

## Resolution Cover Sheet

This form is mandatory and must accompany each resolution.

Name of District: Morton School District No. 214, Lewis County, Washington  
District Address: 152 Westlake Avenue, Morton, WA 98356  
Date of Election: February 13, 2024  
Contact Person: John Hannah Title: Superintendent and Secretary to the Board  
Contact Phone: 360.496.5300 Email: jhannah@morton.k12.wa.us  
2<sup>nd</sup> Contact Person: Brandie Dantinne Title: Business Manager  
2<sup>nd</sup> Contact Phone: 360.496.5300 Email: bdantinne@morton.k12.wa.us

Attorney for District: Jim McNeill, Foster Garvey P.C.  
Attorney Phone: 206.447.5339 Attorney Email: jim.mcneill@foster.com

Type of Election (levy, bond, lid lift, sales tax, etc.): Proposition No. 1 - Replacement of Expiring Educational Programs and Operation Levy

Pass/Fail requirement for this measure as determined by your legal counsel: \_\_\_\_\_



Simple majority or majority 50% +1



Supermajority or 60%

Applicable statutory reference as determined by legal counsel: Wash. Const. art. VII, § 2(a); RCW 84.52.053.

Validation requirement as determined by your legal counsel. The minimum number of voters "required" to turnout (cast a ballot) in an excess levy or bond election.

This issue requires validation:



Yes



No

This form must accompany each resolution filed with Lewis County Elections. The contact person or persons should have the authority to do so and be available to answer questions.

MORTON SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 214  
LEWIS COUNTY, WASHINGTON

PROPOSITION NO. 1 - REPLACEMENT OF EXPIRING EDUCATIONAL  
PROGRAMS AND OPERATION LEVY

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-24/01

A RESOLUTION of the Board of Directors of Morton School District No. 214, Lewis County, Washington, providing for the submission to the voters of the District at a special election to be held on February 13, 2024, of a proposition authorizing an excess tax levy to be made annually for four years commencing in 2024 for collection in 2025 of \$1,250,000, in 2025 for collection in 2026 of \$1,385,000, in 2026 for collection in 2027 of \$1,520,000, and in 2027 for collection in 2028 of \$1,655,000, for the District's General Fund to pay expenses of educational programs and operation; designating the Secretary to the Board and special counsel to receive notice of the ballot title from the Auditor of Lewis County, Washington; and providing for related matters.

ADOPTED: NOVEMBER 20, 2023

*This document prepared by:*

*FOSTER GARVEY P.C.  
1111 Third Avenue, Suite 3000  
Seattle, Washington 98101  
(206) 447-5339*

MORTON SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 214  
LEWIS COUNTY, WASHINGTON

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-24/01

A RESOLUTION of the Board of Directors of Morton School District No. 214, Lewis County, Washington, providing for the submission to the voters of the District at a special election to be held on February 13, 2024, of a proposition authorizing an excess tax levy to be made annually for four years commencing in 2024 for collection in 2025 of \$1,250,000, in 2025 for collection in 2026 of \$1,385,000, in 2026 for collection in 2027 of \$1,520,000, and in 2027 for collection in 2028 of \$1,655,000, for the District's General Fund to pay expenses of educational programs and operation; designating the Secretary to the Board and special counsel to receive notice of the ballot title from the Auditor of Lewis County, Washington; and providing for related matters.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF MORTON SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 214, LEWIS COUNTY, WASHINGTON, as follows:

Section 1. Findings and Determinations. The Board of Directors (the "Board") of Morton School District No. 214, Lewis County, Washington (the "District"), takes note of the following facts and makes the following findings and determinations:

(a) Calendar year 2024 is the last year of collection of the District's current four-year General Fund educational programs and operation tax levy, which was authorized pursuant to Resolution No. 2019-20/01, adopted by the Board on November 4, 2019, and approved by the voters at a special election held and conducted within the District on February 11, 2020.

