# **Need Assistance?**

# **Register to Vote**

#### Online

You can register online at www.votewa.gov — you'll need a Washington State Driver License or ID. Make sure you register online by the January 31<sup>st</sup> deadline for the February 8<sup>th</sup> Special Election.

#### By mail

Download and print a registration form from www.elections.chelancountywa.gov and mail it to our office by the January 31<sup>st</sup> deadline for the February 8<sup>th</sup> Special Election.

#### In person

You can register in person through February 8<sup>th</sup>, Election Day at the vote center listed below.

# **Replacement Ballot**

If you lost, damaged or did not receive your ballot, a replacement ballot is available. To get a replacement ballot:

Email: elections@co.chelan.wa.us Online: VoteWA.gov 509-667-6808 By phone: 350 Orondo Ave Level 3 Ste 306 In person: Wenatchee, WA 98801

# **Accessible Voting**

Chelan County Elections is committed to ensuring that all voters have the opportunity to vote a private and secure ballot.

Accessible Voting Units (AVU's) are available starting 18 days before an Election, until 8pm on Election Day.

An AVU is a voting assistance unit that enables voters with visual impairments, cognitive/learning disabilities, illiteracy, or limited mobility to vote independently and privately.

An AVU presents your ballot on a monitor, you select choices by touching a screen, using a select wheel, or by using a tool. You can use headphones to listen to the text and prompts on your ballot. AVU's can also be fitted with sip-and-puff tools. AVU's are wheelchair accessible and screened from others to maintain privacy.

# February 8, 2022 Special Election **Chelan County Official Local Voters' Pamphlet**

# x<u>Sn</u>

# **Sign Your Ballot!**

You must sign and date your return envelope in order for vour ballot to be counted!



# Return your ballot by mail. **No Stamp Needed!**

We strongly recommend returning your ballot as early as possible. Mailed ballots must be postmarked by February 8<sup>th</sup>.



Return your ballot at a drop box.

# **Ballot Drop Boxes**

Here are the drop boxes open for the Februar		
Chelan County Courthouse	350 Oron	
Indoor Boxes: M - F 9am-5pm	Licensing	
Chelan City Hall	*135 E. Joł	
	-	
Wenatchee Public Library	*310 Dou	

\* Drive-up ballot drop boxes

If none of the above voting options work for you, please contact our office.



# **Ballot drop boxes are open until** 8 p.m. sharp on February 8<sup>th</sup>.

ry 8<sup>th</sup> Special Election: ndo Ave., Wenatchee, WA 98801 Office - Level 2 or Elections Office - Level 3

hnson Ave., Chelan, WA 98816

uglas St., Wenatchee, WA 98801

H Who donates to campaigns? View contributors for candidates and measures

> **Public Disclosure Commission** www.pdc.wa.gov Toll Free 1-877-601-2828

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

#### PROPOSITION NO. 1 REPLACEMENT EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS AND OPERATION LEVY

The Board of Directors of Pateros School District No. 122-70J adopted Resolution No. 2021-309, 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:

	Estimated Levy	
	Rate/\$1,000	
<u>Collection Year</u>	Assessed Value	Levy Amount
2023	\$2.50	\$602,000
2024	\$2.50	\$602,000
2025	\$2.50	\$602,000
2026	\$2.50	\$602,000

all as provided in Resolution No. 2021-309 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 Pateros School District to replace an existing educational programs and operation levy that will expire at the end of calendar year 2022. 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. Further information is available on the District's website at http://pateros.org/.

The proposed four-year replacement levy would authorize the collection of taxes to provide up to \$602,000 in 2023, \$602,000 in 2024, \$602,000 in 2025, and \$602,000 in 2026. The tax levy rate required to produce these levy amounts is estimated to be \$2.50 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 the 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 Okanogan County Assessor at (509) 422-7190 or the Chelan County Assessor at (509) 667-6365.

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

# **Argument For:**

While the State has increased support to public schools, the funds fall short. That is why local levies are still needed to adequately fund our schools. Fortunately, this district cares about the quality of education available for our kids and has consistently voted in favor of past levies. This is not a new tax. It is simply Pateros School District asking voters to say yes again. This ask is \$2.50 per thousand of assessed property value, which is less than the rate of \$2.95 we approved in 2018. Due to state restrictions imposed afterward, we have only been paying \$1.50.

Essentially, we are voting on a one-dollar increase to our current school general property tax rate. That means, if your house is valued at \$300,000, there will only be a \$25/month increase to your taxes!

Vote "yes" for the levy, our kids are worth it!

# Argument Against:

Per pupil expenditures at the district have increased to \$18,009, as of the 2019-2020 year. That's more than tuition and books at the University of Washington. In general, there should be no tax levies whatsoever on the February ballot. February is the lowest voter turnout election of the year. And, importantly, taxpayers won't receive their property tax bill for the year until a month later in March. Not to mention, COVID and enrollments are still in question.

And because of the McCleary Decision, and our increased State School taxes since 2018, there should be no more EP&O levies, period. Those State School tax categories on your bill, along with the other School categories, all go to the Pateros SD. And that's not enough. State taxpayers (from our sales taxes) have to chip in even more. More info at, www.schooldataproject.com

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

As of 2020-2021, district median teacher compensation was at \$109,320. That is up 25% in 3 years, 4 times inflation and a cause of inflation. Most of that was in 1 year right after the McCleary Decision giveaway in 2018 that resulted in dramatic increases in our State School property tax bill. And all of that State School category goes to the Pateros SD along with the other School property taxes. No EP&O levies. Written by Jeff Heckathorn

# **Rebuttal to Argument Against:**

Per pupil district spending ranges from \$10,784 to \$48,744 across Washington. Our \$18,009/ pupil (which includes local levy dollars) is typical. The McCleary Decision increased the state levy – but not enough to eliminate local levies. If our state completely funded education, schools would not have to rely on their community to fund things like counselors, new curricula, and vocational programs. Remember: Pateros helped our children safely return to full-time, in-person schooling. They deserve our support. Written by Chantel Poole

Submitted by: Chantel Poole Chantelpoole14@gmail.com

Submitted by: Jeff Heckathron info@schooldataproject.com