Two levy propositions on February ballot

**PROPOSITION 1:**
Replacement of an Expiring Levy for Educational Programs, Maintenance and Operations
Replaces the current four-year levy that expires in 2014, and provides the District with approximately 26 percent of its General Fund operating revenue. The levy funds basic education programs not fully supported by state and federal funding, including:
- Special education programs, highly capable programs, remedial programs and vocational education programs
- Nurses, family advocates, librarians and instructional materials
- Maintenance of current targeted class sizes
The levy also supports student activities, including music, drama and athletics.

**PROPOSITION 2:**
Replacement of an Expiring Capital Levy for Technology Improvements and Support
Replaces the current four-year levy that expires in 2014. These funds would be used to meet the District’s ongoing technology needs, including:
- Student Computers and Technology Access: upgrade equipment used for online learning in K-8 and expand use of digital curriculum and online assessments K-12
- Software/Online Resources: online curriculum products (all subjects), streaming video, research databases, teacher website platform, help desk service
- Staffing and Training: instructional technology specialists to support effective classroom integration, classes and training sessions for all staff, online support resources
The proposed technology levy amounts are unchanged from the expiring 2010 Capital Levy.

Election Information
This is an all-mail election. Ballots will be mailed Jan. 22 and please remember to vote by Feb. 11.
To register to vote, visit kingcounty.gov/elections.

For more information on the levy proposals, call 206-393-4412 or visit shorelineschools.org.
Superintendent’s Message:
Celebrating 70 years of Shoreline Schools

Dear Shoreline Schools Community,

Happy New Year!

In this 70th year of the Shoreline Schools, there is so much to celebrate. It will certainly be one for the history books!

We began the school year with students moving into the new Shorewood High School, and next month we will welcome students into the new academic building on the Shorecrest High School campus. There is no doubt that both of these schools are amazing proof of this community’s commitment to education and our children. Generations of students will benefit from this effort.

Throughout the process of making these facilities a reality, however, we have never lost sight of our primary mission. The 2013-14 School Board/Superintendent/District Priorities continue to begin with Priority No.1: Increase the academic achievement of every student.

Our dedicated staff works tirelessly to improve student learning and implement best practices in the classroom. Never have teachers been more accountable for and focused on what students need to know, whether they know it, and what to do if they do not.

Teachers and instructional administrators are working collaboratively on the research-based components of the Danielson Framework, as well as the new state evaluation system. The collective feedback from our professional staff engaged in this activity is that conversations about the “work” of the classroom are more meaningful than ever.

There is no better time to be part of the Shoreline Schools educational community. Exciting things are happening in so many areas but most importantly, around the schools and classrooms of our students.

Thank you for your continued support of and belief in our children and our schools.

Sincerely,

Superintendent Sue Walker

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Superintendent Sue Walker to retire in June; search begins for successor

Superintendent Sue Walker has announced her retirement effective June 30 and the search is under way for her successor.

“I am extremely proud of what our community, School Board and District staff have been able to accomplish during the past eight years,” Walker said. “Working together as a highly effective team, we have supported and sustained Shoreline’s remarkable reputation for educational excellence.”

Walker became superintendent in June 2006 and during her tenure the District has made significant progress in aligning classroom curriculum, enhancing graduation standards, re-establishing financial stability, upgrading many of the educational and athletic facilities and replacing both Shorecrest and Shorewood High Schools.

The School Board has hired the firm of Hazard, Young, Attea & Associates to seek applicants for superintendent. Community meetings to take input on the search will be held Jan. 14 and 15 (see front page).

“We are so grateful to Sue for her leadership over the past eight years,” said School Board Vice President Debi Ehrlichman. “She became superintendent during a difficult time for the District and has done an outstanding job.”

Ehrlichman said the Board will seek input from students, staff, families and community before hiring a new superintendent. She said the Board has indicated a preference for candidates with Washington state experience. The Board anticipates naming the new superintendent by April 30, to begin work July 1.
Q&A on levy proposals

Why are these measures on the ballot?

The Education Programs, Maintenance and Operations Levy and the Capital Levy for Technology Improvements and Support would replace the current levies that were approved by the voters in 2010 and that will expire at the end of 2014.

The measures ask voters to renew the levies for an additional four years beginning in 2015. As seen in the chart below, these replacement propositions, shown in red, represent more than 28 percent of the District’s annual revenue in the General Fund and levies.

