

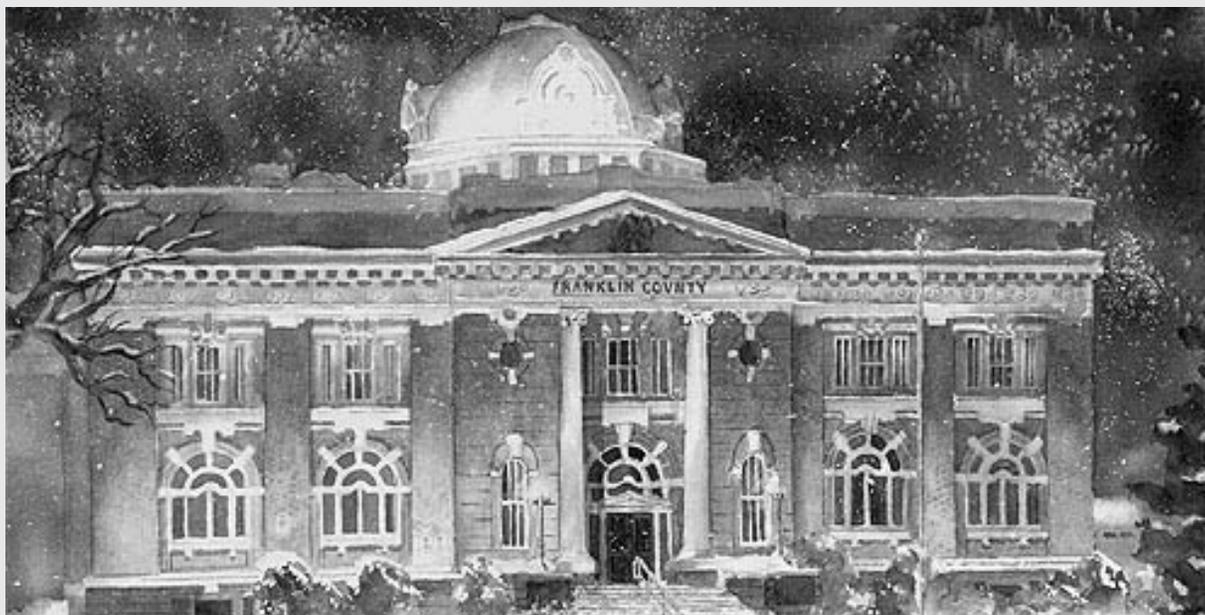
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February 8, 2022 Special Election

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Official Local Voters' Pamphlet

For Franklin County



Your ballot will be mailed by January 21

No postage is needed when returning your ballot by mail

2022

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION



Published by the Franklin County Auditor's Office
(509) 545-3538 | www.co.franklin.wa.us/elections

Español al otro lado

February 8, 2022 Special Election

Message from the Auditor

Dear Voter,

This pamphlet is a great resource. Please use it as a beginning point in your search for the information you will need to make an informed vote.

If you need additional information, please call us at (509) 545-3538. The Franklin County Auditor's Office is available to answer your questions and assist with your election needs. We work hard to provide secure, accountable and transparent elections.

Please vote and return your ballot as soon as possible. If you are unable to mail your ballot **a week before Election Day**, it is recommended that you take the ballot inside the Post Office and ask staff to hand-cancel the ballot before placing it in a mailbox or that you use one of our ballot drop boxes to deliver it directly to Franklin County Elections. Check your ballot status at www.votewa.gov.

We all bring different experiences and perspectives to our communities. When we vote individually, the collective outcome carries a mandate for action. Your vote matters, it is an effective and powerful way for citizens to shape our government.

Vote it, Sign it, Send it.



Matt Beaton, Franklin County Auditor

Ballot Box Locations

Ballot boxes are available January 21, 2022 - February 8, 2022, Election Day.

<p>1 Election Center 116 N 3rd Ave, Pasco</p>	<p>2 Courthouse 1016 N 4th Ave, Pasco</p>
<p>3 HAPO Center (TRAC) 6600 Burden Blvd, Pasco</p>	<p>4 Fire Protection District No. 3 2108 Road 84, Pasco</p>
<p>5 Connell PUD Shop 619 W Clark St, Connell</p>	

Using a ballot drop box?

No stamp required. Drop off your ballot by 8pm, February 8, 2022

Mailing your ballot?

