



Educational Programs & Operation Replacement Levy

The Replacement Levy Facts:

Wapato School District voters have a decades long tradition of supporting students. For nearly 30-years voters have consistently approved local levy proposals to help fund day-to-day operations of the school district. With the current Educational Programs and Operation (EP&O) Levy set to expire in December 2026, the Wapato School Board of Directors has approved the next 4-year EP&O Replacement Levy proposal for voter consideration. The proposed replacement levy is not a new tax, it simply renews and replaces the expiring levy.

The Replacement Levy Proposal:

On **February 10, 2026** voters will be asked to approve the following 4-year replacement levy proposal:

Collection Year	Levy Amount	Estimated Rate Per \$1,000 of Property Value
2027	\$2.15-million	\$1.53
2028	\$2.30-million	\$1.53
2029	\$2.40-million	\$1.52
2030	\$2.55-million	\$1.54

Estimated Homeowner Cost Per Month:

EXAMPLE

Home Value	\$300,000
Estimated levy rate per \$1,000 of property value	\$1.53
Estimated Homeowner Cost	\$38.25-per month



Some senior and disabled homeowners may be eligible for a property tax exemption, based on income. For details call the Yakima County Assessor's Office at (509) 574-1100 or visit the Yakima County Assessor's Office webpage:

<https://www.yakimacounty.us/613/Senior-or-Disabled-Exemptions>

What the Replacement Levy Pays For:

State and Federal dollars do not fully pay for the day-to-day operations of Wapato Public Schools. To fund the gap, the District must also rely on revenue from the voter approved local levy to support essential educational programs and activities for your students. The following list is a sampling of some of the programs/staff the levy revenue helps the District afford.

*Teachers & Other Staff	*Nurses/Student Healthcare
*Safety and Security	*Additional Program Offerings
*Athletics, Clubs & Activities	*Transportation (buses, fuel, etc.)
*Learning Support Programs	*Textbooks & Teaching Materials
*Instructional Technology	*Early Learning Activities
*Playground Equipment	*Day-to-Day Operations (custodians, maintenance, etc.)

Voter Approved Levy = Additional State Funding

If voters approve the EP&O Replacement Levy on February 10, 2026 Wapato Schools would qualify to receive an estimated **\$5.4-million** per year in additional state funding called Local Effort Assistance (LEA). LEA is a state program designed to equalize the difference in levy revenue that can be collected by school districts with high property values and those with lower property values, like Wapato.



2027: Local Effort Assistance - \$5.48-million
2028: Local Effort Assistance - \$5.47-million
2029: Local Effort Assistance - \$5.49-million
2030: Local Effort Assistance - \$5.39-million

In order for Wapato Public Schools to receive Local Effort Assistance, voters must approve the EP&O Replacement Levy.