

Need assistance?

Vote Centers

Vote Centers are available for voters that need assistance. Each center has voting machines that offer audio or large print ballots, and other assistive devices. Elections staff are available to assist as needed. Voters can also register to vote and get their ballots at Vote Centers through 8 p.m. on Election Day.

Location	Hours of operation
King County Elections 919 SW Grady Way Renton, WA 98057	Weekdays, January 19 – February 7, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Election Day, February 8, 8:30 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Access Your Ballot Online

Access and print your ballot online! Those with disabilities or others who choose to do so may mark their selections on the ballot online before printing – or you can choose to print out a blank ballot to mark by hand. Online ballot access has been designed specifically to enable voters who are blind or have low vision to cast a private ballot and is available to all registered voters.

Just print, sign, follow the instructions for packaging, and return as you normally would – by mail or by drop box before boxes close at 8 p.m. sharp on Election Day.

Access your ballot at kingcounty.gov/elections/obmp.

If none of the above voting options work for you, please contact our office.

Register to vote

Online

You can register to vote online at VoteWA.gov -- all you need is two minutes and a Washington State Driver's License or ID. You can register online by January 31 for this election.

By mail

Download and print a registration form from kingcounty.gov/elections and mail it to King County Elections. It must be received by January 31 for this Special election.

In person

You can register in person through February 8, Election Day, at King County Elections headquarters. More information about hours and services can be found at kingcounty.gov/elections

February 8, 2022 Special Election

King County Official Local Voters' Pamphlet

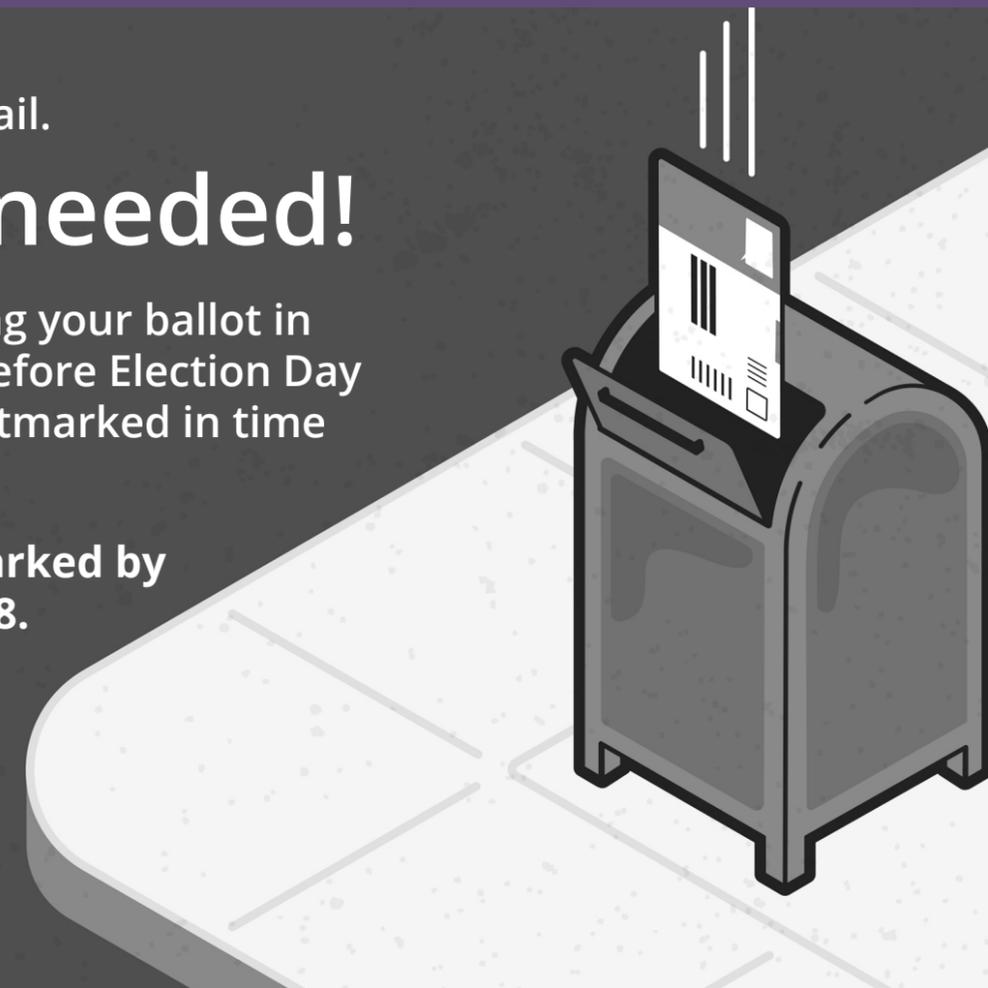
as requested by the Mercer Island School District No. 400

