

### Ballot Title

Shall Valley Regional Fire Authority, serving the communities of Algona, Auburn and Pacific, be authorized to continue voter-authorized benefit charges each year for six years, not to exceed an amount equal to sixty percent of its operating budget, and be prohibited from imposing an additional property tax under RCW 52.26.140(1)(c)?

### Explanatory Statement

In 2006, voters approved the Fire Benefit Charge (FBC) by more than 60%, and renewed use in 2012 with 76% approval. The FBC has supported about 48% of the Valley Regional Fire Authority (VRFA) operating budget. Every six years, approval to continue the use of the FBC funding model is required by state law. Renewing the FBC will allow the VRFA to improve response times and service levels for fire protection, emergency medical calls, training of personnel and the purchase of necessary equipment.

The FBC is based on occupancy type and square footage of structures. It reflects the cost of providing appropriate fire protection services to a particular building. Each year the Board of Governance reviews the FBC in a public hearing to ensure fiscal responsibility of this funding for the coming year. The FBC revenue is restricted by state law to not exceed 60% of the VRFA operating budget. By approving the FBC, state law prohibits imposing an additional property tax of fifty (50) cents per thousand dollars of assessed property value for services otherwise allowed by law. The law allows discounts for senior citizens and for buildings with approved fire sprinkler systems. Property owners may appeal their assessments.

### Statement For

*Funding for essential services needs to be renewed.* This is not a new tax or a tax increase, but simply a vote to maintain the current funding model. Valley Regional Fire Authority has managed our tax dollars very well while delivering superior fire & emergency medical services to our communities.

The Fire Benefit Charge (FBC) is about 48% of the department's operating budget. Failure to renew this funding model will result in fewer firefighters available to respond, longer response times, less training and elimination of important prevention programs.

Our VRFA firefighters respond to many different types of emergencies, from literally saving lives to helping an older citizen up from a fall. These services protect our property and improve our quality of life, providing value to our communities. Our firefighter/EMT's are always there for us, so please join us in *voting yes* in support of them and maintain this vital funding.

**Committee Members:** Donna Foxley, DonnaFoxley@yahoo.com, Clint Steiger, and Troy Linnell

### Statement Against

No statement was submitted against this issue.

### BALLOT DROP BOXES OPEN 24/7 JAN. 26 - FEB. 13

**ANDERSON ISLAND** - Anderson Island Park and Ride, Yoman Rd (near Villa Beach Rd)

**BONNEY LAKE** - Bonney Lake (South) Park and Ride, Sky Island Dr E & 184th Ave E

**BROWNS POINT/NORTHEAST TACOMA** - NE Police Substation, 4731 Norpoint Way NE

**BUCKLEY** - Buckley Library, 123 S River Rd

**DUPONT** - DuPont Ross Plaza, 1500 Wilmington Dr

**EATONVILLE** - Barney's Corner, 40512 Meridian E

**EDGEWOOD** - Edgewood City Hall, 2224 104th Ave E

**FIFE** - Fife City Hall, 5411 23rd St E

**GRAHAM** - Graham Fire & Rescue Station 91, 10012 187th St E

**LAKEWOOD** - Lakewood City Hall, 6000 Main St SW \* Lakewood (SR 512) Park and Ride, 10417 South Tacoma Way

**ORTING** - Orting Public Safety Building, 401 Washington Ave SE

**PARKLAND/SPANAWAY** - Parkland/Spanaway Library, 13718 Pacific Ave S \* Roy Y Park and Ride, SR 507 & Pacific Ave S

**PUYALLUP/SOUTH HILL** - Puyallup Library, 324 S Meridian \* Skookum Archers, 11209 Shaw Rd E \* South Hill Library, 15420 Meridian E

**ROY** - Roy City Hall, 216 McNaught Rd S

**STEILACOOM** - Steilacoom Library, 2950 Steilacoom Blvd

**SUMMIT** - Summit Library, 5107 112th St E

**SUMNER** - Sumner Library, 1116 Fryer Ave

**TACOMA** - 72nd Street Transit Center, 1319 E 72nd St \* Central District, 902 S L St \* Community Health Care at Salishan, 1708 E 44th St \* Kandle Park Police Substation (parking lot), 5140 N 26th St \* Pierce County Annex, 2401 S 35th St \* Tacoma Area Coalition of Individuals with Disabilities, 6315 S 19th St \* Tacoma Dome Park and Ride, 610 Puyallup Ave E \* Wapato Park, 1501 S 72nd St

