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# YOUR Signature MATTERS

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# Chelan County Official Local Voters' Pamphlet February 13, 2024 Special Election | Cashmere School District

Sian Your Ballot!

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Return your ballot by mail. No Stamp Needed! must be postmarked by February 13<sup>th</sup>.



Return your ballot at a drop box. Ballot drop boxes are open until 8 p.m. sharp on February 13<sup>th</sup>.

For this election, there are 4 drop boxes open starting January 26. They close promptly at 8:00 p.m. on February 13, 2024 Election Night.

**Chelan County Courthouse** Indoor Boxes: M - F 9a.m.- 5p.m.

Cashmere City Hall

Wenatchee Public Library



509-667-6808 | elections@co.chelan.wa.us | elections.chelancountywa.gov

We strongly recommend returning your ballot as early as possible. Mailed ballots

# **Ballot Drop Boxes**

350 Orondo Ave., Wenatchee Licensing Office - Level 2 or Elections Office - Level 3	
101 Woodring St., Cashmere Walk up access	
310 Douglas St., Wenatchee Drive-thru access	

### **PROPOSITION NO. 1**

#### REPLACEMENT EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS AND OPERATION LEVY

The Board of Directors of Cashmere School District No. 222 adopted Resolution No. 2024-3, concerning a proposition to finance educational programs and operation expenses. This proposition would authorize the District to levy the following excess taxes, in place of an expiring levy, on all taxable property within the District, for support of the District's educational programs and operation expenses not funded by the State of Washington:

Estimated Levy Rate/\$1,000			
Collection Year	Assessed Value	Levy Amount	
2025	\$2.10	\$2,934,371	
2026	\$2.10	\$3,081,090	
2027	\$2.10	\$3,235,144	
2028	\$2.10	\$3,396,901	

all as provided in Resolution No. 2024-3. Should this proposition be approved? LEVY . . . YES [] LEVY . . . NO []

#### **Explanatory Statement**

Passage of Proposition No. 1 would allow Cashmere School District to replace an educational programs and operation levy that expires at the end of calendar year 2024. Taxes collected by this replacement levy will be used to meet the educational needs of District students and pay expenses of educational programs and operation that are not funded by the State of Washington, including, but not limited to, pre-school classes, special education, nurses, counselors, safety upgrades, graduation readiness, athletics and extracurricular activities. Further information is available on the District's website https://www.cashmere.wednet.edu/.

The proposed four-year replacement levy would authorize collection of taxes to provide up to \$2,934,371 in 2025, \$3,081,090 in 2026, \$3,235,144 in 2027, and \$3,396,901 in 2028. The tax levy rate required to produce these levy amounts is estimated to be \$2.10 per \$1,000 of assessed value. The exact tax levy rates and amounts to be collected may be adjusted based upon the limitations imposed by State law at the time of the levy. Exemptions from taxes may be available to certain homeowners. To determine if you qualify, call the Chelan County Assessor at (509)667-6365.

#### Argument For:

Submitted by: Richard L. Langum | (509) 264-4711 | rlangum@nwi.net

Cashmere School District prides itself for a willingness to adapt to meet then exceed student needs while remaining fiscally responsible. The last three years required ever-changing delivery systems for all district programs. Most recent Cashmere student assessments significantly exceeded state averages across English/language arts, math, science, special education and migrant education. The quest to improve student learning continues.

Our local voter-approved EP&O levy supports teachers and assistants, counselors, safety officers, coaches/advisors, preschool, care programs, special education, maintenance, transportation, and staff training.

Primary funding for Cashmere schools comes from state government, federal government and local voter-approved levies and bonds. The proposed 2024 EP&O 4-year levy is a replacement levy estimated to cost \$2.10 compared to the current \$2.03 per \$1000 of assessed property value. Upon successful levy passage, Cashmere School District qualifies for \$1.1 million state local effort assistance because Cashmere is a property poor district. Beginning 2025 our local voter-approved taxes will decline due to decreasing bond rates.

Our most important community asset, our students, need your continued support. You are encouraged to vote YES on or before February 13, 2024.

Submitted by Richard Langum-community member, retired Cashmere educator, volunteer, parent/grandparent, community member, life-long Bulldog.

#### Argument Against:

No statement submitted.

**Rebuttal to Argument For:** 

Not statement submitted.

**Rebuttal to Argument Against:** No statement submitted.

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# Chelan County Official Local Voters' Pamphlet February 13, 2024 Special Election | Entiat School District

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Sian Your Ballot!

