

Ballot Drop Box Locations

Drop boxes are open 24 hours a day starting April 5 and close promptly at 8 p.m. on April 25, 2023.

Lacey Area

Lacey City Hall..... 420 College St SE
Woodland Retirement & Assisted Living..... 4532 Intelco Lp SE

Olympia Area

Church of the Good Shepherd..... 1601 North St SE
Crain's Total Office 1006 4th Ave E
Gloria Dei Lutheran Church..... 1515 Harrison Ave NW
Haggen NW Fresh..... 1313 Cooper Point Rd SW
Olympia City Hall..... 601 4th Ave E
Thurston County Courthouse 2000 Lakeridge Dr SW
Thurston County Atrium..... 3000 Pacific Ave SE
South Puget Sound Community College 2011 Mottman Rd SW

Tumwater Area

Tumwater Timberland Library..... 7023 New Market St SW
Tumwater School Administration 621 Linwood Ave SW

South County Area

Bucoda 103 S Main St

Voting Center and Accessibility Information

The Voting Center opens April 5 for the April 25 Special Election

You can:

- Register to vote until 8:00 pm Election Day April 25
- Receive a ballot (regular, replacement, or provisional)
- Vote using the ExpressVote™*
- Drop off your ballot

*The ExpressVote™ is a voting assistance device that enables voters with visual impairments, cognitive/learning disabilities, or limited mobility to vote independently and with privacy.

If you are unable to visit the voting center you may download a ballot at VoteWA.gov or contact us to schedule an appointment for the ExpressVote™. Location / Contact information →

Registration Information

April 17 is the last day to register to vote or update your current registration by any means (other than in person). The information must be received by an election official by this day.

Ballots must be postmarked by Election Day, April 25.

Please check your USPS mailbox pickup time to ensure your ballot will be postmarked on Election Day.



Mary Hall Auditor

Dear Voter,

Local elections are vital because they will directly impact your daily life. We are producing this pamphlet to assist you in being an informed voter.

The Centralia School District called for this election. They appointed the committee that wrote the “for” statement, and volunteers from the community wrote the “against” statement. If you have any questions about the measures, contact the district or committees. We’ve provided their contact information.

If you have election questions or need a replacement ballot, my staff stands ready to help. Thirteen drop boxes will be open beginning April 5. Remember, you can return your ballot as early as the day you receive it.

The outcome of this ballot measure will affect you for many years to come. Your vote is your voice.

Respectfully,

Mary Hall
Thurston County Auditor

Published by the Thurston County Auditor Elections Division

Questions? Contact us!

By email elections@co.thurston.wa.us

Online ThurstonWAVotes.gov

By phone 360.786.5408
711 Washington Relay

Office 2400 Evergreen Park Dr SW Olympia
Mailing 2000 Lakeridge Dr SW Olympia

Hours

April 5 - April 24, 2023 (Mon - Fri) | April 25 (Tues) - Election Day
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. | 8:00 a.m - 8:00 p.m.

**Voting Center
opens April
5th!**

Official Local Voters' Pamphlet April 25, 2023 Special Election Proposition No. 1 Centralia School District No. 401-L Replacement Educational Programs and Operations Levy



Centralia School District No. 401-L is the only jurisdiction in this local voters' pamphlet, and you will only see one measure on your ballot.

For questions about the ballot measure, please contact the local jurisdiction:

Joe Vetter, Executive Director of Fiscal Services
360.330.7600
jvetter@centralia.wednet.edu



Introduction to Local Measure

For each measure in the Local Voters' Pamphlet, the legislative authority of the jurisdiction placing the measure on the ballot is required to formally appoint committees to prepare statements advocating the approval and rejection of the measure. If the jurisdiction is unable to make

such appointments, the Thurston County Auditor advertises for such appointments. The Elections Division encourages you to review all statements and seek additional information from the jurisdictions, the appointed citizens' committees and local media.

Centralia School District No. 401-L

Proposition No. 1 Centralia School District No. 401-L Replacement Educational Programs and Operations Levy

The Board of Directors of the Centralia School District adopted Resolution No. 2023-01 concerning this proposition to maintain 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 by the state:

Collection years	Approximate Levy Rate/\$1,000 Assessed Value	Levy ammount
2024	\$1.50	\$6,700,000
2025	\$1.50	\$7,600,000

Should this proposition be approved?

