

2007-08 Citizens' Levy Advisory Committee
November 28, 2007
Minutes

Mike Oswald opened the meeting and asked members to review the minutes from the November 14 meeting. The minutes were approved. Mike asked if there were any unanswered questions from the previous meetings and there were none. He explained that at this meeting the committee would have a chance to ask questions on previous materials presented and discuss proposals and formulate recommendations to the School Board regarding the duration and amount of the Maintenance and Operations and Technology levies.

Ron Cowan presented the revised tax rate estimates. At the November 14 meeting Ron provided the committee with a document that contained the proposed levy amount and the estimated assessed value and resulting tax rates. Since that date the Whatcom County Assessor's Office has provided new information showing that the district's assessed value will increase which means the estimated tax rates will go down. As a result of this increased assessed value, the total tax rate for each of the 4 years associated with the proposed levies will be less than the total tax rate district residents paid in 2007.

Mike asked if the committee was ready to finalize a recommendation for the Maintenance and Operations Levy. Shirley Potter made a motion that the committee recommend to the Superintendent and the School Board a four-year Maintenance and Operations Levy to continue to support general fund expenditures and that the amount of the levy for each year be as follows:

2009	\$20,500,000
2010	\$21,700,000
2011	\$22,900,000
2012	\$24,000,000

The motion was seconded and passed with a unanimous vote.

Following discussion, Mike asked if the committee was ready to finalize a recommendation for the Technology Capital Projects Levy. Lisa Peterson made a motion that the committee recommend to the Superintendent and School Board a four-year Technology Levy to continue to replace technology equipment and systems in support of student learning and that the amount of the levy for each year be as follows:

2009	\$2,000,000
2010	\$2,000,000
2011	\$2,000,000
2012	\$2,000,000

The motion was seconded and passed with a unanimous vote.

Shirley Potter reminded the committee of the importance in stressing that these two levies replace the two expiring levies and are not additional levies.

The next step is for the district's legal counsel to draft levy resolutions. These resolutions and a memo from the committee will be presented to the Board at their December 13 meeting.

Mike and Nancy Oswald thanked the members for their work and adjourned the meeting.