Postage is prepaid. Must be postmarked by February 8, 2022

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Elections Department Contact Information

Voter registration, ballot requests and accessible voting:

1016 N 4th Ave, Suite A206
Pasco, WA 99301

Monday through Friday, 8:30am - 5:00pm, open until 8pm on Election Day.

Ballot processing:

116 N 3rd Ave
Pasco, WA 99301

Contact Us:

Phone: (509) 545-3538

Email: elections@co.franklin.wa.us

Website: www.co.franklin.wa.us/elections

Who donates to campaigns?

View financial contributions for candidates and measures:

Public Disclosure Commission

www.pdc.wa.gov

Toll Free (877) 601-2828



Statements printed are the opinions of the authors and have not been checked for factual or grammatical accuracy by the Elections Department.

Kahlotus School District No. 56

Proposition No. 1

Kahlotus School District No. 56

Replacement of Expiring Educational Programs and Operations Levy

The Board of Directors of Kahlotus School District #56 adopted Resolution #22-01, proposing replacement of the expiring educational funding levy. This proposition would authorize the District to levy the following excess taxes, in place of an expiring levy, upon all taxable property within the District, for support of the District's General Fund educational programs and operations expenses not funded by the State:

Levy Collection Year	Approximate Levy Rate / \$1000 Assessed Value	Levy Amount
2023	\$1.27	\$95,000
2024	\$1.24	\$95,000

Should this proposition be approved?

- Levy Yes
 Levy No

Explanatory Statement

This Proposition would allow Kahlotus School District to replace an existing educational programs and operation levy that will expire after calendar year 2022. The proposed two-year replacement of expiring educational programs and operation levy would authorize collection of taxes to provide \$95,000 in 2023 and \$95,000 in 2024. The tax levy rate required to produce these levy amounts is estimated to be approximately \$1.27 per \$1,000 of assessed value. Taxes collected by the proposed levy will provide approximately 3% of the District's General Fund budget.

Statement in Favor

No statement submitted.

Statement in Opposition

No statement submitted.

North Franklin School District No. J51-162

Proposition No. 1

North Franklin School District No. J51-162

Replacement of Expiring Educational Programs and Operation Levy

The Board of Directors of North Franklin School District No. J51-162 adopted Resolution No. 517, concerning a proposition to finance educational programs 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 support of the District's educational programs and operation expenses not funded by the State of Washington:

Collection Year	Estimated Levy Rate/\$1,000 Assessed Value	Levy Amount
2023	\$1.50	\$2,010,000
2024	\$1.50	\$2,010,000

all as provided in Resolution No. 517. Should this proposition be approved?

- Levy Yes
 Levy No

Explanatory Statement

This proposition would allow North Franklin School District to replace an expiring educational programs and operation levy. The proposed replacement levy would authorize collection of taxes to provide up to \$2,010,000 in 2023 and \$2,010,000 in 2024. The tax levy rate required to produce these levy amounts is estimated to be \$1.50 per \$1,000 of assessed value. Taxes collected by the proposed levy, together with State levy equalization money that is contingent upon passage of the levy, will provide approximately 8% of the District's General Fund budget. Exemptions from taxes may be available, call Franklin County Assessor 509.545.3506.

Statement in Favor

No statement submitted.

Statement in Opposition

No statement submitted.

Othello School District No. 147-163-55

Proposition No. 1

Othello School District No. 147-163-55

Bonds to Construct and Renovate School Facilities

The Board of Directors of Othello School District No. 147-163-55 adopted Resolution No. 112221, concerning a proposition to improve educational opportunities and relieve overcrowding. This proposition would authorize the District to: construct new classroom additions and a competition gymnasium at Othello High School; construct new classroom additions at McFarland Middle School to accommodate 6th Grade; construct gymnasiums at Hiawatha, Lutacaga and Scootney Elementary Schools; construct a new central storage facility; issue no more than \$51,000,000 of general obligation bonds maturing within 25 years; and levy annual excess property taxes to repay the bonds, all as provided in Resolution No. 112221. Should this proposition be:

Approved

Rejected

Explanatory Statement

This proposition authorizes Othello School District to issue \$51,000,000 of bonds to: construct new classroom additions and competition gymnasium at Othello High School; construct new classroom additions at McFarland to accommodate 6th Grade; construct gymnasiums at Hiawatha, Lutacaga and Scootney Schools; and construct a new central storage facility. The bonds will be repaid from annual excess property taxes within 25 years at an estimated tax rate of \$1.14 per \$1,000 of assessed value, or \$285.00 per year for a \$250,000 home. Further information is available at <https://www.othelloschools.org/>. Exemptions from taxes may be available, call your county assessor for more information.

