

Levy Newsletter

Davenport School District

Special Edition
Levy Newsletter
to Community
January 2016

Replacement M & O School Levy Election February 9, 2016



The Davenport School District will be asking our patrons to vote on renewing the Maintenance and Operation Levy. This election will be held on February 9, 2016. Here are some key facts regarding the school levy:

- ✓ This replacement levy renews an expiring three-year levy that was approved by Davenport School District patrons in 2013.
- ✓ The levy makes up approximately 14% of the school district's total budget.
- ✓ Remember, this is a replacement levy.

The current levy amount for 2016 is \$1,045,000. The current tax rate per \$1,000 of assessed value is \$4.12. These are the proposed M & O Levy rates for 2017-2020.

Levy Collection Year	Levy Amount	Estimated Tax Rate (per \$1,000 of assessed value)
2017	\$1,066,000	\$4.12
2018	\$1,087,000	\$4.12
2019	\$1,109,000	\$4.12
2020	\$1,131,000	\$4.12

FFA Team takes FIRST overall at Job Interview CDE in October



Timeline of Events:

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| January 20, 2016 | Ballots Mailed Out—approximate date |
| January 25, 2016 | 6 PM: Community Informational Forum in the High School Library |
| February 9, 2016: | Election Day—all ballots must be post marked by this date |

Remember to Vote by February 9, 2016

Davenport School District Replacement M & O Levy

Questions and Answers

Q: When does the current M & O Levy expire?

A: The current levy **expires in December 2016.**

Q: Why is this called a “Replacement Levy?”

A: This is a **renewal of the maintenance and operation tax** currently paid to support programs in the Davenport School District.

Q: Is there a dollar limit on how much money school districts can ask their patrons for?

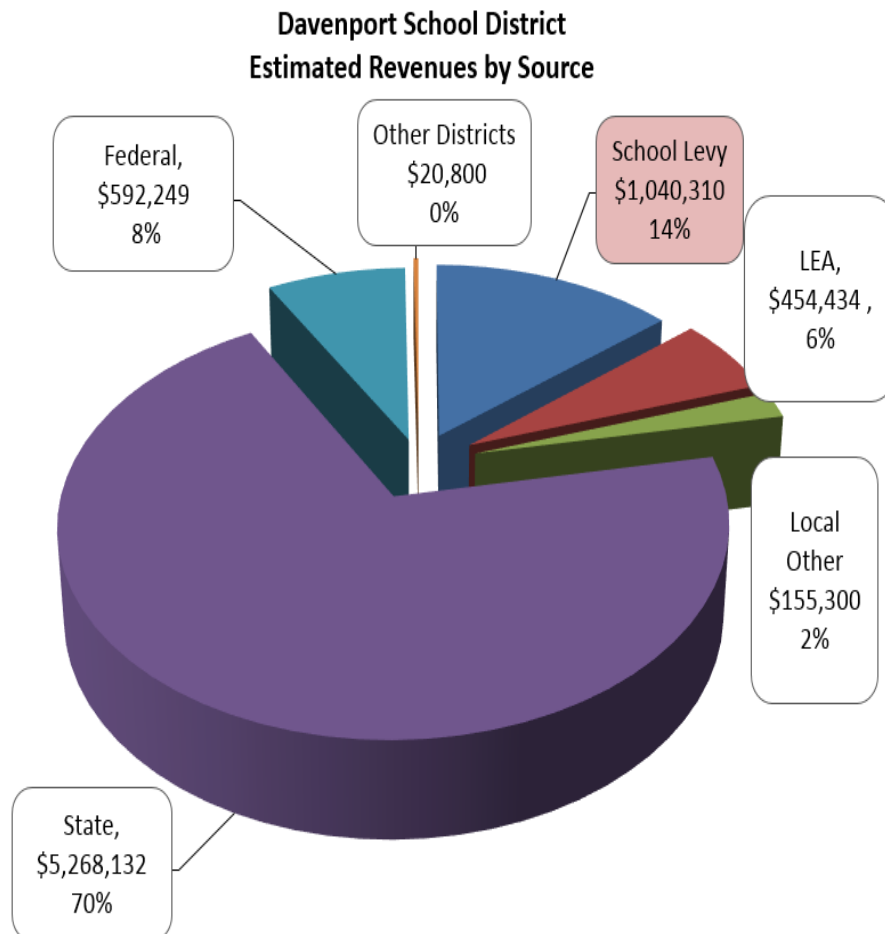
A. YES! There is a “levy lid”- this is the maximum amount that state law allows a district to ask their voters to approve. This is also referred to as “maximum levy authority”. The current maximum levy authority for the Davenport School District is \$1,669,630. Our levy request is \$603,630 lower than the total amount allowed.