Yes

No

Explanatory Statement:

Passage of Proposition No. 1 would allow the levy of \$6,700,000 in property taxes within Centralia School District No. 401 for collection in 2024 and the levy of \$7,600,000 for collection in 2025 to replace an expiring levy, on all taxable property within the District, to support the District's educational programs and operations. In accordance with Resolution No. 2023-01 approving this proposition, these taxes would be collected over two years and deposited in the District's General Fund to pay part of the educational programs and operations support of the District. If authorized by the voters, and based on projected assessed valuation information, estimated levy rates per \$1000 of assessed value would be \$6,700,000 (2024 collection) and \$7,600,000 (2025 collection). The exact levy rate shall be adjusted based upon the action assessed value of the property within the District at the time of the levy. In the event that a program is implemented that would increase State funding to the District, the District would, therefore, review and determine the need to roll back the levies.

Statement For:

Yes! Renew Our Commitment to Centralia School District Students — Help Every Child Succeed. Your support of this levy is a vote to continue providing students with a quality education. Our schools are critical to a thriving Centralia.

Yes! This Levy supports athletics, school safety, mental health and curriculum supports. We need counselors in our schools, we need strong athletic programs that reach our elementary and secondary students, we need safety/security staff, we need to help teachers adjust curriculum to meet rapidly changing student needs.

Yes! This levy is at the same rate our community approved two years ago: \$1.50 per \$1,000 in assessed property value. The current levy ends December 2023. We need to continue funding these critical needs in 2024-2025.

Yes! The School Board Members and district leadership are working hard to use current levy money well, earn our trust and turn things around. Enrollment is stable – a strong indicator that things are improving. Dr. Grant has proven herself to be a strong leader, transparent communicator and collaborative partner throughout the community. We need to do our part by voting yes. If we want the best teachers and staff and if we want families to stay and believe in our schools, they need to know the community is behind them with a Yes vote on this levy. This is a vote for our students and our entire community. A thriving school district attracts employers, workers, and civic investments that will continue to help Centralia thrive.

Rebuttal of Statement For:

The replacement is over 45% greater in the first year than the expiring collection according to the District website calculator. Same rate does not mean same amount of taxes! This increase in collection swamps the inflation rate for the last year. Although the District web site has a breakout of where the expenditures are going it does not tell us where the additional 45% enhances our students' learning.

For Committee Contact

Mayor Kelly Smith Johnston
Port Commissioner Kyle Markstrom

Against Committee Contact

Jeff Heckathorn
Tom Duffy
info@LevyNo.com

Statement Against:

This levy is touted as a *replacement* levy. This proposed 2 year levy however is a 57% tax increase in dollars over the previous 2 year levy – hardly a replacement. Just a few years ago, with the McCleary Decision, taxpayers were promised that, yes, State School property tax categories would go up, but these local levies would go down or be eliminated. The opposite is happening.

For 2021-2022, district per pupil expenditures, including capital outlays (6 year average) and interest on debt, were already over \$21,000 per student per year. This is more than tuition at almost all private schools and more than tuition and books at WSU and UW!

The property tax categories State School 1 and State School 2 from local property taxpayers all end up at the Centralia SD. And that is not enough. The State has to send even more, about 3 times more, to the district from State Sales Taxes. The district needs to start being frugal – the same as what citizens are having to do in these high inflation, high interest rate times. Note that renters pay property taxes in their rents. This levy affects everyone.

The district should resubmit a request which stays at or below inflation and which promises that any extra funds will be spent on enrichment programs which improve outcomes for our students. We can't keep piling more property taxes on our area renters and homeowners. More info at LevyNo.com

Rebuttal of Statement Against:

This is not a new tax. This levy is for the same rate as before but will generate more dollars because property values have increased. The comparison of college tuition is poor because K-12 schools have programs like special education, youth-sports and hi-cap. Please invest in our kids - our most valuable asset. Our *kids*, our *future* and our *community* are worth it.

Statement Disclaimer:

Statements For and Against are the opinions of the authors and have not been checked for factual or grammatical accuracy by the Elections Division.