



Flagship

A Report to the Community

Fall 2011 www.shorelineschools.org

Supplemental Levy proposed to support class size

In response to state budget reductions, the Shoreline School District will present a Supplemental Levy proposal to support class size on the November 8, 2011 general election ballot.

The sole purpose of presenting this levy to voters is to keep as many teachers as possible in Shoreline classrooms.

The decision by the School Board to place the supplemental levy on the ballot comes in the wake of state cuts to basic education in Shoreline of approximately \$6.2 million annually.

Included in these cuts is:

- \$4.3 million in voter-approved I-728 dollars used for class-size reduction, staff professional development and extended learning opportunities for struggling students.
- \$1.1 million for state class-size support in grades K-4, funding which has been in place for many years.
- More than \$770,000 reduced in other areas, including salary compensation.

The state anticipates further reductions to K-12 funding in 2012.

The impact of these reductions is magnified by the additional loss of federal stimulus funds for special education and academic support for struggling students.

Shoreline School District No. 412 Proposition 1 Supplemental Levy to Support Class Size

Projected levy amounts and collections:

Collection Year	Levy amount	Estimated Rate*
2012	\$1.3 million	\$0.09
2013	\$1.4 million	\$0.09
2014	\$1.5 million	\$0.10

* Per \$1,000 of assessed value

The District may collect only up to the amount approved by voters regardless of changes in assessed value. Current estimates suggest that such a measure would increase rates about \$36 a year for a home valued at \$400,000. Voters in the neighboring districts of Edmonds, Northshore and Seattle have recently approved similar supplemental levy measures.

VOTING INFORMATION

Ballots for the general election will be mailed to registered voters October 19 and must be postmarked by election day November 8.

For voter registration information, visit www.kingcounty.gov/elections.

For more information about the Supplemental Levy, please contact the Public Information Office at 206-393-4412 or visit the District Web site: www.shorelineschools.org

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Superintendent's Message:

District priorities for 2011-12

Dear Shoreline Schools Community,

The beginning of the 2011-12 school year has been filled with excitement, anticipation and celebration. For the students enrolled in the Shoreline Schools, our collective goal is to support each child both academically and socially.

We recently received the results from the spring state assessments (see chart below). Our students performed consistently well above the state average in every area.

Our students also scored better on the SAT and ACT tests than those in the state and the nation. However, despite these



Sue Walker

results, we challenge ourselves to do even better.

We continue to celebrate the fact that Shoreline's graduation rate now exceeds 90 percent, up more than 10 percent from five years ago. Our interventions and our extended learning efforts are paying off. But as educators, we won't be satisfied until every child leaves us with a diploma.

PRIORITY 1: Increase the academic achievement of every student.

PRIORITY 2: Maintain fiscal systems and adequate reserves to insure the long term financial stability of the District.

PRIORITY 3: Continue Implementation of the capital projects identified in the 2006 Bond, the 2010 Bond and the 2010 technology levy.

PRIORITY 4: Continue focus on improved and expanded Human Resources services.

PRIORITY 5: Refine and expand infrastructure and educational uses for instructional technology.

PRIORITY 6: Continue to explore opportunities for open and timely communication with the Shoreline and Lake Forest Park communities, parents, and district staff.

Finally, about 73 percent of our graduates go immediately into either a two or four-year college environment. More than 90 percent of them return for a second year. Our goal is for every student to graduate career and/or college ready. That is an expectation we have for all of our children.

To this end, the 2011-12 Board/Superintendent/District Priorities (above) summarize a work plan that will keep our District focused on maintaining our instructional programs, operational

practices and communications at a high level for our educational community.

As we implement our work plan for 2011-12, we constantly reflect upon and are appreciative of the supportive educational community we serve. Your partnership with our schools make them exceptional places to go to school and practice our profession. Thank you for your continued commitment to our Shoreline Schools.

Sincerely,

Shoreline students perform well in all areas on state tests

This chart shows Shoreline School District students achieving higher scores across the board than the state average on the spring 2011 state assessment tests. This was the first year that high school students in algebra and geometry took End of Course (EOC) exams and students in grades 5 and 6 were tested on new state

Grade	Percent of students meeting or exceeding standard							
	Reading		Writing		Math		Science	
	Shoreline	State	Shoreline	State	Shoreline	State	Shoreline	State
3	81.9	73.1			69.8	61.5		
4	76.1	67.3	68.0	61.4	70.6	59.3		
5	81.0	67.6			69.6	61.2	70.8	55.6
6	85.5	70.6			74.4	58.8		
7	71.8	56.4	81.1	71.0	72.4	56.9		
8	80.8	68.6			64.0	50.3	76.2	61.5
10 w/PP	88.0	82.3	91.2	86.0			68.8	49.7
EOC Yr 1					76.3	62.4		
EOC Yr 2					78.0	72.9		

science standards. The improvements in elementary math scores are reflective of the successful implementation of a new elementary math curriculum in Shoreline last year.

Spirit Night photo available for purchase

This is your opportunity to purchase the photo taken by Rod Mar at halftime of the Sept. 23 football game between Shorecrest and Shorewood before a capacity crowd of more than 3,000 at Shoreline Stadium. This once-a-year photograph makes a great gift and preserves the memory of a very special night. You may also purchase a copy of last year's photo as well. Proceeds will benefit Shorecrest and Shorewood Boosters. To order your copy, visit www.shorelineschools.org and click on "Order the SC/SW Spirit Night photo" under Featured Links on the front page.



Breaking ground for the future at both of our high schools

The preliminary phase of the Shorecrest and Shorewood modernization and replacement is now complete.

