



"Because you can't have a great city without great schools"

53,000 students are counting on Seattle voters to renew two expiring school levies on Feb. 12th

The renewal of the **Educational Programs and Operations (EP&O) levy** provides critical day-to-day programs and staff to operate Seattle Public Schools and fill in the gaps not covered by state funds. The **Building Excellence Capital levy (BEX V)** will improve safety and security, replace aging buildings, add seats, remove portables and enhance classroom technology. These levies are not new taxes; they replace expiring Seattle school levies. All the funding from these levies remains in Seattle to support our students, schools and staff.

YES votes to renew these two levies will:

✓ Make Every School Safer for Our Kids

Vibrant and popular public schools are part of what makes Seattle a great place to live, but we need to provide the funds to build quality, permanent classrooms our students need and deserve. BEX V will modify existing buildings to make them safe for our students and teachers. This includes **investing in every Seattle Public School** to secure entrances and school sites, provide earthquake improvements and upgrade fire alarms.

✓ Replace and Modernize our Aging Schools and Portables

Eight schools will be replaced or modernized: Alki, John Rogers, Kimball, Mercer, Montlake, Northgate, Rainier Beach and Viewlands. And this levy adds almost 2,000 new seats across the district and removes 76 aging portables. BEX V renews a 6-year levy for \$1.4 billion to provide our students with healthier and safer buildings and improved technology. Seattle Public Schools has a well-deserved reputation of delivering its capital projects on time and under budget.

✓ Renew our Commitment to Help Every Child Succeed

The renewal of the **Educational Programs and Operations (EP&O) levy** provides critical day-to-day school operations and staffing beyond what the state funds to operate Seattle Public Schools. This 3-year levy renewal delivers \$815 million to bridge the funding gap for critical support staff such as nurses, librarians, counselors, family support workers and more. Levy funding also provides textbooks and instructional materials and helps students who need special education services, as well as, programs that help close the opportunity gaps.

How can you help?

- ✓ Endorse our grassroots campaign to support our schools**
- ✓ Contribute to help fund these campaign efforts on behalf of our Seattle students**
- ✓ Volunteer to help us communicate the critical need in the Feb. 12 election**
- ✓ Follow us on social media and help spread the word!**

www.schoolsfirstseattle.org Paid for by Schools First! P.O. Box 2204 Seattle WA, 98111