

Sample Social Media Posts: Local Bonds and Levies

General

In Washington, voter-approved bonds and levies are the “seeds” of school funding. Districts receive the dollars they need to provide quality education from a few sources: the state and from local bonds and levies. ((Investment graphic and video link: <https://youtu.be/T5hml3UY3o0>))

What is the difference between a bond and a levy? The simple answer is: bonds are for building and levies are for learning. Both grow from seeds and blossom into structures and services that communities rely on. ((BuildingvsLearning graphic and video link: <https://youtu.be/T5hml3UY3o0>))

Levies and bonds require different majority votes in order to pass in Washington State. Levies require a 50% +1 simple majority. Bonds require a 60% supermajority. ((VotingRules graphic and video link: <https://youtu.be/T5hml3UY3o0>))

Local funding from bonds and levies provide the critical supports needed for students to grow and thrive. ((Grow&Thrive graphic and video link: <https://youtu.be/T5hml3UY3o0>))

Levies

What is a school levy? A levy is a shorter-term funding measure that supports student programming and services that the state does not fund or underfunds. Things like extracurricular activities and special education are a few of the many critical programs and services a levy supports. ((LevyDuration, Investment or Grow&Thrive graphic and video link: <https://youtu.be/T5hml3UY3o0>))

In (date) School District has a (replacement) levy measure on the ballot. A replacement levy means that an existing, voter-approved funding measure is expiring and the school district is asking the community to continue to support the levy and the programs and services it funds for another set time period. In our case, we are asking for the renewal of our locally funded levy at (the same amount OR a new rate) per year for the next (number) of years. (link to your website page with more info)

If you see a replacement levy on the ballot, a school district is asking for the renewal of an existing enrichment, capital, or transportation levy that is about to expire. Typically, it means the continuation of an existing tax, not a new one. ((VotingRules graphic and video link: <https://youtu.be/T5hml3UY3o0>))

There are a few garden varieties of levies: 1. Enrichment Levies, 2. Capital Levies, 3. Transportation Levies. An enrichment Levy (EP&O or M&O) supports programs and services that are not funded or underfunded by the state. A capital levy funds things like modern technology and smaller renovation

projects. A transportation levy funds things like new buses or major repairs to older buses to prolong their useful life. ((LevyDuration, Investment or Grow&Thrive graphic and video link: <https://youtu.be/T5hml3UY3o0>))

Bonds

In (date) School District has a bond measure on the ballot. What is a school bond? Bonds are long-term investments that finance construction/school improvements over a long period of time, usually 10-20 years. ((BondDuration, Investment or Grow&Thrive graphic and video link: <https://youtu.be/T5hml3UY3o0>))

Capital Levies vs. Bonds

Bonds and capital levies might seem similar, but they pay for different things and have different lifespans. A capital levy pays for things like building technology and security improvements and lasts 1-6 years, while a bond pays for new buildings and major renovations and lasts for about 20 years. ((Duration graphic and video link: <https://youtu.be/T5hml3UY3o0>))

Hashtags for Twitter:

#schoolfunding #schoolbond #schoollevy #WASchools #yourdistricthashtag

Link to video on YouTube:

Growing Education: What's the Difference Between a Levy and a Bond?
<https://youtu.be/T5hml3UY3o0>