(b) With the expiration of the District's current four-year General Fund educational programs and operation tax levy, it appears certain that the money in the District's General Fund for the school years 2024-2025, 2025-2026, 2026-2027, 2027-2028 and 2028-2029 will be insufficient to permit the District to meet the educational needs of its students and pay expenses of educational programs and operation not funded by the State of Washington, all as more particularly set forth in Section 3 of this resolution, during such school years, and that it is necessary that a replacement excess tax levy of \$1,250,000 be made in 2024 for collection in 2025, \$1,385,000 be made in 2025 for collection in 2026, \$1,520,000 be made in 2026 for collection in 2027, and \$1,655,000 be made in 2027 for collection in 2028 for the District's General Fund to provide the money required to meet those expenses.

(c) The District's proposed four-year General Fund educational programs and operation tax levy authorized in this resolution provides for approximately the same educational programs and operation purposes as the District's expiring four-year General Fund educational programs and operation tax levy.

(d) Pursuant to Article VII, Section 2(a) of the Washington Constitution and Revised Code of Washington ("RCW") 84.52.053, the District may submit to its voters at a special election, for their approval or rejection, a proposition authorizing the District to levy annual excess property

taxes for support of (*i.e.*, to pay or finance) the District's educational programs and operation expenses.

(e) The District has received or, prior to the time the ballot proposition authorized in this resolution is submitted to the voters, the District will have received approval of its educational programs and operation tax levy expenditure plan from the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction under RCW 28A.505.240 as required by RCW 84.52.053(4), a copy of which is or will be on file with the District.

Section 2. Calling of Election. The Auditor of Lewis County, Washington, as *ex officio* Supervisor of Elections (the "Auditor"), is requested to call and conduct a special election in the manner provided by law to be held in the District on February 13, 2024, for the purpose of submitting to the District's voters, for their approval or rejection, the proposition authorizing a replacement General Fund educational programs and operation tax levy on all of the taxable property within the District (the assessed value of such representing 100% of true and fair value unless specifically provided otherwise by law) to be made annually for four years commencing in 2024 for collection in 2025 of \$1,250,000, the estimated dollar rate of tax levy required to produce such an amount being \$1.59 per \$1,000 of assessed value, in 2025 for collection in 2026 of \$1,385,000, the estimated dollar rate of tax levy required to produce such an amount being \$1.69 per \$1,000 of assessed value, in 2026 for collection in 2027 of \$1,520,000, the estimated dollar rate of tax levy required to produce such an amount being \$1.78 per \$1,000 of assessed value, and in 2027 for collection in 2028 of \$1,655,000, the estimated dollar rate of tax levy required to produce such an amount being \$1.87 per \$1,000 of assessed value, all in excess of the maximum tax levy allowed by law for school districts without voter approval. The exact tax levy rate and amount to be collected may be adjusted based upon the actual assessed value of the taxable property within the District and the limitations imposed by law at the time of the tax levy.

Section 3. Use of Taxes. If the proposition authorized by this resolution is approved by the requisite number of voters, the District will be authorized to levy the excess property taxes up to the amounts provided in this resolution to meet the educational needs of its students and pay expenses of educational programs and operation not funded by the State of Washington during the school years 2024-2025, 2025-2026, 2026-2027, 2027-2028 and 2028-2029, all as may be authorized by law and determined necessary by the Board. Pending the receipt of those taxes, the District may issue short-term obligations pursuant to chapter 39.50 RCW or contract indebtedness pursuant to RCW 28A.530.080. Upon receipt, the District may use those taxes to repay such short-term obligations or indebtedness, all as may be authorized by law and determined necessary and advisable by the Board.

*[Remainder of page intentionally left blank]*

Section 4. Form of Ballot Title. Pursuant to RCW 29A.36.071, the Lewis County Prosecuting Attorney is requested to prepare the concise description of the aforesaid proposition for the ballot title in substantially the following form:

PROPOSITION NO. 1

MORTON SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 214

REPLACEMENT OF EXPIRING EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS AND  
OPERATION LEVY

The Board of Directors of Morton School District No. 214 adopted Resolution No. 2023-24/01, concerning a proposition to finance educational programs and operation expenses. This proposition would authorize the District to levy 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:

<u>Collection Year</u>	<u>Estimated Levy Rate/\$1,000 Assessed Value</u>	<u>Levy Amount</u>
2025	\$1.59	\$1,250,000
2026	\$1.69	\$1,385,000
2027	\$1.78	\$1,520,000
2028	\$1.87	\$1,655,000

all as provided in Resolution No. 2023-24/01. Should this proposition be approved?