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Return your ballot at a drop box. Ballot drop boxes are open until 8 p.m. sharp on February 13<sup>th</sup>.

For this election, there are 4 drop boxes open starting January 26. They close promptly at 8:00 p.m. on February 13, 2024 Election Night.

**Chelan County Courthouse** Indoor Boxes: M - F 9a.m.- 5p.m.

**Entiat City Hall** 

Wenatchee Public Library



509-667-6808 | elections@co.chelan.wa.us | elections.chelancountywa.gov

We strongly recommend returning your ballot as early as possible. Mailed ballots

# **Ballot Drop Boxes**

350 Orondo Ave., Wenatchee Licensing Office - Level 2 or Elections Office - Level 3	
14070 Kinzel St., Entiat Drive-thru access	
310 Douglas St., Wenatchee Drive-up access	

#### **PROPOSITION NO. 1**

#### RENEWAL OF EXPIRING EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS AND OPERATION LEVY

The Board of Directors of Entiat School District No. 127 adopted Resolution No. 1-2023-2024, concerning a proposition for a renewal levy for education. This proposition would authorize the District to levy the following excess taxes, renewing an expiring levy, on all taxable property within the District, for support of the District's educational programs and operation expenses not funded by the State of Washington:

Estimated Levy Rate/\$1,000		
Collection Year	Assessed Value	Levy Amount
2025	\$1.39	\$785,000
2026	\$1.39	\$800,000
2027	\$1.39	\$815,000
2028	\$1.39	\$835,000

all as provided in Resolution No. 1-2023-2024. Should this proposition be approved? LEVY ... YES [] LEVY ... NO []

#### **Explanatory Statement**

Passage of Proposition No. 1 would allow the Entiat School District to renew an existing educational programs and operation levy that will expire at the end of 2024. The taxes collected by this replacement levy will be used to pay expenses of educational programs and operation not fully funded by the State of Washington, including, but not limited to, salaries and benefits for additional support staff above the prototypical funding formula, early childhood preschool staffing, all costs associated with extracurricular athletics, food service costs, and unfunded substitute teacher costs. Further information is available at https://www.entiatschools.org/.

The proposed four-year replacement levy would authorize collection of taxes to provide up to \$785,000 in 2025, \$800,000 in 2026, \$815,000 in 2027 and \$835,000 in 2028. The tax levy rate required to produce these amounts is estimated to be \$1.39 per \$1,000 of assessed value. The exact tax levy rate and amount to be collected may be adjusted based upon the actual assessed value of taxable property within the District and the limitations imposed by State law at the time of levy. Exemptions from taxes may be available to certain homeowners. To determine if you qualify, call the Chelan County Assessor at 509-667-6365.

#### **Argument For:**

Submitted by: Renee Swearingen | renee.entiat@gmail.com Your 'Yes' vote on the Entiat School District Educational Programs & Operations Levy is an investment in our school and students' success. Local levy dollars are vital to our children's education by paying for programs that the State of Washington does not fund. The Entiat community has graciously approved all EP&O replacement levies over the past 30+ years. This money has funded programs and services that have created opportunity and changed lives across generations of Entiat students. Levy money pays for continuous upgrades in safety, security and technology as well as athletics and other extracurricular activities. Local dollars allow for support and staffing that promotes smaller class sizes which is vital due to our increased student population. Levy dollars will also help offset high inflation rates over the past few years. These programs and support have inspired students to achieve and succeed in the modern world and in all facets of life. We must show our students that we still believe in their limitless potential. Our school is a foundational part of a thriving Entiat community. Please join us in voting 'Yes' for the Entiat EP&O Replacement Levy to ensure our children receive the well-rounded education they deserve.

#### Argument Against:

No statement submitted.

**Rebuttal to Argument For:** 

No statement submitted.

#### **Rebuttal to Argument Against:**

No statement submitted.