Return your ballot by mail.

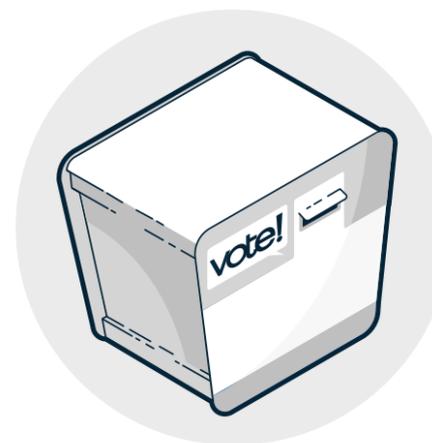
No stamp needed!

We recommend dropping your ballot in the mail by the Friday before Election Day to make sure it gets postmarked in time to be counted.

Ballots must be postmarked by Election Day, February 8.



Ballot drop boxes



All 74 drop boxes across King County will be open for this election. To find the complete list, please see the other pamphlet in your ballot packet or visit kingcounty.gov/elections.

Ballot drop boxes close at 8 p.m. sharp on Election Day, February 8.



Who donates to campaigns?
View contributors for candidates and measures

Public Disclosure Commission
www.pdc.wa.gov | Toll Free 1-877-601-2828

206-296-VOTE (8683) | elections@kingcounty.gov | kingcounty.gov/elections

919 SW Grady Way
Renton, WA 98057



Mercer Island School District No. 400

King County Elections is not authorized to edit statements, nor is it responsible for the contents therein.

Mercer Island School District No. 400

King County Elections is not authorized to edit statements, nor is it responsible for the contents therein.

Proposition No. 1 Replacement Educational Programs and Operations Levy

The Board of Directors adopted Resolution No. 705 concerning educational funding. This proposition authorizes the District to levy the following excess taxes, to replace an expiring levy, on all taxable property within the District, to support the District's educational programs and operations not funded or fully funded by the State:

Collection Year	Estimated Levy Rate/\$1,000 Assessed Value	Levy Amount
2023	\$1.00	\$12,000,000
2024	\$1.00	\$12,000,000
2025	\$1.00	\$12,000,000
2026	\$1.00	\$12,000,000

subject to legal limits on levy amounts and rates at the time of levy. Should this proposition be approved?

Yes

No

The complete text of this measure is available at the Elections Office or online at kingcounty.gov/elections.

Statement in favor

Submitted by: Kathy Moffett McDonald, Kim Thunen, Sarah Smith, www.yesmischools.org

Mercer Islanders have a long tradition of supporting our students and keeping our schools strong. This renewal levy provides funding for critical programs not funded by the state under "basic education." This levy will run from 2023-2026 and raise up to \$12 million per year. Rates are calculated at \$2742 per enrolled student, a state-determined amount. This is not a new tax nor an expected increase in your taxes. The funds comprise 17% of the district's annual budget and includes the following: nurses at all schools, 7 period day at the high school, advanced science courses and fine arts, music, clubs, and programs at all schools. 40% of the Special Education Budget will be supported by this levy renewal. The last levy was approved by over 71% of Mercer Island voters. 99% of districts in Washington State pass similar levies. This is the local way we directly fund public education for our students. Strong public education supports our property values. This levy has the endorsement of all 6 school's PTAs and school board directors. Please vote yes to support our students and keep our schools among the best in the state. Video, FAQ, and endorsements at www.yesmischools.org.