LEVY . . . YES ☐

LEVY . . . NO ☐

Section 5. Authorization to Deliver Resolution to Auditor and Perform Other Necessary Duties. The Secretary to the Board (the "Secretary") or the Secretary's designee is authorized and directed to: (a) present a certified copy of this resolution to the Auditor no later than December 15, 2023; and (b) perform such other duties as are necessary or required by law to submit to the District's voters at the aforesaid special election, for their approval or rejection, the proposition authorizing the District to levy excess property taxes for support of the District's educational programs and operation expenses.

Section 6. Notices Relating to Ballot Title. For purposes of receiving notice of the exact language of the ballot title required by RCW 29A.36.080, the Board hereby designates the (a) Secretary (John M. Hannah), telephone: 360.496.5300; email: [jhannah@morton.k12.wa.us](mailto:jhannah@morton.k12.wa.us); and (b) special counsel, Foster Garvey P.C. (Jim McNeill), telephone: 206.447.5339; email: [jim.mcneill@foster.com](mailto:jim.mcneill@foster.com), as the individuals to whom the Auditor shall provide such notice. The Secretary is authorized to approve changes to the ballot title, if any, determined necessary by the Auditor or the Lewis County Prosecuting Attorney.


Section 7. Execution; General Authorization and Ratification. This resolution may be executed by the Directors being present and voting in favor of the resolution, or only the Chair of the Board (the "Chair"), and attested by the Secretary, in tangible medium, manual, facsimile or electronic form under any security procedure or platform, and notwithstanding any other District resolution, rule, policy or procedure, or in any other manner evidencing its adoption. The Secretary, the District's Business Manager, the Chair, and the District's special counsel, Foster Garvey P.C., are hereby further severally authorized and directed to take such actions and to create, accept, execute, send, use and rely upon such tangible medium, manual, facsimile or electronic documents, records and signatures under any security procedure or platform, and notwithstanding any other District resolution, rule, policy or procedure, as in their judgment may be necessary or desirable to effectuate the provisions of this resolution. All actions taken prior to the effective date of this resolution in furtherance of and not inconsistent with the provisions of this resolution are ratified and confirmed in all respects.

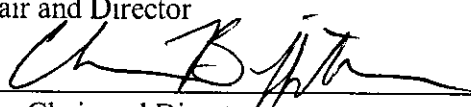
Section 8. Severability. If any provision of this resolution is declared by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, then such provision shall be null and void and shall be separable from the remaining provisions of this resolution and shall in no way affect the validity of the other provisions of this resolution, or of the levy or collection of excess property taxes authorized herein.

Section 9. Effective Date. This resolution takes effect from and after its adoption.

ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of Morton School District No. 214, Lewis County, Washington, at a regular open public meeting held this 20<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2023.

MORTON SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 214  
LEWIS COUNTY, WASHINGTON

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair and Director

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Vice Chair and Director

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Director

\_\_\_\_\_  
Director

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Director

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JOHN M. HANNAH

Secretary to the Board of Directors

### CERTIFICATION

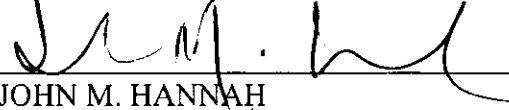
I, JOHN M. HANNAH, Secretary to the Board of Directors of Morton School District No. 214, Lewis County, Washington (the "District"), hereby certify as follows:

1. The foregoing Resolution No. 2023-24/01 (the "Resolution") is a full, true and correct copy of the Resolution duly adopted at a regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the District (the "Board") held at its regular meeting place on November 20, 2023 (the "Meeting"), as that Resolution appears in the records of the District, and the Resolution is now in full force and effect; and

2. The Meeting was duly convened, held and included an opportunity for public comment, in all respects in accordance with law, a quorum of the members of the Board was present throughout the Meeting, and a sufficient number of members of the Board present voted in the proper manner for the adoption of the Resolution.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 20<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2023.