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# Chelan County Official Local Voters' Pamphlet February 13, 2024 Special Election | Lake Chelan School District

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Chelan City Hall

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350 Orondo Ave., Wenatchee Licensing Office - Level 2 or Elections Office - Level 3	
135 E. Johnson Ave., Chelan	
310 Douglas St., Wenatchee Drive-up access	

#### **PROPOSITION NO. 1**

#### REPLACEMENT EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS AND OPERATION LEVY

The Board of Directors of Lake Chelan School District No. 129 adopted Resolution No. 2023-6, concerning a proposition to finance educational programs and operation expenses. This proposition would authorize the District to levy the following excess taxes, replacing an expiring levy, on all taxable property within the District, for educational programs and operation expenses not funded by the State:

Collection Year	Estimated Levy Rate/\$1,000 <u>Assessed Value</u>	Levy Amount
2025	\$0.75	\$3,989,500
2026	\$0.75	\$4,196,000
2027	\$0.75	\$4,390,000
2028	\$0.75	\$4,553,000

all as provided in Resolution No. 2023-6 and subject to legal limits on levy rates and amounts at the time of levy. Should this proposition be approved?

> LEVY ... YES [ ] LEVY...NO []

#### **Explanatory Statement**

Passage of Proposition No. 1 would allow the Lake Chelan School District to replace an existing educational programs and operation levy that will expire at the end of 2024. The taxes collected by this replacement levy will be used to pay expenses of educational programs and operation not fully funded by the State of Washington, including, but not limited to, teachers, nurses, counselors, field trips, special education, athletics, advanced courses, extracurricular activities, transportation, food service, and building maintenance. Further information is available at https:// www.chelanschools.org/.

The proposed four-year replacement levy would authorize collection of taxes to provide up to \$3,989,500 in 2025, \$4,196,000 in 2026, \$4,390,000 in 2027 and \$4,553,000 in 2028. The tax levy rate required to produce these amounts is estimated to be \$0.75 per \$1,000 of assessed value. The exact tax levy rate and amount to be collected may be adjusted based upon the actual assessed value of taxable property within the District and the limitations imposed by State law at the time of levy. Exemptions from taxes may be available to certain homeowners. To determine if you qualify, call the Chelan County Assessor at 509-667-6365, Douglas County Assessor at 509-745-8521, or Okanogan County Assessor at 509-422-7190.

#### **Argument For:**

Submitted by: Terry J. LaBrue | (425) 765-1776 | tlabrue@centurylink.net

#### Filling the Gap for Our Children

Passage of Proposition No. 1 allows the Lake Chelan School District to replace an existing educational program and operation levy (EP&O) that expires in 2024. The funds collected by this levy will fill the gap — approximately 17 percent of the total budget -- for day-to-day educational programs and operations not funded by the state. This includes: teachers, nurses, counselors, mental-health professionals, special education, textbooks, advanced courses, extracurricular activities, transportation, food service, and building maintenance. These education elements are essential for our children to learn, grow, and succeed.

#### A Lower Replacement — Not a New Tax

The 2025-26 EP&O levy rate is estimated to be \$0.75 per \$1,000 of assessed value which is less than the existing tax. In fact, the Chelan School District levy rate is among the lowest in Washington. The exact levy rate amount may vary, based on the assessed value of a property and the limitations imposed by law. Exemptions from taxes may be available for certain homeowners. Call the Chelan County Assessor at (509) 667-6365, for details.

#### Community Support

To fund the education budget gap, the district relies on us to build the system we need and expect. Vote Yes.

#### **Argument Against:**

No statement submitted.

#### **Rebuttal to Argument For:**

No statement submitted.

#### **Rebuttal to Argument Against:**

No statement submitted.

Chelan County Elections is not authorized to edit statements, nor is it responsible for the contents therein.

#### **PROPOSITION NO. 2**

#### REPLACEMENT CAPITAL LEVY FOR EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY AND SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS

The Board of Directors of Lake Chelan School District No. 129 adopted Resolution No. 2023-7, concerning a proposition to finance educational technology and safety improvements. This proposition would authorize the District to levy the following excess taxes, replacing an expiring levy, on all taxable property within the District to continue funding student and teacher technology devices, equipment and infrastructure and school safety and security improvements, all to improve the student learning environments

curity improvements, all to improve the student learning environment:			
	Estimated Levy Rate/\$1,000		
	Collection Year	Assessed Value	Levy Amount
	2025	\$0.06	\$317,641
	2026	\$0.06	\$333,523
	2027	\$0.06	\$350,200
	2028	\$0.06	\$367,722
ed in Resolution No. 2023-7. Should this proposition be approved?			
	LEVY YES [ ]	LEVY NO [ ]	

