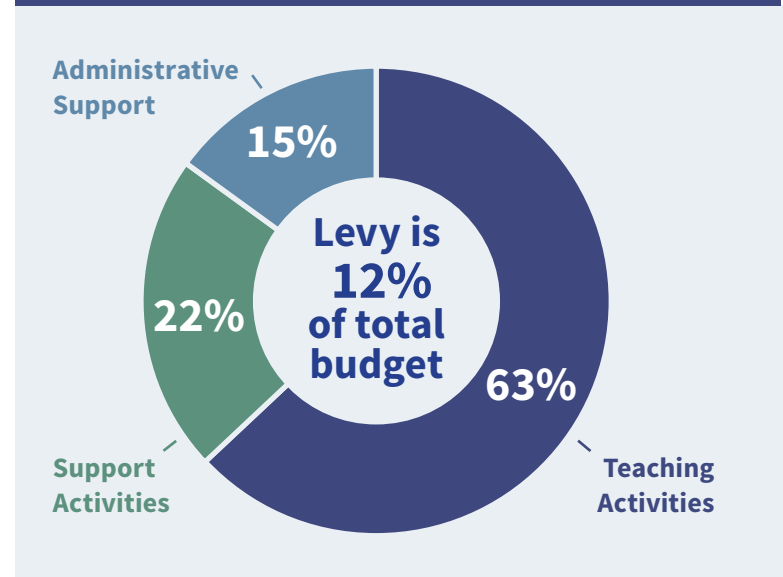
* Estimated Rates based on 1.5% AV growth.

What will the levy continue to fund?

» Programs supported by levy dollars include, but are not limited to:

-  School Counseling Services
-  Administrative Support
-  Maintenance & Operations needs
-  Physical Education
-  Music Programs
-  Transportation Services
-  Food Services Program
-  Other teacher positions not fully funded by the state

Breakdown of Levy Dollars by Category



Disabled persons or those 61 years of age or older may be eligible for a tax exemption. For more information, contact the assessor's office in Skamania County (509-427-3720).