

MULTNOMAH COUNTY

TIM SCOTT
DIRECTOR OF ELECTIONS



ELECTIONS DIVISION

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Dear Voter:

For your convenience, we have included this Voters' Pamphlet with helpful information on the November 5, 2013 Special Election. Please see the back page for the ballot title and explanatory statement for Lake Oswego School District's Ballot Measure #3-434, Five-Year Local Option Levy Renewal For School Educational Programs. No arguments for or against this measure were filed with Multnomah County.

If you have any questions you can contact our office at: 503-988-3720.

Sincerely,

Tim Scott, Director of Elections
Multnomah County, Oregon

Official Drop Sites

24-hour Official Ballot Drop Boxes – secure outdoor sites may be accessed 24-hours a day, but will be locked at 8 pm on Election Day.

- **Multnomah County Elections Division** - 1040 SE Morrison St, Portland – two 24-hour boxes with different locations (one on SE 11th Ave between Morrison & Belmont and one on SE Belmont between 10th & 11th).

Other Official Drop Site – Nearby official drop site in Clackamas County

- **Lake Oswego Library** (Clackamas County) – 706 4th St, Lake Oswego
Mon – Thur 10 am – 9 pm; Fri – Sat 10 am – 6 pm Sun 1 pm 6 pm.

Tips for voting

- Read the ballot, envelope and voters' pamphlet carefully
- To ensure your vote counts, completely fill in the oval to the left of the response of your choice.
- Please use a black or blue ink pen.
- If you make a mistake or change your mind while marking your ballot, you may request a replacement ballot from the Elections Office or you may make your changes on the ballot, but it is critical that you make your choice obvious because election workers will inspect each ballot to make sure voter intent is understood and the ballot is counted correctly. Make your intent clear.
- Do not put multiple ballots in one envelope
- The secrecy envelope is not required. If you forget to enclose the secrecy envelope your ballot will still count.
- **Don't forget to sign your return envelope. Your ballot will not count if you do not sign the return envelope.**
- If you accidentally sign another member of your households return envelope just cross off your signature and sign the correct one. The other member can then sign their envelope and vote.
- If you have a disability or are otherwise unable to mark your ballot you may contact the Elections Division for assistance. Phone 503-988-3720 / Oregon Relay Service 1-800-735-2900.
- Lost or damaged ballot? Questions? Call 503-988-3720.

LAKE OSWEGO SCHOOL DISTRICT

Measure 3-434

BALLOT TITLE

Five-Year Local Option Levy Renewal For School Educational Programs

Question: Shall District levy \$1.39 per \$1,000 of assessed value for operations; protect programs, class sizes for five years beginning 2015-16? This measure renews current local option taxes.

Summary: This measure is a local option levy renewal for the Lake Oswego School District. The renewal would continue at the same tax rate as the current levy.

The local option school levy was first approved by voters in 2000, and was renewed in 2004 and 2008. It provides approximately 10% of the District's annual operating resources.

The levy renewal would continue to help local schools by supplementing insufficient state funding and providing resources that would continue to be used for the following:

- Supporting the level and breadth of high quality educational programs expected by the community;
- Protecting teaching positions and class sizes provided by the current levy.

All District resources, including levy funds, are subject to annual audits and School Board oversight.

This measure would renew the school levy at the same maximum rate of \$1.39 per \$1,000 of assessed value. The levy is estimated to raise \$7,000,000 per fiscal year beginning with the 2015-16 fiscal year and concluding with the 2019-20 fiscal year, for a total of \$35,000,000 over five years.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

This levy would renew at the same rate the five-year local option school operating levy approved by voters in November 2008. The levy renewal would continue to provide the Lake Oswego School District with approximately 10% of its annual operating resources supporting instruction, program offerings, teaching positions, and class sizes. All revenue generated by the levy renewal would be used to support Lake Oswego School District schools.

Cost

Beginning in July 2015, property owners would continue to pay the same rate as the current local option levy of \$1.39 or less per \$1,000 of assessed value. The owner of a home assessed at \$350,000 would continue to pay a maximum of approximately \$40 per month or \$486 per year for the local option levy. Each property's total education tax will not exceed the Measure 5 limit of \$5 per \$1000 of real market value.

Background

State law gives individual communities the ability to supplement state funding for their local schools. The Lake Oswego School District local option levy was first approved in 2000 and renewed in 2004 and 2008. The current local option school levy provides approximately 10% of the district's operating budget for instructional programs, teaching positions and educational services.

What the School Levy Provides

When the first local option school levy was approved in 2000, it allowed the district to add back some of the educational opportunities previously eliminated and to upgrade both instruction and program offerings. This included adding teaching positions, lowering class sizes, and enhancing extensive college prep curricula and electives.

The current local option school levy continues to support these improvements, and provides the means for the school district to provide a level of program offerings, teaching positions, and class sizes that would not be possible if the district were to rely on state school support as its sole source of revenue.

Renewal of the local option school levy would provide resources to sustain the level of programs and services provided by the current local option school levy, assuming that state school support levels did not decrease. If the local option school levy were not renewed, reductions in school district programs and operations of approximately \$7 million would be made beginning in 2015-16.

Accountability

All school district finances and expenditures are subject to accountability measures, including annual audits and School Board oversight, to ensure funds are used as intended.

Submitted by

Patti Zebrowski
School Board Chair
Lake Oswego School District No. 7J

No arguments FOR or AGAINST this measure were filed.