Statement in Favor

Voting "Yes" is a vote to address immediate facility needs in our school district and provide a safe environment for student learning.

Elementary schools are over capacity. OHS is over capacity. Additional space is needed for students. Food storage facility doesn't meet current of future district needs. Federal matching funding is available for a limited time. In the bond, updates and additions will be made across the district. OHS will benefit from state match funds to help provide 21 new classrooms. A larger gymnasium will be built at OHS, providing space for the entire student body. Additional classroom space added at McFarland will accommodate moving 6th grade students back to MMS. Scootney, Hiawatha and Lutacaga will each benefit from new gymnasiums. The gyms will address space/program issues related to the dual-space use of the current gym for meals and physical education, at the same time. Construction of a central warehouse facility for food service will provide expanded cold and dry storage capacity and will help improve operational efficiency in that department.

Our district facility planning committee, consisting of community members, local businesses, educators and parents, have been working since 2015 to cost-effectively address student population growth. Of the several options carefully considered by the group, this recommended plan was determined to be the best solution and value among options considered.

Our community has a long history of supporting our students. Let us continue this partnership dedicated to our kids. Please vote "Yes" on the bond.

Statement in Favor submitted by:

Don Bullis

Contact: Dbullis10@gmail.com

Statement in Opposition

No statement submitted.

Pasco School District No. 1

Proposition No. 1

Pasco School District No. 1

Replacement of Expiring Educational Programs and Operation Levy

The Board of Directors of Pasco School District No. 1 adopted Resolution No. 1011, concerning a proposition to finance educational programs and operations. 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 educational programs and operation expenses not funded by the State of Washington:

<u>Collection Year</u>	<u>Estimated Levy Rate/\$1,000 Assessed Value</u>	<u>Levy Amount</u>
2023	\$1.75	\$21,500,000
2024	\$1.75	\$25,360,000
2025	\$1.75	\$29,680,000
2026	\$1.75	\$34,130,000

all as provided in Resolution No. 1011. Should this proposition be approved?

Levy Yes

Levy No

Explanatory Statement

This proposition authorizes Pasco School District to replace an expiring educational programs and operation levy. The taxes collected by this levy will continue funding current educational programs and operation that are not fully funded by the State, including technology, curriculum, athletics, extracurricular activities, music, counselors, nurses, transportation, special education and student safety. Further information is available at <https://www.psd1.org/>. Taxes collected by the proposed replacement levy, together with State levy equalization money that is contingent upon passage of the levy, will provide approximately 10% of the District's General Fund budget. Exemptions from taxes may be available, call Franklin County Assessor 509.545.3506.

(Statement in Favor on Next Page)

Pasco School District No. 1 (continued)

Statement in Favor

The Pasco School District and Board of Directors has proposed a local levy for the February 8, 2022 ballot. This levy is not a new tax but replaces the current levy.

In Washington state, a levy helps support student learning, staffing, health and safety programs, operations and opportunities such as music, athletics, and activities. Bonds, while similar to levies, are used to build schools. The state provides additional funds in the form of Levy Equalization Assistance (LEA) only to districts that pass a local levy.

Our three largest local school districts have levies, and Pasco's current levy is the lowest. The proposed levy will collect an estimated \$1.75 per \$1,000 assessed value each year over the next 4 years. The actual rate of levy collection has traditionally been lower than the estimated rate.

Passing a local levy is essential for our community to remain competitive in the hiring and retention of staff for our schools. While the Pasco School District has received additional state funding in recent years to cover needed services throughout the pandemic, this money could only be used for specific purposes, and will not continue at a similar rate.

Everyone benefits from excellent schools. Higher property values, lower crime, more businesses, and a brighter future for the children and youth in our community are all well-documented results of strong and supported schools.

We encourage our community to support the proposed levy by voting Yes.