all as provide

#### **Explanatory Statement**

Passage of Proposition No. 2 would allow the Lake Chelan School District to replace an existing capital levy that will expire at the end of 2024. The taxes collected by this replacement levy will be used to pay for (1) student and teacher technology devices, equipment and infrastructure (including Chromebooks and classroom display screens with integrated work stations); and (2) safety and security improvements throughout existing facilities (including heating, ventilation and air conditioning control systems at Chelan Middle School and Chelan High School and District-wide door security systems and security camera systems). Further information is available at https://www.chelanschools.org/. The proposed four-year replacement levy would authorize collection of taxes to provide \$317,641 in 2025, \$333,523 in 2026, \$350,200 in 2027 and \$367,722 in 2028. The tax levy rate required to produce these amounts is estimated to be \$0.06 per \$1,000 of assessed value. The exact tax levy rate may be adjusted based upon the actual assessed value of taxable property within the District. Exemptions from taxes may be available to certain homeowners. To determine if you qualify, call the Chelan County Assessor at 509-667-6365, Douglas County Assessor at 509-745-8521, or Okanogan County Assessor at 509-422-7190.

#### Argument For:

#### Keeping Up with Technology

Proposition No. 2 would allow the Lake Chelan School District to replace the expiring Capital Technology levy, that focuses on classroom and instructional technology — such as replacing 600 student laptop computers for in-class and after-school assignments . The funds from the measure would fill the gap — approximately two percent of the total budget — for additional technology hardware, software, displays, and electronic language translators not funded by the state. Proposition No. 2 offers necessary funds to accomplish current and future technology equipment to meet all of our children's needs.

#### Safety and Health are Prime Concerns

Keeping students safe with enhanced entry doors, cameras, and other security systems in our aging schools is imperative. The elementary school was built in 1948 and the gym is 70+ years old. It's up to us to provide our children with convenient and comfortable air-handling HVAC systems they need for a quality learning environment. We owe it to our children to provide a healthy, safe, environment in which to learn. Vote Yes on Proposition No. 2.

#### **Argument Against:**

No statement submitted.

#### **Rebuttal to Argument For:**

No statement submitted.

#### **Rebuttal to Argument Against:**

No statement submitted.

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#### Submitted by: Terry J. LaBrue | (425) 765-1776 | tlabrue@centurylink.net

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**Chelan County Courthouse** Indoor Boxes: M - F 9a.m.- 5p.m.

**Cashmere City Hall** 

Leavenworth City Hall

Wenatchee Public Library



 $\sim$  elections  $\sim$ \*Not all districts in this pamphlet will appear on your ballot. Only the races that you are entitled to vote on will appear.

509-667-6808 | elections@co.chelan.wa.us | elections.chelancountywa.gov

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350 Orondo Ave., Wenatchee Licensing Office - Level 2 or

Elections Office - Level 3

101 Woodring St., Cashmere | Walk up access

700 Highway 2, Leavenworth | Drive-thru access

310 Douglas St., Wenatchee | Drive-thru access

# FIRE DISTRICT NO. 9

For questions about this measure, contact: David Walker | (509) 763-3034 | dwalker@lwfr.org

#### Lake Wenatchee Fire & Rescue

#### **Proposition No. 1**

#### Property Tax Levy for Fire Protection and Emergency Medical Services.

The Board of Lake Wenatchee Fire & Rescue adopted Resolution No. 2023-10 concerning a proposition to maintain and adequately fund District operations.

This proposition authorizes the District to establish its regular property tax levy at \$.95 per \$1,000 of assessed value to be assessed in 2024 and collected in 2025. The funds will maintain and improve fire protection, emergency medical services and facilities, replace apparatus and equipment, and provide for firefighter safety. The maximum allowable levy in 2024 shall serve as the base for subsequent levy limitations as provided by chapter 84.55 RCW.

Should this proposition be:

Approved []

Rejected [ ]

#### **Explanatory Statement**

Lake Wenatchee Fire & Rescue provides emergency fire protection and medical services to its citizens.

The maximum regular levy rate for Washington fire districts is \$1.50 per \$1,000 of assessed value. Due to the statutory 1% limitation on property tax increases, the Fire District's current levy rate in 2023 is approximately \$.58. If approved by the voters, this proposition will authorize the District to establish its property tax levy rate at \$.95 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation in 2024 for collection in 2025. The dollar amount levied in 2024 shall serve as the District's tax levy base and in 2025, absent further voter approval, the tax levy will be subject to the statutory 1% limit.

The District's Board of Commissioners has determined that this proposition is necessary to maintain an effective level of services, fire fighter staffing, equipment and facilities in light of rising costs. Approval of this measure will allow the District to maintain the level of fire protection and emergency medical services provided to its citizens.