Q: What happens if the levy doesn't pass?

A. Without levy funds, the District's operating budget would be significantly reduced. In addition to losing levy dollars, we would also no longer receive local effort assistance (LEA), also referred to as levy equalization. These two funding sources make up 20% of our total budget. The loss of these funds would have a devastating impact on our school district. The Board would be required to make significant program reductions and adjustments in order to balance the budget.



**Elementary/Middle School
Library and Computer Lab**



Tennis Court Repairs



**Levy funds are used to
maintain our facilities.**

Davenport School District Replacement M & O Levy

Questions and Answers

Q: What does the M & O Levy pay for?

A: Levy dollars are used throughout the budget to help offset the lack of state dollars needed to provide students with a quality education. Here are some specific uses of levy dollars:

- Textbook adoptions & curriculum updates
- Materials, Supplies and Operating Costs (MSOC'S): Heat, lights, utilities, supplies, equipment, etc.
- Funding of extra-curricular and co-curricular activities (Knowledge Bowl, drama, choir, FFA, FBLA, athletics, field trips, safety equipment, etc.)
- Bus travel for events (fuel, bus drivers, etc.)
- Portions of the salaries for administrators and other employees not covered by state funding
- Elementary Student Assistance Specialist and Lincoln County Juvenile Court Services
- Technology equipment and support
- Facility upkeep and repair



Q: What impact will this proposed M & O Levy have on my taxes?

A. The replacement M & O Levy, if approved, will not change your tax rate unless property values for Lincoln County change. Cost per thousand estimated for 2016 is **\$4.12**. The replacement levy is aiming to keep that tax rate the same. If property values change for 2017, 2018 2019, or 2020 rate per thousand will be adjusted to collect only the original requested dollars.

Q: Do other school districts ask their voters for M & O Levies?

A: Yes, almost every school district in the state requests their local patrons to approve M & O Levies. In 2015, 286 of the 295 school districts in the state were accessing local levy funds. **All** public school districts in Lincoln County run local levies. Levies can be run for one-year, two-year, three-year, or four-year terms.

Q: Can senior citizens or disabled persons qualify for tax exemptions?

A: If you are a senior citizen or a disabled person, you may qualify for a tax exemption. Contact the Lincoln County Assessor's Office at 509-725-7011 for information regarding tax exemptions.



Elementary/Middle School Assembly



High School Assembly

This will be the wording on the ballot.

Replaces the existing levy that expires at the end of 2016.

Levy funds are used to cover those costs that the State of Washington does not fully fund.

Davenport School District No. 207

REPLACEMENT MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION LEVY

The Board of Directors of Davenport School District No. 207 adopted Resolution No. 15-02, concerning a proposition to finance maintenance and operation expenses. This proposition would authorize the District to meet the educational needs of its students by levying the following excess taxes, in place of an expiring levy, on all taxable property within the District, for essential maintenance and operation expenses not funded by the State, including educational programs, student services and operations:

Collection Year	Approximate Levy Rate/\$1000 Assessed Value	Levy Amount
2017	\$4.12	\$1,066,000
2018	\$4.12	\$1,087,000
2019	\$4.12	\$1,109,000
2020	\$4.12	\$1,131,000

All as provided in Resolution No. 15-02.

Should this proposition be approved?:

LEVY....YES LEVY....NO



Ballots are due by February 9




2015 Davenport High School Volleyball ACADEMIC Champs

You are invited to attend our community forum regarding the levy proposition on Monday, January 25 in the Middle School Library at 6 PM. For more information about the levy, call Superintendent Jim Kowalkowski at 725-1481 or visit with any school board member.

2016 School Board Directors

*Merilla Hopkins
Heather Panke
Kristi Bell
Deanna Fitzpatrick
Gabe Gants*



Levy Equalization: Will This Program Continue?

For many years, the State of Washington has provided Levy Equalization Dollars (LEA) for districts that are considered "property poor." The Davenport School District will receive approximately \$468,425 of LEA funds in 2016. LEA is not considered "basic education" and is not protected in the state budget.

Davenport School District
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