Statement in Favor submitted by:

Aaron Richardson, Brian Kreutz, Hilary Kreutz
Contact: aaronscottrichardson@gmail.com

Statement in Opposition

No statement submitted.

Washtucna School District No. 109-43

Proposition No. 1

Washtucna School District No. 109-43

Replacement Educational Programs and Operation Levy

The Board of Directors of Washtucna School District No. 109-43 adopted Resolution No. 2021-03, concerning a proposition to finance educational programs and operation expenses. This proposition would authorize the District to levy the following excess taxes, replacing an expiring levy, on all taxable property within the District, for educational programs and operation expenses not funded by the State:

<u>Collection Year</u>	<u>Estimated Levy Rate/\$1,000 Assessed Value</u>	<u>Levy Amount</u>
2023	\$2.44	\$150,000
2024	\$2.39	\$150,000
2025	\$2.37	\$150,000
2026	\$2.35	\$150,000

all as provided in Resolution No. 2021-03 and subject to legal limits on levy rates and amounts at the time of levy. Should this proposition be approved?

Levy Yes

Levy No

Explanatory Statement

This proposition authorizes Washtucna School District to replace an existing educational programs and operation levy that will expire at the end of 2022. The proposed replacement levy will continue funding educational programs and operation expenses that are not fully funded by the State, including teachers, support staff, athletics, extracurricular activities, maintenance and operation, transportation and special education. Further information is available at <https://www.tucna.wednet.edu/>. Taxes collected by the proposed replacement levy will provide approximately 6.1% of the District's General Fund budget. Exemptions from taxes may be available, call Adams County Assessor 509.659.3200, Franklin County Assessor 509.545.3506, or Whitman County Assessor 509.397.6220.

Statement in Favor

No statement submitted.

Statement in Opposition

No statement submitted.

Elections and Voter Registration

How do I register to vote in Washington?

Qualifications

A United States citizen; A Washington state resident that meets the requirements for voting mandated by state law; At least 18 years old on election day, or 17 years old at the primary and 18 years old by the day of the November general election; Not serving a sentence of total confinement under the jurisdiction of the Department of Corrections for a Washington felony conviction or currently incarcerated for a federal or out-of-state felony conviction; Not disqualified from voting due to a court order.

16- and 17-year-olds can sign up as Future Voters and will be registered to vote when they turn 18.

Registration deadlines

By mail or online: Your application must be received no later than January 31.

In person: Franklin County Elections Department, 1016 N 4th Ave in Pasco, no later than 8 p.m. on February 8.

How do I register to vote?

Online: Register at VoteWA.gov

By mail: Request a paper form be mailed to you by calling (509) 545-3538 or print your own at sos.wa.gov/elections.

In person: Visit the elections department at 1016 N. 4th Ave, in Pasco.

Moved? Update your voting address

Contact the elections department to request a ballot at your new address.

By January 31: Have your application received by mail or updated online.

Or By February 8: Visit the elections department in person at 1016 N. 4th Ave, Pasco.

#Future Voter

What if I'm not 18 yet?

If you are 16 or 17, become a Future Voter! 16- and 17-year-olds can use the Voter Registration form to sign up as Future Voters and be automatically registered to vote when they turn 18.

Every January on Temperance and Good Citizenship Day, high school students 16 and older are given the opportunity to complete a voter registration in class.

How do I cast a ballot?

1

Your ballot will be mailed no later than **January 21** to the address you provide in your voter registration. If you need a replacement ballot, contact the Franklin County Elections Department.

2

Vote your ballot and sign your return envelope. You are not required to vote every race on your ballot. We encourage using this pamphlet to help you decide.

3

Return your ballot by mail, no stamp needed. If mailed, your ballot must be postmarked by **February 8**. A late postmark could disqualify your ballot. The USPS recommends that you mail a week before Election Day.

Or

Return your ballot to an official ballot drop box, no stamp needed. Drop boxes are open until 8pm on **February 8**. Find drop box locations at VoteWA.gov.

If you cannot personally return your ballot, let only people you trust deliver it for you.

4

Check the status of your ballot on VoteWA.gov to see if it has been received by Franklin County elections.

Election staff will contact you before your ballot is processed if:

- Your signature is missing
- Your signature doesn't match your voter registration record

View election results online

After 8 p.m. on election night, tallied results from each county are posted at sos.wa.gov/elections. Results are updated as counties report and unofficial until certification.