

## *SCHOOLS MAKE A DIFFERENCE*

### SCHOOL BOARD ACCEPTS COMMUNITY INPUT GROUP'S RECOMMENDATION AND SETS FOUR-YEAR \$2,400,000 REPLACEMENT MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS LEVY – ELECTION: FEBRUARY 9, 2010

Colville School District patrons will vote on a four-year replacement of an expiring Maintenance and Operations (M & O) Levy. The M & O Levy adequately: 1) meets learning needs in student achievement; 2) maintains safe and healthy facilities; and 3) provides student programs that contribute to learning, living, and participating as world citizens.

#### **WHY A LEVY IS NEEDED:**

The Washington State school funding system is designed to be supplemented by local school levies. Basic education funding covers approximately 76% of required costs to provide an adequate level of learning programs for students and to maintain facilities. The system is designed to acquire the remaining needed dollars from local communities (districts are legally allowed to ask up to 24% of budgets locally). The school board determined that sufficient learning programs and the maintenance of facilities can be accomplished at a levy rate of 11.8%.

#### **SOME EXAMPLES OF WHAT THIS REPLACEMENT LEVY COVERS:**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Textbooks, curriculum, classroom materials and supplies</li> <li>• Assessment materials to improve student learning</li> <li>• Classroom technology integration</li> <li>• Building maintenance, cleaning &amp; repairs</li> <li>• Compliance with health &amp; safety standards</li> <li>• Custodial staff to keep schools open after 3 pm</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extra-curricular activities, athletics, and music</li> <li>• Student clubs, e.g., Science, Rocketry, Knowledge Bowl, Math Club</li> <li>• Transportation costs for athletic events and activities</li> <li>• Transportation – home to school costs not funded by the state</li> </ul>
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#### **HOW MUCH WILL THIS REPLACEMENT LEVY COST THE TAXPAYER?**

The proposed replacement M & O Levy amount is \$ 2,400,000, and is estimated to cost \$2.01 per thousand of assessed valuation in the year 2011. As the total assessed valuation increases across the district, taxpayer cost per thousand goes down.

Collection Year	2011	2012	2013	2014
*Estimated M & O Levy Rate/\$1,000	\$2.01	\$1.90	\$1.79	\$1.69

How much will it cost me each month or each year on my residence and/or business in comparison to the current levy?



Home or Business Value:	<u>\$100,000</u>	<u>\$150,000</u>	<u>\$200,000</u>
Current Levy:	\$ 22.75/mo \$273.00/yr	\$ 34.13/mo \$409.50/yr	\$ 45.50/mo \$546.00/yr
Replacement Levy:	\$ 16.75/mo \$201.00/yr	\$ 25.13/mo \$301.50/yr	\$ 33.50/mo \$402.00/yr

#### WHY AM I PAYING LESS PER THOUSAND FOR THE REPLACEMENT LEVY?

Due to a growing tax base from total assessed valuation increases and more people paying the total fixed levy amount across the district, the estimated amount per thousand of assessed value is less.

\*Estimated M & O Levy rate is based on the most recent available assessed valuation numbers from the County Assessor and the State Superintendent's Office, with subsequent year projections based on the past four year history for valuation increases.

#### **LEVY EXEMPTIONS: FOR SENIOR CITIZENS AND DISABLED PERSONS**

You could be eligible for a reduction in taxes if you meet specific age and income criteria. Contact the Stevens County Assessor's Office at 684-6161 to determine your eligibility.

**CONTACT THE COLVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT OFFICE AT 684-7850 OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT [WWW.COLSD.ORG](http://WWW.COLSD.ORG) FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**