**TILlicum** - Tillicum Community Center, 14916 Washington Ave SW

**UNIVERSITY PLACE** - West Pierce Fire & Rescue, 3631 Drexler Dr W

### VOTING CENTERS OPEN FEB. 13, 7 AM - 8 PM

**PIERCE COUNTY ELECTION CENTER**, 2501 S 35th St, Ste C, Tacoma

**PUYALLUP LIBRARY** - 324 S Meridian, Puyallup

**TACOMA AREA COALITION OF INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES (TACID)** - 6315 S 19th St, Tacoma

#### Services available:

- Accessible voting using a touch screen marking tool — Large font, color contrast, and audible ballot options available.
- Replacement ballots — Lost, damaged, or miss-marked ballot replacements provided.
- Ballot drop off — In addition to our ballot drop boxes, all voting centers have a secure ballot deposit box available.
- Helpful election workers to assist you.
- Provisional ballots.

#### Using a Drop Box?

(No stamp required)  
Drop off ballot by 8 PM  
Feb. 13, 2018.



#### Mailing your ballot?

(Stamp required)  
Must be postmarked by  
February 13, 2018.



We recommend mailing no later than February 10, 2018 to ensure postmark.

### NEED TO REGISTER TO VOTE?

#### You must be:

- A citizen of the United States.
- A legal resident of Washington.
- At least 18 years old by Election Day.
- Not under the authority of the Department of Corrections.

#### How to register:

- Online - PierceCountyElections.org
- In person - Pierce County Election Center.
- By mail - Call to request a form.

#### Registration deadline:

In person deadline (new Washington voters only) is February 5, 2018.

### QUESTIONS?

### NEED A REPLACEMENT BALLOT?

PierceCountyElections.org  
pcelections@co.pierce.wa.us  
(253) 798-VOTE (8683) or (800) 446-4979



Official Local Voter's Pamphlet published by the Pierce County Auditor's Office

# Dieringer School District No. 343

## Special Election - Proposition No. 1

See complete resolution text at  
PierceCountyElections.org

### Replacement Educational Programs and Operations Levy

#### Ballot Title

The Board of Directors of Dieringer School District No. 343 adopted Resolution No. 02-17-18 concerning a proposition to replace an expiring levy for education. If approved, Proposition No. 1 will authorize the District to levy the following excess taxes, replacing an expiring levy, on all taxable property within the District, for educational programs and operations expenses not funded by the state of Washington:

Collection Year	Estimated Levy Rate/\$1,000 Assessed Value	Levy Amount
2019	\$1.50	\$6,650,000
2020	\$1.50	\$7,250,000

all as provided in Resolution No. 02-17-18 and subject to legal limits on levy rates and amounts at the time of levy. Should Proposition No. 1 be approved?

#### Explanatory Statement

Passage of Proposition 1 would allow the Dieringer School District to replace an existing educational programs and operations levy that will expire at the end of calendar year 2018. The proposed two-year replacement educational programs and operations levy would authorize collection of taxes to provide \$6,650,000 in 2019 and \$7,250,000 in 2020. The tax levy rate required to produce these levy amounts is estimated to be \$1.50 per \$1,000 of assessed value in 2019 and \$1.50 per \$1,000 of assessed value in 2020.

The taxes collected by this levy will be deposited in the District's General Fund and used to meet the educational needs of students and pay expenses of educational programs and operations that are not fully funded by the State. These expenses include, but are not limited to, maintaining reasonably low class sizes, staffing, supplies and materials, transportation services, extracurricular programs, special education, utilities, payments to high school districts, and facility maintenance and operation.

Exemptions from taxes for levies may be available to homeowners who are 61 or older, or disabled, and who meet certain income requirements. To determine if you qualify, call the Pierce County Assessor at 253.798.2169.

#### Statement For

##### Levy money is vital

The state does not fully fund the basic education programs we provide our students. Dieringer and other school districts must ask voters to pay the cost of education the state does not cover through levies. Levy funds make up 32% of Dieringer's operating budget.

