Propositions on February ballot

Superintendent’s Message

In early February, two propositions will be placed before you.

**Proposition 1** is a renewal of the six-year Capital Projects and Technology Levy, which if approved, will pay for repairs and improvements to school buildings and facilities, plus technology projects that include staff training, computer upgrades, and one-to-one devices.

**Proposition 2** is a one-year Transportation Levy to replace aging school buses.

Both propositions are renewals of levies that are expiring, and they will pay for needs in our schools that are not fully covered by state funding. Please take a moment to learn more.

Respectfully,

Dr. Gary Plano

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Mercer Island school's election: Vote by Feb. 9, 2016
Feb. 9, 2016 Propositions

Equipping Mercer Island’s students with the schools and resources they need

How the Mercer Island School District is funded

In Washington state, funding for day-to-day operations of public schools comes from three main sources: local, state, and federal taxes. State and federal revenues do not fully fund educational programs, services and capital costs. As a result, districts must ask their local communities to help support the basic needs of schools by approving local levies.

Mercer Island School District’s revenue per pupil from all sources ranks 144th out of 295 districts in Washington state.

The two measures are proposed to voters by the Mercer Island School District Board of Directors in consultation with the district’s learning services and maintenance and operations teams.

Questions about these measures? Contact Dean Mack at (206) 236-4522 or Dean.Mack@mercerislandschools.org

Federal: $308  
State: $6,327  
Local: $4,144  
Other financial resources: $52  
Revenue per student: $10,831

Board of Directors

Dr. Adair Dingle  
Tracy Drinkwater  
David D'Souza, Vice President  

Dr. Ralph Jorgenson, President  
Dr. Dave Myerson  
Dr. Gary Plano, Secretary
Proposition 1: Capital Projects and Technology Levy

The district will:

- Paint the exteriors and replace asphalt roofs at all elementary schools and the high school.
- Upgrade kitchens at all schools plus selected carpet, paint, furniture, play equipment and pavement surfaces.
- Replace the high school’s track, turf and lights; replace the junior-varsity grass field with field turf; and resurface the track at Islander Middle School.
- Replace elementary school play surfaces.
- Renovate high school tennis courts, adding court lighting.
- Replace old boilers, hot water tanks, and lighting to become more energy efficient.
- Update technology hardware and educational software to support the 1:1 program, which provides every student in grades 4-12 with a personal device to use with teachers for classroom learning.
- Upgrade existing technology equipment and network infrastructure.
- Provide training and grants to teachers for new technology curriculum and materials.

If passed, Propositions 1 and 2 will maintain the same combined estimated tax rates now paid by property owners on Mercer Island for school district purposes.

Passage of Prop. 1 will result in a property tax that is averaged at $0.55 per thousand dollars of assessed value each year for six years.

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Proposition 2: Transportation Levy

Renewal of this levy will collect $750,000 in one year to replace aging school buses over a six-year period. Replacements will be propane-fueled.

Small buses need to be replaced every eight years and large ones every 13 years. The district’s goal is to keep the bus fleet safe, modern and eco-friendly.

Passage of Prop. 2 will result in a property tax of $0.07 per thousand dollars of assessed value for one year.

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Ballots must be postmarked by Feb. 9 or returned to a ballot drop box by 8:00 p.m. on the day of the election.

Reminder: Schools propositions in Feb. 9, 2016 Special Election

- Prop 1: Renewal of expiring levy for capital & technology
- Prop 2: Renewal of expiring levy to replace school buses

Comprehensive or Annual Nondiscrimination Statement:
The Mercer Island School District does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, marital status, disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The Mercer Island School District offers classes in many College and Career Readiness Programs, admission to which is non-discriminatory. Lack of English-language proficiency will not be a barrier to admission and participation in those programs.

Declaración completa de no discriminación
El Distrito Escolar de Mercer Island no discrimina en los programas o actividades en base a sexo, raza, credo, religión, color, origen nacional, edad, veterano o estado militar, orientación sexual, expresión o identidad sexual, estado civil, discapacidad, o el uso de un perro guía entrenado o animal de servicio y proporciona un acceso igualitario a los Boy Scouts y otros grupos de jóvenes designados. El Distrito Escolar de Mercer Island ofrece clases en muchos programas de preparación para la universidad y carreras, la admisión a dichos programas no es discriminatoria. La falta de dominio del idioma inglés no será un obstáculo para la admisión y participación en esos programas.

有关非歧视原则的声明：
默瑟岛学区，在学区的项目或活动中，保障任何人不得因性别、种族、信仰、宗教、肤色、原国籍、年龄、退伍军人及军人身份、性取向、性别表达及身份、婚姻状况、残疾及缺陷、或使用受过训练的导盲犬或服务动物而受到歧视。默瑟岛学区提供平等的机会参与童子军和其他指定的青少年团体的项目和活动。在默瑟岛学区提供的许多大学和职业培训项目的课程中，任何人的录取不受歧视。有限的英语能力不会是录取和参与这些项目的障碍。

Complaints regarding discrimination in District programs may be made in accordance with District Administrative Procedure 3210P.

Las quejas relativas a la discriminación en los programas del Distrito pueden ser hechas de acuerdo con el Procedimiento Administrativo del Distrito 3210P.

EWRWSS Residential Customer

The following people have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies:

Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying (HIB) Coordinator:
Coordinadora de HIB (El acoso, la intimidación y el acoso escolar):

Dr. Gary Plano, Superintendent
(206) 236-3300 • gary.plano@mercerislandschools.org

Title IX Compliance Coordinator:
Coordinadora del Cumplimiento del Título IX:

Dean Mack, CFO/COO
(206) 236-4522 • dean.mack@mercerislandschools.org

Section 504 & ADA Coordinator:
Coordinadora de la Sección 504 y ADA:

Dr. Lindsay Myatich, Director
(206) 236-3326 • lindsay.myatich@mercerislandschools.org

Civil Rights Compliance Coordinator:
Coordinadora de Derechos Civiles:

Simmi Kher
(206) 236-3300 • simmi.kher@mercerislandschools.org