How will these levies affect my property taxes?

The District projects that if both measures are approved, tax bills will remain stable at current levels.

Couldn’t those funds from the previous bond issues be used to support operations of our schools?

No. Bond dollars approved for capital projects, such as those for the modernization and replacement of Shorecrest and Shorewood, including school construction, may not, by law, pay for the day-to-day costs of running a school district.

Doesn’t the state have to invest more in K-12 public education as a result of the McCleary case and the Supreme Court order?

Yes, it does. However it will take many years to implement and the local replacement levies are still necessary for local support of schools.

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Property Tax Information

A levy is an amount approved by voters that is collected through a property tax charged at a rate per $1,000 of assessed valuation to each property owner (residential and commercial) within the school district’s boundary.

The levy requires a simple majority (50 percent + 1 yes votes) to pass.

The District may collect only up to the amount approved by voters regardless of assessed valuation changes.

Senior citizens or disabled persons may qualify for tax exemptions. Contact the King County Assessor’s Office for information, 206-296-3920.

Proposition 1:
Replacement of Expiring Educational Programs, Maintenance and Operations Levy

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<th>Estimated Rate*</th>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>2016</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
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<td>$2.91</td>
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</table>

*Rates are estimated per $1,000 of assessed property value

Proposition 2:
Replacement of an Expiring Capital Levy for Technology Improvements and Support

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Levy Amount</th>
<th>Estimated Rate*</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
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<td>2018</td>
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SHORELINE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Community flocks to Shorewood opening

More than 1,500 people attended the community open house and dedication for the new Shorewood High School on Oct. 12. The replacement of both Shorecrest and Shorewood was funded by a bond issue approved by voters in 2010.

Shorewood student leaders cut the ceremonial ribbon at the entrance to the school gymnasium.

Shoreline School Board members unveil the commemorative plaque to be placed on the new Shorewood building.

Community members tour the school’s new library.

The original Shorewood school banner was displayed in the Alumni Room in the new building.

Shorecrest main building opens in February

The new Shorecrest main academic building is nearing completion and will open after mid-winter break in February. Designed by Integrous Architecture and constructed by Spee West, the three-story structure features an expansive commons area, library and classrooms filled with natural light and views to the east of the Cascades. The old school building will be demolished this spring to make room for more parking, a plaza and landscaping.
Meet our newest Heroes in the Classroom

Symetra and the Seattle Seahawks honored three Shoreline teachers as Symetra Heroes in the Classroom during the 2013 NFL season. Teachers are recognized in front of their students and peers at surprise in-school presentations, and they receive a $1,000 donation for classroom books and supplies. In addition, they receive tickets to a Seahawks home game and are acknowledged during an on-field presentation at CenturyLink Field.

Shereen Allen, Cascade K-8
“My daughter developed a passion for history in Shereen Allen’s class. When the class was studying Lewis and Clark, students not only discussed their impressive travels, they also made foods the explorers ate and collaborated on a quilt representing key parts of their expedition,” wrote a parent. “Last Veterans Day, the class took a field trip to Evergreen Washelli, where they learned about how veterans are honored within its dedicated Veterans’ Memorial Cemetery. Shereen’s creative approach to teaching history in particular has given my daughter a sense of pride in her country, as well as a genuine interest in the stories of those who came before her.”

Allison Bowhay, Echo Lake
“Allison Bowhay has a unique way of reaching her Echo Lake Elementary sixth graders. She goes beyond the required class lessons by teaching life lessons, so that students are prepared for middle school, where they’ll shoulder more responsibility,” wrote a parent. “Whether gifted or with learning issues, Mrs. Bowhay has the ability to connect with each student. Her sixth graders leave her class with respect, good citizen skills and a sense of accomplishment. She is the kind of teacher that stays with you for years.”

Stephanie Rietman, Shorecrest
“Ask anyone who has had Ms. Rietman, and they will tell you that not only is she genuinely nice and encouraging, she makes math fun! She consistently shows students she really cares by coming in early, staying late and sometimes missing lunch in order to give extra help,” wrote a former student of Rietman’s. “Ms. Rietman always comes up with a way to explain difficult concepts. Even if just one student doesn’t understand something, she will take the time to work with them individually so that we can all be on the same page. Strict about deadlines and grade values, she also is understanding and empathetic of our needs as busy teens.”