MORTON SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 214  
LEWIS COUNTY, WASHINGTON

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J.M. Hannah', is written over a horizontal line.

JOHN M. HANNAH  
Secretary to the Board of Directors



## For/Against Committee Member Appointment Form

Name of District: MORTON SCHOOL DISTRICT  
District Contact Name: JOHN HANNIAT  
Email Address: jhannia@morton.k12.wa.us Phone: 360-496-5300

### Jurisdiction's responsibility:

1. Email completed form to [elections@lewiscountywa.gov](mailto:elections@lewiscountywa.gov) by the resolution submittal deadline.
2. Provide committee members with statement submission requirements and deadlines. Committees are solely responsible for submitting voters' pamphlet statements to the Elections Division.

Deadlines are on page 13 of the administrative rules. Questions? Contact the Elections Department at: [elections@lewiscountywa.gov](mailto:elections@lewiscountywa.gov) or call 360.740.1278 or 360.740.1164

### Information for inclusion in voters' pamphlet:

#### "For" Committee (1-3 members):

Committee Name: YES FOR MORTON SCHOOLS  
Phone: 509-528-6409 Email: jessica-scogin@hotmail.com Web: n/a  
Committee Member #1: JESSICA SCOGIN Email: jessica-scogin@hotmail.com  
Committee Member #2: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Committee Member #3: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

#### "Against" Committee (1-3 members):

Committee Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Web: \_\_\_\_\_  
Committee Member #1: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Committee Member #2: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Committee Member #3: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_



MORTON SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 214  
LEWIS COUNTY, WASHINGTON

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

PROPOSITION NO. 1 – REPLACEMENT OF EXPIRING EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS AND  
OPERATION LEVY

Passage of Proposition No. 1 would allow Morton School District to replace an educational programs and operation levy that expires at the end of calendar year 2024. The taxes collected by this replacement levy will be used to pay expenses of educational programs and operation that are not fully funded by the State of Washington, including: student supervision, safety and security; special education; additional staff for instruction; extracurricular activities; building custodial and maintenance; curriculum, classroom supplies and library materials; and staff training and development. Further information is available at <https://www.morton.k12.wa.us/>.

The proposed four-year replacement levy would authorize the collection of taxes to provide up to \$1,250,000 in 2025, \$1,385,000 in 2026, \$1,520,000 in 2027 and \$1,655,000 in 2028. The tax levy rate required to produce these levy amounts is estimated to be \$1.59 in 2025, \$1.69 in 2026, \$1.78 in 2027 and \$1.87 in 2028 (levy rate per \$1,000 of assessed value). The exact tax levy rates and amounts to be collected may be adjusted based upon the limitations imposed by State law at the time of the levy. Exemptions from taxes may be available to certain homeowners. To determine if you qualify, call the Lewis County Assessor at 360.740.1392.

(200 words – 250 allowed)



# Lewis County Prosecuting Attorney's Office

345 W. Main Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Chehalis, WA 98532  
Phone: (360) 740-1240  
Fax: (360) 740-1497  
TDD: (360) 740-1480

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** The Auditor's Office  
**FROM:** Robert W. Bradley, Civil Deputy Prosecuting Attorney  
**RE:** Approval of Ballot Language and Explanatory Statement  
**DATE:** Nov. 30, 2023

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Our office has reviewed the proposed levy for Morton School District 214. The ballot language and explanatory statement are impartial, written in clear and concise language, avoid the use of legal and technical terms whenever possible, and do not exceed statutory word limits.

Our office approves as to form.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Robert Bradley", with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Robert W. Bradley  
Civil Deputy Prosecuting Attorney  
Lewis County Prosecuting Attorney's Office

END

**It is the Mission of the Lewis County Prosecutor's Office to zealously seek justice in all criminal matters, consistently promote public confidence in the legal system, and diligently represent county government while adhering to the highest ethical and moral standards.**