



Resolution Cover Sheet

This form is mandatory and must accompany each resolution.

Name of District: Rochester School District
District Address: 10140 Highway 12 SW, Rochester, WA 98579
Date of Election: February 13, 2024
Contact Person: Jennifer Bethman Title: Superintendent
Contact Phone: 360-273-9242 Email: jbethman@rochester.wednet.edu
2nd Contact Person: Jill Pratt Title: Business Manager
2nd Contact Phone: 360-273-5536 ext. 1005 Email: jpratt@rochester.wednet.edu

Attorney for District: Cynthia Weed
Attorney Phone: 206-370-7801 Attorney Email: cynthia.weed@klgates.com

Type of Election (levy, bond, lid lift, sales tax, etc.): Bond (Proposition 2)

Pass/Fail requirement for this measure as determined by your legal counsel: 60%

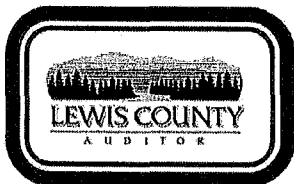
☐ Simple majority or majority 50% +1 ☒ Supermajority or 60%

Applicable statutory reference as determined by legal counsel: _____

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.



For/Against Committee Member Appointment Form

Name of District: Rochester School District
District Contact Name: Jennifer Bethman
Email Address: jbethman@rochester.wednet.edu Phone: 360-273-9242

Jurisdiction's responsibility:

1. Email completed form to 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 or call 360.740.1278 or 360.740.1164

Information for inclusion in voters' pamphlet:

"For" Committee (1-3 members):

Committee Name: Support Rochester Schools
Phone: 360-742-8022 Email: YesRochesterSchools@gmail.com Web: YesRochesterSchools.org
Committee Member #1: Amanda Bocook Email: YesRochesterSchools@gmail.com
Committee Member #2: Mark Steelhammer Email: _____
Committee Member #3: Barbara Munsell Email: _____

"Against" Committee (1-3 members):

Committee Name: _____
Phone: _____ Email: _____ Web: _____
Committee Member #1: _____ Email: _____
Committee Member #2: _____ Email: _____
Committee Member #3: _____ Email: _____

ROCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 401
THURSTON COUNTY, WASHINGTON

GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS

RESOLUTION NO. 23-16

A RESOLUTION of the Board of Directors of Rochester School District No. 401, Thurston County, Washington, providing for the form of the ballot proposition and specifying certain other details concerning submission to the qualified electors of the district at a special election to be held therein on February 13, 2024, of a proposition for the issuance of its general obligation bonds in the aggregate principal amount of not to exceed \$89,190,000, or so much thereof as may be issued under the laws governing the indebtedness of school districts, for the purpose of making capital infrastructure improvements to the facilities of the District, and authorizing the Superintendent and/or the Business Manager to submit a request for eligibility for the Washington State School District Credit Enhancement Program.

ADOPTED OCTOBER 25, 2024

PREPARED BY:

K&L GATES LLP
Seattle, Washington

ROCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 401
RESOLUTION NO. 23-16

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RESOLUTION NO. 23-16

A RESOLUTION of the Board of Directors of Rochester School District No. 401, Thurston County, Washington, providing for the form of the ballot proposition and specifying certain other details concerning submission to the qualified electors of the district at a special election to be held therein on February 13, 2024, of a proposition for the issuance of its general obligation bonds in the aggregate principal amount of not to exceed \$89,190,000, or so much thereof as may be issued under the laws governing the indebtedness of school districts, for the purpose of making capital infrastructure improvements to the facilities of the District, and authorizing the Superintendent and/or the Business Manager to submit a request for eligibility for the Washington State School District Credit Enhancement Program.

WHEREAS, Rochester School District No. 401, Thurston County, Washington (the "District") is in need of making structural updates to enhance safety and security in Rochester Primary, Grand Mound Elementary and Rochester Middle Schools; update the water systems on the high school/elementary school campuses; construct a new Rochester High School to include enhanced CTE instruction spaces and a performing arts center; build outdoor play structures at Rochester Primary and Grand Mound Elementary Schools; improve athletic fields/facilities at Rochester High and Rochester Middle Schools, and making other capital infrastructure improvements (hereinafter defined as the "Projects"); and

WHEREAS, in order to provide all or a part of the funds to enable the District to undertake the Projects, it is deemed necessary and advisable that the District issue and sell its unlimited tax general obligation bonds to provide funds for such purposes; and

WHEREAS, the Constitution and laws of the State of Washington (including RCW 28A.530.010 and RCW 84.52.056) provide that the question of whether or not such bonds may be issued and sold for such purposes must be submitted to the qualified electors of the District for their ratification or rejection; and

