

Edmonds School District News

A Community Supporting Success For All Students

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Serving Brier, Edmonds, Lynnwood, Mountlake Terrace, Woodway, and portions of unincorporated Snohomish County

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Replacement Technology/Capital Levy Election Day – Tuesday, February 14, 2012

The Edmonds School District is holding an election Tuesday, February 14, 2012, to renew its Technology/Capital Levy. This document provides detailed information on this four-year replacement measure.

The decision to put this measure on the ballot was reviewed extensively and the levy will collect the same amount approved by voters in 2008, helping the District's students to keep pace with today's learning needs.

"Continuing to provide our students with the instructional and learning tools that are contributing to our overall academic growth and success is essential," said School Board Vice President Gary Noble.

The Capital portion of the replacement levy will also address priority safety issues.

"Our community is very supportive of our ongoing efforts to be diligent in the maintenance of our schools," Board member Susan Phillips said. "The measure improves safety by updating traffic flow patterns and completes roofing projects at schools."

Superintendent Nick Brossoit added: "Our supportive community keeps us on a replacement cycle to ensure classroom technology for student learning is available to all students."

"Local support of our public school system has been a key to our students' academic progress," he added. "We encourage people to make an informed decision February 14, 2012."

Proposition No. 1 Replacement Technology/Capital Levy

The Board of Directors of Edmonds School District No. 15, serving the communities of Brier, Edmonds, Lynnwood, Mountlake Terrace, and Woodway, adopted Resolution No. 11-36, concerning a proposition to acquire technology for student learning, and make safety and building system improvements. This proposition would authorize the District to replace an expiring levy by levying the following excess taxes upon the taxable property within the District for support of the District's Capital Projects Fund. The replacement levy collection averages \$7.85 million per year for each of the four years, 2013 through 2016. The rates per thousand are projected to be at 44 cents, the same rate collected now.

Questions? Call Cynthia Nelson, Technology, 425-431-7337 or Edward Peters, Capital Projects, 425-431-7170.

The information in this handout is intended to provide facts and an overview of the proposition.

For more information:

- Visit www.edmonds.wednet.edu
- Call Community Relations at 425-431-7044
- Email schoolelection@edmonds.wednet.edu

Questions & Answers



Nick Brossoit,
Superintendent

Why do communities have local technology and capital levies?

People want their local schools to provide the tools needed to improve student learning and provide students with well-maintained, safe learning environments. The state does not provide adequate funding for technology or capital facilities, and the law allows school districts to seek local funding support in these areas through levies.

What does renewal of the Technology/Capital Levy provide for students and schools?

The Replacement Technology/Capital Levy provides funding for technology for student learning and capital facilities improvements. The majority of the funds to be collected over four years will be used to replace older equipment. Additionally, these funds allow the District to provide local support in technology for:

continued on page 2

Please remember to vote by February 14, 2012

What the Replacement Levy Funds...

TECHNOLOGY	
Technology Tools for Student Learning	\$12,245,000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Replace older equipment as it ages. This includes: mobile labs, laptops, specific teaching and learning tools for students with special needs, teacher laptops, projectors and document presenters 	
Professional Development and Tech Support	\$4,080,000
Tools for Organizational Support	\$3,475,000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> License fees for student, fiscal, human resources information system (Skyward), web content management system (SchoolWires), and other administrative systems. Replace office staff computers. 	
Infrastructure (Facility & Network) Upgrades	\$2,200,000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Modernize servers and upgrade wireless systems. 	
SUB-TOTAL	\$22,000,000
CAPITAL FACILITIES	
Safety and Emergency Preparedness	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Modernize school pedestrian and traffic safety issues at priority locations. 	\$1,800,000
System Upgrades and Asset Protection	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roofing projects at priority locations. 	\$7,700,000
SUB-TOTAL	\$9,500,000
Total, Four-Year Replacement Levy Proposal	\$31,500,000

Academic Growth and Success



Since it first received voter approval in 2004, the technology tools for student learning that have been provided by the Technology/Capital Levy have contributed to the academic growth and success of our students. Here are several examples:

- Our extended graduation rate is 94 percent, among the highest in the state. This is up from 80.5 percent in 2008.
- On the 2010-11 state assessments, our students surpassed the state in: reading in every grade level; writing in fourth, seventh, and 10th grades; math in grades 3-8 with the exception of fourth grade; and science in fifth, eighth, and 10th grades.
- The 805 district students taking the national Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) scored higher than their state and national counterparts in the three examination areas: critical reading, mathematics and writing.