##### This is a replacement levy

This *is Not* a new tax. This measure replaces the levy expiring at the end of this year. Voters will not see a noticeable change in their taxes.

##### What does the Levy pay for?

This levy pays for teachers, nurses, counselors, PE and art, books, special needs programs, extra-curricular activities, transportation, facilities maintenance and more.

##### We must maintain our schools

Our test scores are among the highest in the state. Let's continue to give our children what they deserve. Education is the best guarantee of a good future for our children. Without a quality education, our children will not succeed in tomorrow's complex world. *Your vote is important!* Reinstate this levy by voting "Yes" on Proposition 1.

**Committee Members:** Laddie Wolfe, T.J. Navilio, and Alicia Thompson, [DieringerVoters@gmail.com](mailto:DieringerVoters@gmail.com)  
Dieringer Citizens for Schools

#### Statement Against

No statement was submitted against this issue.

# Dieringer School District No. 343

## Special Election - Proposition No. 2

See complete resolution text at  
PierceCountyElections.org

### Replacement Levy for Instructional Technology Improvements

#### Ballot Title

The Board of Directors of Dieringer School District No. 343 adopted Resolution No. 03-17-18 concerning a proposition to replace an expiring levy for instructional technology. If approved, Proposition No. 2 will authorize the District to levy the following excess taxes, replacing an expiring levy, on all taxable property within the District, to continue funding acquisition and integration of new technologies into classroom instruction, expanding infrastructure, increasing student access to computers and providing student and staff training:

Collection Year	Estimated Levy Rate/\$1,000 Assessed Value	Levy Amount
2019	\$0.86	\$1,725,000
2020	\$0.84	\$1,725,000
2021	\$0.83	\$1,725,000
2022	\$0.81	\$1,725,000

all as provided in Resolution No. 03-17-18. Should Proposition No. 2 be approved?

#### Explanatory Statement

Passage of Proposition 2 would allow the Dieringer School District to replace an existing levy for instructional technology improvements that will expire at the end of calendar year 2018. The proposed replacement technology levy authorizes the District to make certain instructional technology improvements to support the District's growing technology needs not funded by the State. Recognizing the vital role of technology in teaching and learning, the proposed replacement technology levy would continue to pay costs to acquire and integrate new technologies into classroom instruction, provide students with greater access to technology devices, replace and upgrade technology equipment and systems, strategically maintain and improve networks, expand infrastructure, and provide student and staff training.

The proposed four-year instructional technology levy would authorize collection of taxes of \$1,725,000 each year 2019-2022. The tax levy rate required to produce these levy amounts is estimated to be per \$1,000 of assessed value in \$0.86 in 2019, \$0.84 in 2020, \$0.83 in 2021 and \$0.81 in 2022.

Exemptions from taxes for levies may be available to homeowners who are 61 or older, or disabled, and who meet certain income requirements. To determine if you qualify, call the Pierce County Assessor at 253.798.2169.

#### Statement For

##### Why is a separate Technology Levy needed?

Technology plays a crucial role in our classrooms on a daily basis. Unfortunately, the state does not provide funding for our growing technology needs. Therefore, the District must ask voters to pay for school technology through levies.

##### What does the Levy pay for?

Computers for *every* student in the District, hardware in *every* classroom to facilitate teachers and improve learning, software and security, network infrastructure, training, and staff support.

##### Why do we need to continue to invest in technology?

In today's high-tech world, if we're not going forward, we will quickly fall behind. Technology is now an essential part of student learning throughout the day. Let's continue to bring the world *into* the classroom and support 1 to 1 computing for all Dieringer students.

##### Will my taxes go up?

No. This is *Not* a new tax. This simply replaces the levy expiring at the end of this year. You will not see a noticeable change in your taxes. *Your vote is important!* Reinstate this levy by voting "Yes" on Proposition 2.

**Committee Members:** Kathy Jacobson, Robert Corliss, and Tera Jones, [DieringerVoters@gmail.com](mailto:DieringerVoters@gmail.com)  
Dieringer Citizens for Schools

#### Statement Against

No statement was submitted against this issue.