WHEREAS, in RCW ch. 39.98 (the “Credit Enhancement Act”), the State Legislature established a credit enhancement program (the “Program”) for voter-approved school district general obligation bonds; and

WHEREAS, Section 39.98.040 of the Credit Enhancement Act authorizes the state treasurer to make a determination that a school district is eligible for participation in the Program if the state treasurer determines that the District is eligible under rules adopted by the state finance committee; and

WHEREAS, the District may elect to participate in the Program upon an administrative determination that it is cost-effective;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF ROCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 401, THURSTON COUNTY, WASHINGTON DOES RESOLVE, as follows:

Section 1. Findings. This Board of Directors (the “Board”) hereby finds and declares that the best interest of the students and other residents of the District require the District to carry out the plans hereinafter provided at the time or times and in the order deemed most necessary and advisable by the Board.

Section 2. Capital Improvements. The District shall undertake the following improvements (collectively, the “Improvements”):

- Make structural updates to enhance safety and security in Rochester Primary, Grand Mound Elementary and Rochester Middle Schools;
- Update the water systems on high school/elementary school campuses;
- Construct a new Rochester High School to include CTE instructional spaces and a performing arts center;

- Build outdoor play structures at Rochester Primary and Grand Mount Elementary Schools;
- Improve athletic fields/facilities at Rochester High and Rochester Middle Schools; and
- Undertake other capital infrastructure improvements as deemed necessary by the Board of the District subject to the further requirements of this section, to enable District facilities to meet instructional program needs.

The cost of all necessary architectural, engineering, and other consulting services, inspection and testing, administrative and relocation expenses, on and off-site utilities, site acquisition, related improvements and other costs incurred in connection with the making of the foregoing Improvements shall be deemed a part of the costs of the Improvements. Such Improvements shall be complete with all necessary furniture, and equipment and appurtenances.

The District shall determine the application of available moneys so as to accomplish, as nearly as may be, all of the Improvements described or provided for in this section. The District shall determine the exact extent and specifications for construction of structures or other improvements.

If the Board shall determine that it has become impractical to accomplish any of such Improvements or portions thereof by reason of state or local circumstances, including changed conditions, incompatible development or costs substantially in excess of those estimated, the District shall not be required to accomplish such Improvements and may apply the Bond proceeds or any portion thereof to other portions of the Improvements, to other capital improvements, or to payment of principal of or interest on the Bonds, as the Board may determine after holding a public hearing thereon pursuant to RCW 28A.530.020.

In the event that the proceeds of sale of the Bonds, plus any other moneys of the District legally available, are insufficient to accomplish all of the Improvements provided by this section, the District shall use the available funds for paying the cost of those Improvements for which the Bonds were approved deemed by the Board most necessary and in the best interest of the District.

If available funds are insufficient from the proceeds of Bonds authorized for the above purposes, and state or local circumstances require, the District shall use such funds to pay the principal of or interest on the Bonds or acquire, construct, equip, modernize and make other capital improvements to the facilities of the District, all as the Board of Directors may determine, after holding a public hearing thereon pursuant to RCW 28A.530.020.

It is currently anticipated that the District will receive funds from the State of Washington pursuant to Chapter 28A.525 RCW in the amount of \$20,000,000. Such funds are expected to be used for the Improvements or shall be used to pay the principal of or interest on the Bonds provided for herein or to make other capital improvements to the facilities of the District as the Board may determine after holding a public hearing thereon pursuant to RCW 28A.530.020.

Section 3. Authorization of Bonds. For the purpose of providing all or a part of the funds necessary to pay the cost of the Improvements described in Section 2 hereof and/or to reimburse the District for such costs to the extent that District funds have been used for such purposes, together with incidental costs and costs related to the sale and issuance of the bonds, the District shall issue and sell its unlimited tax general obligation bonds in the principal amount of not to exceed \$89,190,000. The balance of the cost of the Improvements shall be paid out of any money which the District now has or may later have on hand which are legally available for such purposes, including impact fees, and out of possible state or federal grants of money. None of said bond proceeds shall be used for the replacement of equipment or for any other than a capital

purpose. Such bonds shall be issued in an amount not exceeding the amount approved by the qualified electors of the District as required by the Constitution and laws of the State of Washington or exceeding the amount permitted by the Constitution and laws of the State of Washington.