If the levy is approved, the levy on a \$300,000 assessed valuation residence would not exceed \$282.00 each year or approximately \$23.50 per month for fire protection and emergency medical services.

#### Argument For:

#### Submitted by: Bob Adamson | 509-961-8277 | boblteach2@aol.com

The Lake Wenatchee Fire and Rescue is a community-based All-Hazards Rural Fire Department. It provides structural fire protection, wildfire first response, emergency medical response, automobile, snow, and water rescue, and other supportive services.

Those of us who live in the communities covered by the Lake Wenatchee Fire and Rescue are fortunate to be served by a dedicated group of men and women who have answered the call to provide aid to their neighbors. The levy is vital in ensuring that existing services be maintained; seasonal firefighters will be available during fire season; replacement and repairs of aging apparatus will occur; repairs and maintenance to the five stations will continue; items such as protective clothing, rescue equipment, hoses, etc. are available; and the department will have the ability to receive grant funds from partner agencies.

The LWFR operates out of five stations and serves over 100 square miles, including the communities of Plain, Lake Wenatchee, Chiwawa River Pines, Ponderosa, Nason Creek, Merritt, and Highway 2.

The Lake Wenatchee Fire and Rescue must have the funding necessary to maintain the critical services that keep our community safe. Please vote YES on February 13, 2024.

#### **Argument Against:**

No statement submitted.

**Rebuttal to Argument For:** 

No statement submitted.

**Rebuttal to Argument Against:** 

No statement submitted.

For questions about this measure, contact: Andrea Walheim | (509) 888-3335 | questions@chiwawadistrict.com

#### Annexation of Territories into the District **Proposition No. 1**

Shall the territory described in Resolutions No. 2023-13 and 2023-14 enacted by the Board of Trustees of Chelan County Mosquito Control District No. 4 (Chiwawa) and filed with Chelan County Elections be annexed into Chelan County Mosquito Control District No. 4 (Chiwawa) and thereby be subject to assessments for provision of current and future mosquito control services as provided within said district?

Yes []

#### **Explanatory Statement**

The neighborhood of Shugart Flats borders the Wenatchee and Chiwawa Rivers and has 3 oxbows on its Northern end, plus substantial Wenatchee river frontage which harbor wetlands that produce an abundance of nuisance mosquitoes in the Spring and Summer. The Chelan County PUD owns 3 parcels adjoining the Forest Service land where the Chiwawa Fish Hatchery is located, North of the Chiwawa River that borders Shugart Flats. Residents in Shugart Flats as well as the two southern parcels of Thousand Trails have petitioned the Chiwawa Mosquito District to annex them into the district. It is important to annex them so that they can join a professionally executed, environmentally responsible mosquito control program which will spread the costs and coordination across a larger geography and thus tax base. By joining the district they would be governed under the mosquito districts' Department of Ecology NPDES permit, which would be much more cost-effective than each owner getting their own.

If this measure passes, these areas will be incorporated into the Chiwawa Mosquito District as of 2024, which will allow the MCD to treat there in 2024, and they will be subject to a tax of \$75 per parcel per year effective in 2025.

#### **Argument For:**

*Why join a mosquito district?* 

A mosquito district provides for effective and inexpensive mosquito control - much less costly than piecemeal applications and much more comprehensive.

The Chiwawa MD program is professionally run and adheres to highest the standards of environmental responsibility using less pesticides. A program that targets breeding sites is highly effective and virtually eliminates chemicals spilling into our rivers and ecosystem, plus the multifaceted integrated management plan avoids the cycles of repeated adults hatching off which results from a spray program.

#### Why should the Chiwawa MD annex these three areas?

The Shugart Flats neighborhood is bordered by oxbows of the Chiwawa and Wenatchee rivers to its North and West. The PUD parcels share a wetland with Shugart Flats and it would be difficult to achieve effective larval control without being able to treat both sides of the river under the same Department of Ecology permit. The Thousand Trails parcels become saturated from the Clear Creek drainage and require several acres of treatment in the spring. These parcels are important to the success of the district.

#### What will this cost?

The cost is \$75 per parcel per year, significantly less than costs of treating per property or per neighborhood.

#### **Argument Against:**

No statement submitted.

#### **Rebuttal to Argument For:**

No statement submitted.

#### **Rebuttal to Argument Against:**

No statement submitted.

No [ ]

Submitted by: Anita Petit | eapetit@nwi.net