More information about Symetra Heroes in the Classroom is available at SymetraHeroes.com/Seahawks.

Ridgecrest named a School of Distinction for outstanding student achievement

Ridgecrest Elementary in Shoreline has received the 2013 School of Distinction Award for outstanding improvement in student achievement over the past five years in reading and math.

The 2013 School of Distinction award winners include 99 schools statewide. The awards are presented by The Center for Educational Effectiveness (CEE), the Association of Educational Service Districts (AESD), the Association of Washington School Principals (AWSP), Washington Association of School Administrators (WASA), and Washington State School Directors’ Association (WSSDA).

Ridgecrest was recognized at an award ceremony in Renton. Pictured left to right are Executive Director of Schools Brian Schultz, Ridgecrest teachers Vanessa Mark and Joe Peterson, and Principal Sue McPeak.

District seeking substitutes for bus driver, food service positions

Looking for a great part-time job in your own community?

The Shoreline School District now has openings for substitute bus drivers in the Transportation department and substitutes in Food and Nutrition Services.

For more information, visit the Employment section of the District Web site at shorelineschools.org. If you would like to be considered for the openings, please complete a “Classified” online application and follow the steps to link your application to the positions available. For more information, call the Human Resources department at 206-393-4772.
Shorecrest graduate selected as Rhodes Scholar

Suzanna Fritzberg, a 2010 Shorecrest High School graduate from Lake Forest Park, is among this year’s group of 32 Rhodes Scholars from the United States.

About 80 scholars are selected annually from around the world. This year’s group was selected from 857 applicants endorsed by 327 colleges and universities.

The award pays all expenses for study at Oxford University in England.

Fritzberg is a senior at Yale majoring in women’s, gender and sexuality studies. She has designed her coursework to develop multi-disciplinary academic understanding of social justice and is writing her senior thesis on the normative role of the state in citizen welfare.

She has worked as a poverty policy intern at the Roosevelt Institute and has interned with the public defender’s office in New Orleans. She has also been active with the Yale Women’s Center organizing events to increase the awareness of domestic violence, as a stage manager and producer for the Yale Dramatic Association, as a writing tutor, and in grassroots politics.

She plans to study comparative social policy at Oxford, examining the differences between welfare programs in other countries and hoping to bring some lessons learned back to the U.S. to improve this country’s programs for the poor.

“At this point I’m just excited to see where Oxford is going to take me,” Fritzberg told the Associated Press. “This is just a huge opportunity to learn more about the world.”

Shorecrest graduate selected as Rhodes Scholar

Learn about kindergarten programs at Kinderfest Saturday, Jan. 25

Kinderfest is an opportunity for families who will be enrolling their children in kindergarten for 2014-15 to learn more about the programs offered by the Shoreline School District.

Kinderfest will be held Saturday, Jan. 25 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon in the Shoreline Room at Shoreline Center, 18560 1st Ave. N.E.

Kindergarten tours will be held at 9:30 a.m. on Jan. 29 at all elementary schools.

Kindergarten registration for Shoreline School District residents with students starting kindergarten in the fall of 2014 will begin on Monday, Feb. 3 at your neighborhood elementary school. In order to attend kindergarten in the fall, a child must be five years old by Aug. 31, 2014.

For more information on kindergarten registration and Kinderfest, please call Cathy Allred at 206-393-4211.

Shoreline Schools Calendar

Try our new online Tandem calendar!  For complete details and to subscribe, visit shoreline.tandemcal.com

January 2014
13 and 27 • School Board meeting, 7 p.m., Shoreline Center
20 • No School, Martin Luther King Jr. Day
25 • Kinderfest at Shoreline Center, 10 a.m. to 12 noon
28 • Eastside Choral Singfest, 7:30 p.m., Shorecrest theater

February 2014
3 • Kindergarten registration begins at elementary schools
20 • School Board meeting, 7 p.m., Shoreline Center
10 • Eastside Band Festival, 7:30 p.m., Shorecrest gym
11 • Special Election Day, please remember to vote
11 • District Orchestra Festival, 7:30 p.m., Spartan Recreation Center
17-21 • No School, Mid-Winter Break

March 2014
6 • Westside Choral Festival, 7 p.m., Shorewood gym
10 • Support Person of the Year reception, Shoreline Center
10 and 24 • School Board meeting, 7 p.m., Shoreline Center