Rebuttal of statement in opposition

This renewal levy is supported by the Committee for Mercer Island Public Schools (CMIPS), a group of politically diverse volunteers who care deeply about our schools. The con statement is from an off-island individual who opposes all school levies. This replacement levy begins funding initiatives in 2023. This is not a new tax and is authorized by the legislature. The last levy was supported by more than 71% of voters. Please vote yes again.

Explanatory statement

Passage of Proposition No. 1 would replace an expiring levy and allow the levy of \$12,000,000 in property taxes within Mercer Island School District for collection in 2023, the levy of \$12,000,000 for collection in 2024, the levy of \$12,000,000 for collection in 2025, and the levy of \$12,000,000 for collection in 2026. In accordance with Resolution No. 705 approving this proposition, these taxes would be deposited in the Mercer Island School District's General Fund to pay part of the general expenses of operating the District. General expenses of the District include special education, nurses, safety and security, employee costs (including salaries and the seven period day), instructional materials, special programs, activities and sports, technology systems operation, transportation costs, maintenance of facilities and other non-capital expenses of operating the District schools, not funded or fully funded by the State. If authorized by the voters and based on projected assessed valuation information, the estimated levy rate per \$1,000 of assessed value would be \$1.00 for collection in the years 2023 through 2026, inclusive. The exact levy rate shall be adjusted based upon the actual assessed value of the property within the District and the legal limit of the levy amount at the time of the levy.

Exemptions from taxes may be available to certain homeowners. To determine if you qualify, call the King County Assessor at (206) 296-7300.

For questions about this measure, contact: Tyrell Bergstrom, Executive Director of Finance, (206) 236-3295, tyrell.bergstrom@mercerislandschools.org

Statement in opposition

In 2018, the McCleary Decision was promised to be a levy swap. Instead, state school property taxes increased dramatically and local school taxes never went away and are again spiraling out of control.

For 2020-2021, for the district's administrators, the median total compensation was \$211,089 with a high of \$321,541. Median teacher compensation is at \$125,113 up 18% in the last 3 years - multiple times inflation.

The argument that this levy is for a certain few duty types is disingenuous and heartless at best. The district complains that this levy fills the gap left from state legislators. The legislators are correct in saying no to the district. Local voters should do the same.

Nearly all districts try to just focus on how our property tax rates will remain nearly flat as if that has or will do us any favors. A flat tax rate multiplied by skyrocketing assessed property values equals skyrocketing taxes in dollars (paid for by property owners and renters in their rents). Please provide your input and vote. More details at, www.schooldataproject.com

Submitted by: Jeff Heckathorn, info@schooldataproject.com

Rebuttal of statement in favor

In 2019-2020, per pupil expenditures (including capital outlays and interest on debt) for the district were already at \$21,287. That's above tuition and books at many universities let alone most private K-12 schools.

In 2018, because of the McCleary Decision, state legislators pumped billions more dollars into our public schools, largely from increased property taxes. There is no amount of money monopoly school districts will be satisfied with. Citizens are crying uncle. Enough!

Proposition No. 2 Replacement Capital Projects Levy

The Board of Directors of Mercer Island School District No. 400 adopted Resolution No. 704 concerning capital projects and technology. This proposition funds construction, modernization and remodeling of existing facilities, and technology improvements including equipment, infrastructure and the implementation of new technology systems for operations and instruction; and authorizes the following excess levies for such purposes on all taxable property within the District:

Collection Year	Estimated Levy Rate/\$1,000 Assessed Value	Levy Amount
2023	\$0.75	\$7,755,871
2024	\$0.75	\$7,885,223
2025	\$0.75	\$8,018,454
2026	\$0.75	\$8,155,683
2027	\$0.75	\$8,297,028
2028	\$0.75	\$8,442,614

all as provided in the Resolution. Should this proposition be approved?

Yes

No

The complete text of this measure is available at the Elections Office or online at kingcounty.gov/elections.

Statement in favor

Submitted by: Kathy Moffett McDonald, Kim Thunen, Sarah Smith, www.yesmischools.org

Mercer Islanders have a long tradition of supporting our students and keeping our schools strong. This renewal levy provides funding for critical capital and technology improvements for our schools. This levy will run from 2023-2028 and raise \$7.7-\$8.4 million per year. This is not a new tax.