"It is encouraging to see this pattern of growth over recent years," Superintendent Nick Brossoit said. "It is wonderful to see these improvements in student learning and skills in particular over the same years we have had to endure significant state funding reductions. The focus and work we are doing as a system is making a positive difference."

Questions? Tony Byrd, Teaching and Learning, 425-431-7050.

Questions & Answers *continued*

related professional development and tech support; tools for organizational support; and infrastructure upgrades. In Capital Facilities, these funds will allow the District to provide local support for: safety by modernizing pedestrian and traffic safety issues and roofing needs at priority locations.

How much will renewal of the levy cost me?

Renewal of the four-year Technology/Capital Levy is estimated to cost 44 cents per \$1,000 of assessed property value from 2013-2016. For each \$100,000 of assessed value, the cost is estimated to be \$44, or for a home assessed at \$400,000, the cost is estimated to be \$176. This is the same amount as the levy expiring in 2012.

What's the total Overall Estimated Tax Impact if the Replacement Levy is Approved?

The current rate is \$4.15 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation. In 2012, that rate is projected to be \$4.60 per \$1,000. The tax rate is projected to increase to \$5.48 per \$1,000 by 2016.

If my property is valued at less in this current economy will this replacement levy cost me more than I am paying now?

No, while the rate per \$1,000 for this replacement levy will change based on assessed valuations, the total amount paid by each household will be about the same as they are paying now for the levy that is expiring.

See house chart at bottom left of page.

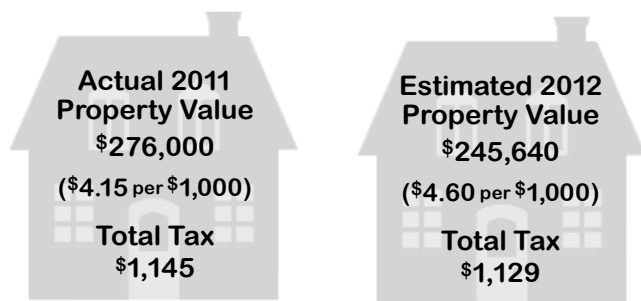
How can I get more information or have someone speak to my group or organization about the levy?

If you or organization would like a person to come to your meeting to make a presentation or you have additional questions, please call DJ Jakala in Community Relations at 425-431-7044 or email jakalad@edmonds.wednet.edu.

A document presenter, projector, and laptop are available in each classroom and used daily by classroom teachers in the instruction of students. There are more than 1,000 classrooms across the district serving nearly 20,000 students in 34 schools and programs.



Estimated Total Tax Impact

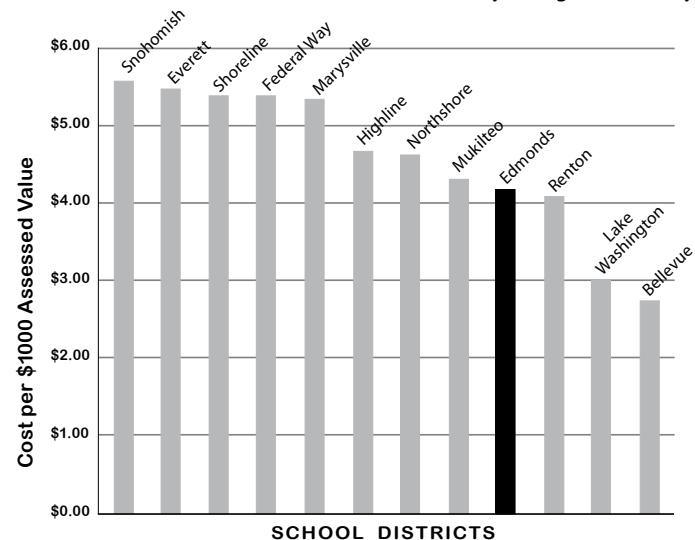


Note: The property values are the average assessed value for Snohomish County

As displayed in the house chart above, property assessed valuation has decreased and though the rate per \$1,000 is estimated to increase, the total amount paid is projected to be equal or less than what is paid now.

How Edmonds Compares

2011 Overall Property Tax Impact



NOTE: This was the most current, available data at time of publication.

Tax Exemption for Seniors

Anyone age 61 now or who will be 61 by December 31 of this year or retired because of a physical disability may qualify for an exemption and/or a reduction on next year's property taxes, including this local school levy. The total, combined gross household income maximum is \$30,000 or less. For more information: Snohomish County Assessor's Office, Mail Stop 510, 3000 Rockefeller, Everett, WA 98201 or 425-388-3540.