At Shorecrest, contractors have finished site work for the future gymnasium along with bringing new and enhanced utilities to the campus. Over the summer, crews worked on 25th Avenue Northeast and adjacent streets installing utilities for the new buildings.

The south parking lot reopened for the beginning of school Sept. 12 and students began using the modular classrooms placed on the campus last spring. Spee West Construction Co. of Edmonds was recently awarded the general construction contract for Shorecrest. Construction is expected to begin on the gymnasium in October and the theater will close for modernization in late December.

Site preparation work at Shorewood has included demolition of the existing portables and a portion of the 100-wing along North 175th Street, and grading and installation of underground utilities. The former Shorewood wood shop area has been renovated to provide temporary classroom space during construction of the new building, and temporary portable classrooms have been placed on the school's field. Building construction is expected to begin in November.

The District will receive more than



Students from Shorecrest High School and its feeder schools — Kellogg, Briarcrest, Brookside, Lake Forest Park and Ridgecrest — broke ground for the new Shorecrest on Sept. 10 as part of the school's 50th anniversary celebration. (Photo by Steven H. Robinson)

\$37.7 million from the state School Construction Assistance Program for the modernization/replacement of both high schools. Shorewood will receive \$18.335 million and Shorecrest \$19.415 million for replacement of existing buildings and modernization of the school's theater.

The state funding will be combined with the \$150 million bond issue approved by Shoreline School District voters in February 2010 for the rebuilding of Shorecrest and Shorewood.

Scheduled completion of both buildings is expected for the 2013-14 school year. To view the phasing plans and designs for both schools, visit the High School modernization page at www.shorelineschools.org/modernization.

Find Shoreline Schools on Facebook

The Shoreline School District now has a fans page on Facebook.

You can link to it directly from the District Web site at www.shorelineschools.org. Look for the Facebook logo at the bottom of our home page and please like us!



Questions and Answers on Shoreline Supplemental Levy

Didn't we just approve a levy?

District voters approved a four-year program and operations levy in February 2010, replacing the expiring levy. The state Legislature has since changed the levy law through 2017 to allow for increased levy capacity. It is estimated that Shoreline would be able to collect approximately \$1.3 to \$1.5 million more of local revenue in 2012 to 2014 if voters approved a supplemental levy in November 2011.

What is the difference between this supplemental levy proposal and the replacement levy approved in February 2010?

This supplemental levy is exclusively to support class size in response to the state's budget reductions. The 2011-14 program and operations levy was to support general expenditures and provided more than 26 percent of the district's budget.

How much has the state reduced its support to Shoreline Schools?

The decision to place the supplemental levy on the ballot comes in the wake of the state's cuts to basic education in Shoreline of approximately \$6.2 million annually.

Included in these cuts is \$4.3 million in voter approved I-728 funds used for class-size reduction, staff professional development and extended learning opportunities for struggling students and \$1.1 million in funding in class-size reduction for grades K-4.

What is the overall property tax impact? Have other school districts proposed such measures?

Passage of Proposition No. 1 would allow the levy of \$1.3 million of property taxes in 2012, the levy of \$1.4 million in 2013, and \$1.5 million in 2014. If authorized by the voters and based upon current assessed valuation information, the estimated levy rates per \$1,000 of assessed value would be \$0.09 in 2012; \$0.09 in 2013 and \$0.10 in 2014.

Current estimates suggest that such a measure would increase rates about \$36 a year for a home valued at \$400,000. Voters in the neighboring districts of Edmonds, Northshore and Seattle have approved similar supplemental levy measures in the past year. The measure requires a simple majority for passage.

What about the Shorecrest and Shorewood High School projects now under way? Couldn't those funds from the bond issue be used to support class size?

No. Bond dollars approved for capital projects, including school construction, may not, by law, pay for the day-to-day costs of running a school district, including to support class size.

What is the effect of the supplemental levy to support class size if approved?

If Proposition 1 is approved the District would be able to sustain its current classroom staffing model.

What is the current classroom staffing model in Shoreline?

The District currently uses the following targeted class sizes:

K: 23 students per class
Grades 1 to 3: 25 students
Grade 4: 27 students
Grades 5 and 6: 28 students
Grades 8 to 12: 29-30 students

In cases where the number of students exceeds this target, the contractual agreement with our teachers provides for various remedies, including part-time teachers and/or paraeducators.

Shoreline Schools Calendar

For a complete list of events, visit www.shorelineschools.org

November 2011

- 6 • Shoreline Public Schools Foundation Phonathon
- 7 and 14 • School Board Meeting, 7 p.m., Shoreline Center
- 8 • General Election Day, please remember to vote
- 9-13, 17-20 • Shorecrest fall play, "The Outsiders," 7:30 p.m.
- 10-12, 17-19 • Shorewood fall play, "Almost Maine," 7:30 p.m.
- 11 • No School, Veterans Day
- 19 • District Honor Choir with Cascade Youth Symphony, 2 p.m., Benaroya Hall
- 24-25 • No School, Thanksgiving Break

December 2011

- 5 • No School, Staff Work Day
- 6 to 17 • Shoreline PTA Council Holiday Baskets Drive; donations of food and gifts can be dropped off at any school in the Shoreline School District. For more information, visit www.shorelinepta.com
- 7 • Einstein/Syre choirs greet Holiday Ships, 7:30 p.m., Richmond Beach
- 12 • School Board Meeting, 7 p.m., Shoreline Center
- 21-Jan. 3, 2012 • No School, Winter Break

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