

E & O Replacement Levy Renewal

Ellensburg School District, February 2018

Mission: To provide a quality education that empowers and inspires all students to be creative, confident, contributing and respectful citizens.

Levies = Learning

Staff, Programs, Supplies

Bond = Building

Bricks and Security



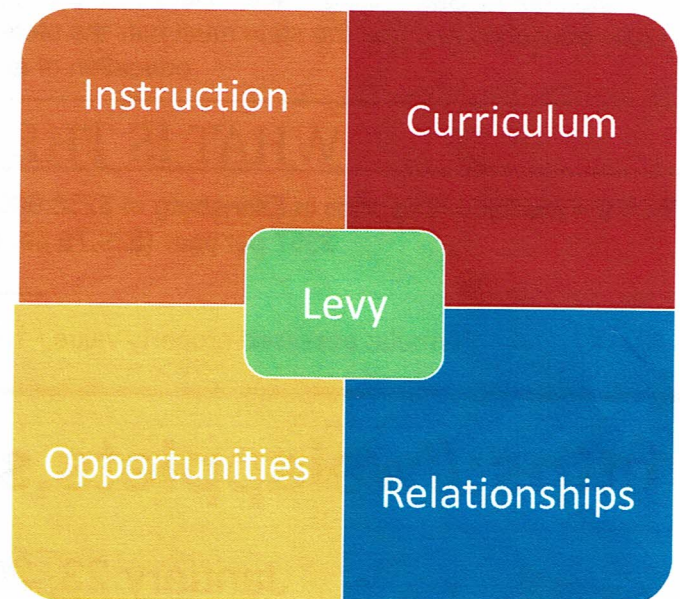
A levy is a local tax. It supplements the school district's general fund which pays for educational costs.

The Ellensburg School District's local levy comprises 17% of total operating budget and funds the necessities and programs that benefit our students.

Levy dollars cannot be used for renovation or construction costs. A levy requires a simple majority voter approval (50% + 1) and can be approved up to a four-year term.

The Levy Will.....

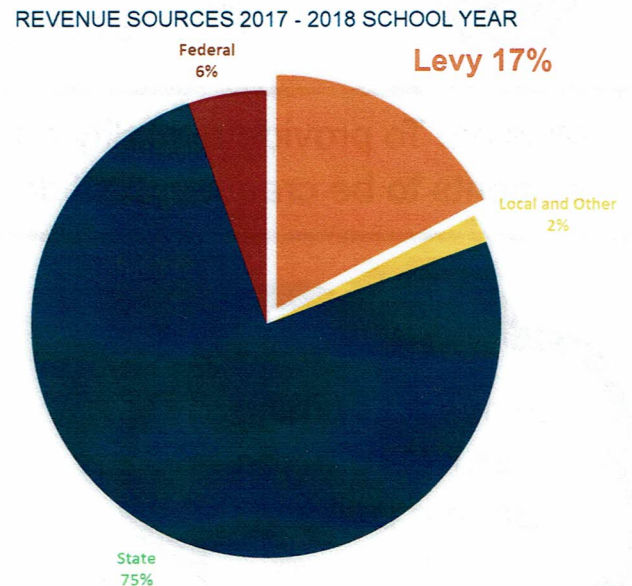
- Maintain current educational programs and facility operations
- Provide for certificated teaching staff and classified support staff (para-educators) above state funding levels
- Provide for needed textbooks, library materials, classroom materials & equipment repair
- Provide for significant costs of both special and gifted education programs
- Provide funding to support transportation (basic and extracurricular) above state funding levels
- Enable district to adjust to inflation



Not a new tax — renews expiring levy

Revenue and Levy Rates

- 4 year replacement levy (2019-2022)
- Must be renewed by voters to continue as a funding source
- The state does not fully fund education
- State average: local levies fund 23.5% of education costs—in Ellensburg levies fund 17.3%
- Levy dollar amount is limited by law
- While voters are asked to approve dollar amount for the levy vs. a tax rate, the district is required to include an estimated tax rate on the ballot
- Levy rates expressed in terms of dollars per thousand dollars of assessed property value
- Levy rate is limited to \$1.50 per thousand of assessed property value (new limit)



Ellensburg Levy rates will drop from \$3.42 per thousand dollars in 2017 to \$1.50 per thousand in 2019.

WHY THE DROP?

In 2012, the Washington State Supreme Court ruled that the State of Washington is violating the constitutional rights of children by failing to amply fund the education of all K-12 students.

The McCleary v State ruling made it clear that local school districts bear too much responsibility in funding basic education and that the state must fulfil the state constitutional duty to “make ample provision for the education of all our children.”

WHAT IS THE COST TO ME?

With the median home price in Ellensburg at \$238,000, the average home owner in Ellensburg will pay only \$357 per year (\$29.75 per month) for the E & O Levy

Formula: assessed property value / 1000 X \$1.50 = annual levy contribution

<https://weiapplets.sos.wa.gov/MyVote/>



January 23, 2018 — Ballots mailed to voters

February 13, 2018 — Ballots due by 8PM