Kicks Off Across the District

Grant-funded program designed to get kids moving

Be on the lookout across the district October 17, when as many as 400 students lace up and start running and more as part of the inaugural MOVE 60! program being piloted at eight schools.

The three-year, \$917,000 grant from the South Snohomish County Commission for Health starts October 17. The goal is to get students exercising 60 minutes per day by participating in this free program either before or after school. The program is intended for students who need more exercise, may have childhood obesity or health issues, or do not have the opportunity to play on a sports team, said program co-coordinators and district physical education teachers Jennifer Hershey and Jennifer McCloughan.

The participating schools during the first year of the grant are in Edmonds, Lynnwood, and Mountlake Terrace: Cedar Valley Community School, College Place Elementary, Hazelwood, Lynndale, Maplewood K-8, Meadowdale Elementary, Mountlake Terrace Elementary, and Spruce. Eight more schools will be added each of the next two years.

A maximum of 50 students can register at each participating school for each of the three, nine-week sessions. Weekly activities will include: running club, jump rope, team sports, fitness games, and alternative activities such as circus arts.

A key of this grant is that it funds free bus rides home at the end of the day, which will make it more accessible to many students who might not otherwise have a ride home, they said.

For more information visit www.edmonds.wednet.edu.



District Fair with a F.A.C.E.

Saturday January 28, 2012
9 a.m. - noon

Hosted at Meadowdale Middle School
6500 168th St. SE, Lynnwood, 98037

- ★ All schools & programs represented
- ★ Kindergarten registration packets available
- ★ Meet the community groups that support our schools
- ★ Middle & high school opportunities

Interpreters
Available

INFORMATION: 425.431.7044 ~
www.edmonds.wednet.edu ~ Visit us on Facebook

Mark Your Calendar!

- Oct. 12** **Superintendent's Parent Meeting** at Meadowdale High School Theater, 7 p.m.
- Oct. 17** **Community Forum for School Board Candidates** hosted by the Edmonds PTSA Council and the Special Education PTSA Committee at the ESC*, 7 p.m.
- Oct. 24 - 28** **Parent Conferences Grades K-6 Only**
- Oct. 25** **School Board Meeting** at the ESC*, 6:30 p.m.
- Nov. 2** **Superintendent's Roundtable** at the ESC*, 12-1 p.m.
Program topic - See www.edmonds.wednet.edu
Superintendent's Parent Meeting at Lynnwood High School Theater, 7 p.m.
- Nov. 9** **Superintendent's Parent Meeting** at Mountlake Terrace High School Theater, 7 p.m.
- Nov. 15** **School Board Meeting** at the ESC*, 6:30 p.m.
- Nov. 16** **Superintendent's Parent Meeting** at Edmonds-Woodway High School Theater 7 p.m.
- Nov. 29** **School Board Meeting** at the ESC*, 6:30 p.m.
- Dec. 7** **Superintendent's Roundtable** at the ESC*, 12-1 p.m.
Program topic - See www.edmonds.wednet.edu
- Dec. 13** **School Board Meeting** at the ESC*, 6:30 p.m.
- Jan. 10** **School Board Meeting** at the ESC*, 6:30 p.m.
- Jan. 11** **Superintendent's Roundtable** at the ESC*, 12-1 p.m.
Program topic - See www.edmonds.wednet.edu
- Jan. 28** **District Families and Communities Engaged (F.A.C.E.)** at Meadowdale Middle School, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
- Jan. 31** **School Board Meeting** at the ESC*, 6:30 p.m.
- Feb. 1** **Superintendent's Roundtable** at the ESC*, 12-1 p.m.
Program topic - See www.edmonds.wednet.edu
- Feb. 14** **School Board Meeting** at the ESC*, 6:30 p.m.
Replacement Technology/Capital Levy

* The Educational Service Center (ESC) is located at 20420 68th Ave. W, Lynnwood, 98036 (just south of Edmonds Community College).

Stay in Contact with Us

Are you interested in receiving more detailed information about the events and news from our district?