Section 4. Details of Bonds. The bonds provided for in Section 3 hereof shall be sold in such amounts and at such time or times as deemed necessary and advisable by this Board and as permitted by law, shall bear interest at a rate or rates not to exceed the maximum rate permitted by law at the time the bonds are sold, and shall mature in such amounts and at such times within a maximum term of twenty-one (21) years from date of issue, but may mature at an earlier date or dates, as authorized by this Board and as provided by law. Said bonds shall be general obligations of the District and, unless paid from other sources, both principal thereof and interest thereon (including original issue discount) shall be payable out of annual tax levies to be made upon all the taxable property within the District without limitation as to rate or amount and in excess of any constitutional or statutory tax limitations. The exact date, form, terms and maturities of said bonds shall be as hereafter fixed by resolution of the Board of Directors. After voter approval of the bond proposition and in anticipation of the issuance of such bonds, the District may issue short term obligations as authorized and provided by Chapter 39.50 RCW. The proceeds of such Bonds may be used to redeem and retire short term obligations or to reimburse the District for expenditures previously made for such Improvements.

Section 5. Election. It is hereby found and declared that the best interests of the District require the submission to the qualified electors of the District of the proposition of whether the District shall issue the Bonds at a special election to be held on February 13, 2024. The Thurston County Auditor as *ex officio* supervisor of elections is hereby requested also to call and

conduct the special election to be held within the District and to submit to the qualified electors of the District the proposition set forth below. The Secretary of the Board is hereby authorized and directed to certify the proposition to said officials in the following form:

PROPOSITION NO. 1
ROCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 401

GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS - \$89,190,000

The Board of Directors of Rochester School District No. 401 adopted Resolution No. 23-16 approving a proposition for bonds. This authorizes the District to make safety/security improvements; rebuild Rochester High School on existing property and other capital infrastructure improvements, to issue \$89,190,000 of general obligation bonds maturing within a maximum of 21 years, and to collect excess property taxes annually to repay the bonds, as provided in Resolution No. 23-16. Should this proposition be:

APPROVED ☐

REJECTED ☐

The Secretary of the Board of Directors is hereby authorized to deliver a certified copy of this resolution to the Thurston County Auditor.

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) the Business Manager, Jill Pratt, telephone: 360-273-5536, ext. 1005; email: jpratt@rochester.wednet.edu, and (b) bond counsel, K&L Gates LLP (Cynthia Weed), telephone: 206.370.7801; email: cynthia.weed@klgates.com, as the individuals to whom the Thurston County Auditor shall provide such notice. The Secretary of the Board is authorized to approve changes to the ballot title, if any, deemed necessary by the Thurston County Auditor or the Office of the Thurston County Prosecuting Attorney.

Section 7. Voters' Pamphlet. Pursuant to RCW 29A.32, the Board of Directors hereby confirms the District's participation in the local voters' pamphlet for the February 13, 2024

election, which shall be prepared and published by the Thurston County Auditor, including, but not limited to, an explanatory statement reviewed and approved by the District's attorney, and, if available, a Statement For and a Statement Against. The District understands and agrees that it will be required to pay its proportionate share of the expenses of the voters' pamphlet.

Section 8. Severability. In the event that any provision of this resolution shall be held to be invalid, such invalidity shall not affect or invalidate any other provision of this resolution or the Bonds, but they shall be construed and enforced as if such invalid provision had not been contained herein; provided, however, that any provision which shall for any reason be held by reason of its extent to be invalid shall be deemed to be in effect to the extent permitted by law.

Section 9. Effective Date. This resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of Rochester School District No. 401, Thurston County, Washington, at a regular meeting held this 25th day of October, 2023.

ROCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 401,
THURSTON COUNTY, WASHINGTON

DocuSigned by:

James (Neil) Turner

05DF85491E0C498... Board President

DocuSigned by:

Grant Rodeheaver

635AD8A55D1C49D...

DocuSigned by:

Michael Langer

F03FA3CC68F64B7...

DocuSigned by:

Thomas Trott

6A9E1E2898854DD...

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:

Jennifer Bethman

34299F441D1716D
Secretary of the Board of Directors

CERTIFICATE

I, the undersigned, Secretary of the Board of Directors of Rochester School District No. 401, Thurston County, Washington (the "District"), and keeper of the records of the Board of Directors (the "Board"), DO HEREBY CERTIFY:

1. That the attached resolution is a true and correct copy of Resolution No. 23-16 of the Board (herein called the "Resolution"), duly adopted at a regular meeting thereof held on the 25th day of October, 2023.

2. That said meeting was duly convened and held in all respects in accordance with law, and to the extent required by law, due and proper notice of such meeting was given; that a legal quorum was present throughout the meeting and a legally sufficient number of members of the Board voted in the proper manner for the adoption of said Resolution; that all other requirements and proceedings incident to the proper adoption of said Resolution have been duly fulfilled, carried out and otherwise observed; and that I am authorized to execute this certificate.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 25th day of October, 2023.

