

Bellingham Public Schools  
Bellingham, Washington

**2007-08 Citizens' Levy Advisory Committee**  
**November 7, 2007**  
**Minutes**

Dr. Vedra welcomed members of the 2007-08 Citizens' Levy Advisory Committee and explained the Committee's charge which is to review the district's maintenance and operations and technology needs for the next four years and to make a recommendation to the Board regarding the levy amounts for possible replacement levies. The replacement levies would need to be approved by district voters in March 2008. He introduced Board member Elaine Lynch who expressed the Board's appreciation for people volunteering to help with this important task. Dr. Vedra then introduced Mike and Nancy Oswald, the Committee Co-chairs. Mike thanked the committee members for their willingness to serve and asked them to introduce themselves.

Ron Cowan spoke on how the budget reflects the district's three priorities of powerful teaching and learning, personalizing the school setting, and engaging families. He explained that the Maintenance and Operations and Capital Projects Fund (Technology) Levies come from a special tax on property voted by the people. These levies expire every four years and that the new levies, if approved, would replace the current levies and not be in addition to the current levies.

Ron presented an overview of school finance explaining the primary revenue and expenditure components associated with the district budget and the funding methodology used by the state and federal governments. Of the district's five funds, the committee will concentrate on the General Fund (Maintenance and Operations Levy) and the Capital Projects Fund (Technology Levy).

After the presentation, Ron reviewed the objectives of the meeting with the members and answered questions.

Mike Oswald shared information about other levy activities that community members are currently involved in. He invited the CAC members to contact him or Nancy if they were interested volunteering to help with any of these activities.

Next Meeting:

November 8, 2007

12:30 p.m.

Board Room