- **Become a "Key Communicator"** and receive news directly in your inbox! Visit us online at www.edmonds.wednet.edu and "register."
- **Check your local educational access TV channel** for updates from our district during the summer! (Comcast Channel 21/26 or Verizon Channel 38)
- **www.edmonds.wednet.edu**



Edmonds School District Board of Directors



Susan Paine
Director District 1
President



Gary Noble
Director District 3
Vice President



Susan Phillips
Director District 4
Legislative Representative



Ann McMurray
Director District 2



Patrick Shields
Director District 5



Dr. Nick Brossoit
Superintendent and
Board Secretary

Comprising five director districts, the Board of Directors conducts the business of the Edmonds School District. The board meets alternate Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Room at the Educational Service Center, 20420 68th Ave. W., Lynnwood, 98036. Study sessions, at which the board does not vote on matters, are held as needed on alternate Tuesdays at 6 p.m.

Books Abound!

Our investment in reading and writing brings nearly 200,000 books to elementary students

Our students received a real boost in the foundational component of their learning when they returned for the 2011-12 school year.

Building on the literacy program started last school year for students in kindergarten through 6th grade, the district rolled out the second phase of the Benchmark Literacy Program.

The first phase introduced last year, provided common instructional materials across all elementary schools that supported the most essential components of early literacy development. Teachers used those materials to focus on the fundamentals of reading, writing and reading comprehension in their classrooms.

This year, with the arrival of nearly 200,000 new books, the focus is on tailoring reading to each student's skill level, said Lara Drew, director of elementary education. The program gives teachers the tools to work with students one-on-one and small groups and meet their individual learning needs.

"Teachers are very excited," Drew said. "The ability to tailor support to each student's needs is very powerful."



Guided Reading Book Rooms are being established this Fall in all 22 district elementary schools. Each book room contains 580 different titles for grade K-6. Teachers can select books that best match a student's reading skill level. Pictured in the book room at Lynndale Elementary are second grade teacher Kari Park with second-grader Christian Paulos.

Supporting Student Achievement

Percent of Students Meeting or Exceeding Standard in the District and State

GRADE	Reading		Math		Writing		Science	
	District	State	District	State	District	State	District	State
3	78	73	66	62				
4	71	67	55	59	65	61		
5	73	68	69	61			60	56
6	75	71	63	59				
7	59	56	63	57	73	71		
8	75	69	53	50			63	62
10	85	82			91	86	55	50

Scores are based on OSPI data as of Aug. 30, 2011.

Student Learning

We surpassed the state in:

- READING in every grade level;
- WRITING in 4th, 7th and 10th grades;
- MATH in grades 3-8 with the exception of 4th grade;
- SCIENCE in 5th, 8th and 10th grades.

Top Educators

21 District teachers from 14 schools earned National Board Certification last year, bringing the total to 100 districtwide.

Graduation Rate

Our extended graduation rate is 94 percent, among the highest in the state. This is up from 80.5 percent in 2008.

Parent and Community Involvement



Inspired by the work of the Equity Alliance for Achievement and their own passion, more than 100 trained Natural Leaders are now active in our schools helping to bridge relations with our diverse community.



Safe and Improved Learning Environments

Funded by the voter-approved 2006 Capital Construction Bond, we opened the new Meadowdale Middle School on time and under budget. We continue to move forward with all capital project work.

Edmonds School District News provides school and education information to all the residents of Edmonds School District #15. For more information about the District, please call the Administration Office at (425) 431-7000 or visit www.edmonds.wednet.edu. To request this newsletter in a different format for people with disabilities please call (425) 431-7044. Board of Directors: Susan Paine, President; Gary Noble, Vice President; and members Ann McMurray, Susan Phillips, and Patrick Shields. Superintendent: Nick J. Brossoit, Ed.D. Writing, Editing: DJ Jakala and Oscar Halpert, Art Direction and Design: Jeanne Macdonald. Photography: School, District staff. Printed with soy ink on 30% Post Consumer Waste recycled paper.

The Edmonds School District complies with all federal and state rules and regulations and does not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, or physical, sensory or mental handicaps (see Board Policy 6005). This holds true for all students who are interested in participating in educational programs and/or extracurricular school activities. Inquires regarding compliance and/or grievance procedures may be directed to the District's Title IX/RCW 28A.640 Compliance Officer, HIB Compliance Officer, and ADA Coordinator, Debby Carter (425-431-7023) or Section 504 Coordinator, Katy Wysocki (425-431-7186). Visit or mail: 20420 68th Ave. W, Lynnwood, WA 98036.

Why am I getting this newsletter? This newsletter is intended to reach all residents in our District including the nearly 70 percent of households without school-age children. We use bulk mailing rather than individually addressing each newsletter because it is the least expensive way to distribute this newsletter.