DocuSigned by:

Jennifer Bethman

Secretary of the Board of Directors

OFFICIAL BALLOT

ROCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 401

THURSTON COUNTY, WASHINGTON

February 13, 2024

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS: To vote in favor of the following proposition, place a cross (X) in the square opposite the word "APPROVED"; to vote against the following proposition, place a cross (X) in the square opposite the word "REJECTED."

PROPOSITION NO. 1
ROCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 401

GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS - \$89,190,000

The Board of Directors of Rochester School District No. 401 adopted Resolution No. 23-16 approving a proposition for bonds. This authorizes the District to make safety/security improvements; rebuild Rochester High School on existing property and other capital infrastructure improvements, to issue \$89,190,000 of general obligation bonds maturing within a maximum of 21 years, and to collect excess property taxes annually to repay the bonds, as provided in Resolution No. 23-16. Should this proposition be:

APPROVED ☐

REJECTED ☐

NOTICE OF SPECIAL ELECTION
ROCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 401
THURSTON COUNTY, WASHINGTON

February 13, 2024

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on Tuesday, February 13, 2024, a special election will be held in the above-named school district for the submission to the qualified electors of said school district of the following proposition:

PROPOSITION NO. 1
ROCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 401

GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS - \$89,190,000

The Board of Directors of Rochester School District No. 401 adopted Resolution No. 23-16 approving a proposition for bonds. This authorizes the District to make safety/security improvements; rebuild Rochester High School on existing property and other capital infrastructure improvements, to issue \$89,190,000 of general obligation bonds maturing within a maximum of 21 years, and to collect excess property taxes annually to repay the bonds, as provided in Resolution No. 23-16. Should this proposition be:

APPROVED ☐
REJECTED ☐

Thurston County Auditor

Election Date: February 13, 2024

Name of Jurisdiction Submitting Measure: Rochester School District No. 401, Thurston County, Washington

Contact Name: Cynthia Weed

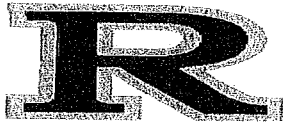
Daytime Contact Phone Number: 206-370-7801 (ofc); 206-618-6050 (cell)

Word count – 166; *limit*: 175

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT - PROPOSITION NO. 2

The Board of Directors of Rochester School District No. 401 adopted Resolution No. 23-16 approving a proposition for bonds. This proposition would authorize the District to make structural updates to enhance safety and security in District schools, to update the water systems on High School and Elementary School campuses, to construct a new Rochester High School, including CTE instructional spaces and a performing arts center, to build outdoor play structures at Rochester Primary and Grand Mound Elementary Schools, to improve athletic fields/facilities at Rochester High and Rochester Middle Schools and to undertake other capital infrastructure and technology improvements as deemed necessary by the Board to enable District facilities to meet program needs, to issue \$89,190,000 of general obligation bonds maturing within a maximum of 21 years, and to collect excess property taxes annually to repay the bonds, all as provided in Resolution No. 23-16.

Exemptions from taxes may be available to certain homeowners. To determine if you qualify, contact the Thurston County Assessor at (360) 867-2200.



Jennifer Bethman <jbethman@rochester.wednet.edu>

Rochester School District Explanatory Statements

Weed, Cynthia <cynthia.weed@klgates.com>

Wed, Dec 6, 2023 at 10:49 AM

To: "elections@co.thurston.wa.us" <elections@co.thurston.wa.us>

Cc: Jennifer Bethman <jbethman@rochester.wednet.edu>, "George, Peter M." <Peter.George@klgates.com>

Hello:

Rochester School District will be delivering to packets for ballots for the February 2024 Election (levy and bond). Although they will include explanatory statements, this email will confirm that we drafted them for the District.

Regards,

Cynthia




Cynthia M. Weed
K&L Gates LLP
925 Fourth Avenue #2900
Seattle, WA 98104
Phone (DID): 206-370-7801
Cell: 206-618-6050

Home: 206-332-1676
Fax: 206-370-6201
cynthia.weed@klgates.com

www.klgates.com

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2 attachments

 **Rochester School District No. 401- Explanatory Statement--Bond Election (Feb. 2024)_USW_Active01_507261533_1.DOCX**
23K

 **ROCHESSTER SD 401--Explanatory Statement--EP&O 4 Year Levy (February 2024) (Prop 1)_USW_Active01_507261396_1.DOCX**
24K