Renovations and improvements will be made to school roofs, building infrastructure, classrooms, athletic fields, playgrounds, and other maintenance requirements. School safety and security will be enhanced and maintained. This levy renewal benefits the entire community. The school district owns Mary Wayte pool and plans a much needed refresh of locker rooms, deck, and viewing area. The MIHS tennis courts will be resurfaced and lights added. The bus lot will prepare to accept electric school buses for a cleaner environment for all Islanders. This levy renewal provides students and staff computer equipment, training and access to online textbooks. The last levy renewal was approved by 77% of Mercer Island voters. This levy has the endorsement of all 6 school's PTAs and school board directors. Please vote yes to support our students and keep our schools among the best in the state. Video, FAQ, and endorsements at www.yesmischools.org.

Rebuttal of statement in opposition

This renewal levy is supported by the Committee for Mercer Island Public Schools (CMIPS), a group of politically diverse volunteers who care deeply about our schools. The con statement is from an off-island individual who opposes all school levies. This replacement levy begins funding initiatives in 2023. This is not a new tax and is authorized by the legislature. The last levy was supported by more than 77% of voters. Please vote yes again.

Explanatory statement

Passage of Proposition No. 2 would replace an expiring levy and allow the levy of \$7,755,871 in property taxes within Mercer Island School District No. 400 for collection in 2023, the levy of \$7,885,223 for collection in 2024, the levy of \$8,018,454 for collection in 2025, the levy of \$8,155,683 for collection in 2026, the levy of \$8,297,028 collection in 2027, and the levy of \$8,442,614 for collection in 2028 to modernize its educational facilities and programs through certain facility improvements and the acquisition, implementation, and management of computer and technology systems, including infrastructure, hardware, software, online applications, and related training; and to maintain schools and support facilities by making needed infrastructure improvements. In accordance with Resolution No. 704 approving this proposition, these taxes would be collected over six years and deposited in the District's Capital Projects Fund for acquiring and installing computer technology, related technology infrastructure, administrative expenses, and other necessary equipment purchases; and facility improvements. If authorized by the voters, and based on projected assessed valuation information, estimated levy rates per \$1,000 of assessed value would be \$0.75 (2023 collection); \$0.75 (2024 collection); \$0.75 (2025 collection); \$0.75 (2026 collection); \$0.75 (2027 collection); and \$0.75 (2028 collection). The exact levy rate shall be adjusted based upon the actual assessed value of the property within the District at the time of the levy.

Exemptions from taxes may be available to certain homeowners. To determine if you qualify, call the King County Assessor at (206) 296-7300.

For questions about this measure, contact: Tyrell Bergstrom, Executive Director of Finance, (206) 236-3295, tyrell.bergstrom@mercerislandschools.org

Statement in opposition

Submitted by: Jeff Heckathorn, info@schooldataproject.com

These cap levy items should come out of the General Fund. If salaries were not so bloated this would be possible.

These levies should be rejected. There should be no tax measures whatsoever on the ballot in February. February is the lowest voter turnout election of the year. Understandably. Most citizens are just learning that there are levies to vote on - again. We just had the holidays. Citizens have voting fatigue. And, importantly, citizens won't even receive their property tax bills for the year until a month later in March. How convenient.

In the interest of high voter participation, these important, large tax measures (which affect all property owners and renters in their rents) should be only on the November Election. It is irresponsible for the district to propose property tax measures a month before voters see their property tax bills.

The state will never be able to fulfill its constitutional obligation of fully-funding schools so long as local districts are allowed to spend more than the ample provision the state provides. Until that changes, citizens need to reject these local levies like the ones before you today. More details at www.schooldataproject.com

Rebuttal of statement in favor

In 2019-2020, per pupil expenditures (including capital outlays and interest on debt) for the district were already at \$21,287. That's above tuition and books at many universities let alone most private K-12 schools.

In 2018, because of the McCleary Decision, state legislators pumped billions more dollars into our public schools, largely from increased property taxes. There is no amount of money monopoly school districts will be satisfied with. Citizens are crying uncle. Enough!