

Orcas Island School District No. 137

Proposition No. 1 - School Programs and Operations Replacement Levy

The Board of Directors of Orcas Island School District adopted Resolution No. 2023-05 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 maintain and support the District's educational programs and services, which are not funded or not fully funded by the State:

Collection Year	Estimated Levy Rate per \$1,000 Assessed Value	Total Amount
2025	\$0.5678	\$2,600,000
2026	\$0.5408	\$2,600,000
2027	\$0.5447	\$2,750,000
2028	\$0.5188	\$2,750,000

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

Yes

No

Explanatory Statement

Written by Attorney Cynthia Weed
K&L Gates LLP

Passage of Proposition No. 1 would allow the levy of \$2,600,000 in property taxes within Orcas Island School District No. 137 for collection in 2025, the levy of \$2,600,000 for collection in 2026, the levy of \$2,750,000 for collection in 2027, and the levy of \$2,750,000 for collection in 2028 to pay for its educational programs and services, including but not limited to essential faculty and staff, school supplies, mental health, special education, music, athletics, farm to classroom and maintenance. In accordance with Resolution No. 2023-05 approving this proposition, these taxes would be collected over four years and deposited in the District's General Fund to pay for necessary educational programs and operations and to properly meet the educational needs of the students attending District schools that are 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 approximately \$0.5678 for 2025 collection, \$0.5408 for 2026 collection, \$0.5447 for 2027 collection and \$0.5188 for 2028 collection.

Argument For

The 4-year levy before you is critical to the continued operation of our public schools. It replaces a levy which expires this year. The OI School District relies on this essential funding for nearly 17% of its total budget. This levy funds what the state does not provide for basic education. A YES vote will continue support for 35% of Student learning & staffing, 17% of Instructional Support, 27% of Athletics and Activities, and 22% of Operations and Maintenance.

The estimated tax rate for this replacement levy in 2025 is 12 cents LESS (per \$1000 of assessed property value) than the previous one, totaling 57 cents per \$1,000. So, on a property with an assessed value of \$500,000, the cost of the replacement levy is estimated at no more than \$285 per year.

Passage of this levy is vital to our public school district. We urge you to help retain our outstanding programs, class offerings, and instructional supports. Try to imagine our public schools with 1 out of 4 of the high school, middle school, elementary, Waldron, and OASIS staff gone and you will understand why a "YES" for this levy is necessary.

Written by

Janet Brownell
Susan Stoltz
Cathy Ferran

Argument Against

No information submitted.

Return Your Ballot

Ballot drop box

Return your ballot to a ballot drop box by 8:00 pm on Election Day, February 13:

San Juan County Elections Office

55 Second St., Ste. A, Friday Harbor
M–Th 8:00 am to 4:30 pm
Election Day 8:00 am to 8:00 pm

Orcas Island Senior Center

62 Henry Rd, Eastsound, WA

In person

The Elections office is open 8:00 am to 4:30 pm, M–Th, and 8:00 am to 8:00 pm on Election Day, February 13:

San Juan County Elections

55 Second St., Ste. A, Friday Harbor
(across from the Courthouse)

By mail

No stamp is needed! Place your ballot in the mail before the deadline. Your ballot must be postmarked on or before February 13, in order to count.

Replacement Ballots

1. Contact SJC Elections as soon as possible:
Phone: 360-378-3357
Email: elections@sanjuancountywa.gov
OR
2. Print a replacement ballot:
 - Sign in to votewa.gov with your name/birthdate
 - Click *MyBallot* -> *Online Ballot* in the left column
 - Follow instructions to vote and return your ballot

Photo credit Greg Lee, SJC ER&R, Orcas Island



San Juan County Official Local Voters' Pamphlet February 13, 2024 Special



Local Jurisdiction Participating in this Election
Orcas Island School District No. 137

Register to Vote

Online

Log in to votewa.gov to register to vote or update your address. You must have a Washington State driver's license, permit, or ID card. Online registrations must be submitted no later than February 5 in order to process the registration for the Special Election.

In person

The Elections office is open for registration 8:00 am to 4:30 pm, M–Th, and 8:00 am to 8:00 pm on Election Day, February 13. In person registrations must be initiated no later than 8:00 pm on Election Day, February 13.

By mail

Print a voter registration form from sos.wa.gov/elections/print-voter-registration-forms.aspx
Fill out the form and mail it to:

San Juan County Auditor
Elections Division
PO Box 638
Friday Harbor, WA 98250

San Juan County Elections must receive the mailed form by February 5 in order to process the registration for the Special Election.

Accessible Voting

San Juan County voters with disabilities have the option of voting independently and privately using an accessible voting unit.

The accessible voting equipment will be available Monday through Thursday, 8:00 am to 4:30 pm, beginning Thursday, January 25, through February 13, and from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm on Election Day, February 13.