

# Resolution Cover Sheet

Vote

Thurston County Elections

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

Name of District: Rochester School District No. 401, Thurston, Lewis and Gray Harbor Counties, Washington

District Address: 10140 Hwy 12 SW, Rochester, WA 98579

Date of Election: April 28, 2026

Contact Person: Jennifer Bethman Title: Superintendent

Contact Phone: 360.273.5536 x1006 Fax: 360.273.5547

Contact Email: jbethman@rochester.wednet.edu

2<sup>nd</sup> Contact Person: Jill Pratt Title: Business Manger & HR Director

2<sup>nd</sup> Contact Phone: 360.273.5536 x1005

2<sup>nd</sup> Contact Email: jpratt@rochester.wednet.edu

Attorney for District: Lee Marchisio, Foster Garvey P.C.

Attorney Phone: 206.447.6264 Attorney Fax: 206.447.9700

Attorney Email Address: lee.marchisio@foster.com

Type of Election (levy, bond, lid lift, etc.): Capital Levy for Safety and Critical Infrastructure Improvements

Please state the pass/fail requirement for this measure (i.e. simple majority, 60%, etc.) as determined by your legal counsel, together with applicable statutory references: \_\_\_\_\_

Levy must be approved by a simple majority of the qualified voters within the school district.

See Article VII, Section 2(a) of the Washington Constitution and RCW 84.52.053.

For February and April elections only:

Does the district wish to publish a Voters' Pamphlet?



Yes



No

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
of person filing this form

Date: 2/25/2026

This form may be filled out and printed.

This mandatory resolution cover sheet must accompany any resolution. RECEIVED  
THURSTON COUNTY AUDITOR

ROCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 401  
THURSTON, LEWIS AND GRAYS HARBOR COUNTIES, WASHINGTON

PROPOSITION NO. 1 – CAPITAL LEVY FOR SAFETY AND  
CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

RESOLUTION NO. 25-05

A RESOLUTION of the Board of Directors of Rochester School District No. 401, Thurston, Lewis and Grays Harbor Counties, Washington, providing for the submission to the voters of the District at a special election to be held on April 28, 2026, of a proposition authorizing an excess tax levy to be made annually for two years commencing in 2026 for collection in 2027 of \$2,628,405 and in 2027 for collection in 2028 of \$2,783,747, for the District’s Capital Projects Fund to support the construction, modernization and remodeling of school facilities; designating the District’s Business Manager/Human Resources Director and special counsel to receive notice of the ballot title from the Auditor of Thurston County, Washington; and providing for related matters.

ADOPTED: FEBRUARY 25, 2026

*This document prepared by:*

*FOSTER GARVEY P.C.  
1111 Third Avenue, Suite 3000  
Seattle, Washington 98101  
(206) 447-6264*

RECEIVED  
THURSTON COUNTY AUDITOR

FEB 26 2026

AT 1:09 AM/PM  
BY: \_\_\_\_\_ DEPUTY

ROCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 401  
THURSTON, LEWIS AND GRAYS HARBOR COUNTIES, WASHINGTON

RESOLUTION NO. 25-05

A RESOLUTION of the Board of Directors of Rochester School District No. 401, Thurston, Lewis and Grays Harbor Counties, Washington, providing for the submission to the voters of the District at a special election to be held on April 28, 2026, of a proposition authorizing an excess tax levy to be made annually for two years commencing in 2026 for collection in 2027 of \$2,628,405 and in 2027 for collection in 2028 of \$2,783,747, for the District's Capital Projects Fund to support the construction, modernization and remodeling of school facilities; designating the District's Business Manager/Human Resources Director and special counsel to receive notice of the ballot title from the Auditor of Thurston County, Washington; and providing for related matters.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF ROCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 401, THURSTON, LEWIS AND GRAYS HARBOR COUNTIES, WASHINGTON, as follows:

Section 1. Findings and Determinations. The Board of Directors (the "Board") of Rochester School District No. 401, Thurston, Lewis and Grays Harbor Counties, Washington (the "District"), takes note of the following facts and makes the following findings and determinations:

(a) The existing condition of school facilities, deteriorating infrastructure, and the need to improve student and staff safety require the District to support the construction, modernization and remodeling of school facilities by making safety and critical infrastructure improvements to the Rochester High School, Grand Mound Elementary School and Rochester Primary School campus water system, including fire protection and water storage improvements for safe drinking water, school facility preservation and fire life safety, all as more particularly defined and described in Section 2 herein (collectively, the "Projects").

(b) It appears certain that the money in the District's Capital Projects Fund will be insufficient to permit the District to pay costs of the Projects, and that it is necessary that an excess tax levy of \$2,628,405 be made in 2026 for collection in 2027 and \$2,783,747 be made in 2027 for collection in 2028 for the District's Capital Projects Fund to provide the money required to pay those costs.

(c) 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 to support (*i.e.*, to pay or fund) costs of the Projects.

(d) The best interests of the District's students and other inhabitants require the District to carry out and accomplish the Projects.

Section 2. Description of the Projects. The Projects to be paid for with the excess property taxes authorized herein are more particularly defined and described as follows:

(a) Make safety and critical infrastructure improvements to the District's water system for safe drinking water, school facility preservation and fire life safety, including, but not limited to: (1) replacing the deteriorating water system serving Rochester High School, Grand Mound Elementary School, and Rochester Primary School; (2) constructing and installing new fire protection and domestic water storage tanks; (3) constructing a pump house with water treatment apparatus and backup power generation; (4) installing new separate water lines to each building and replacing existing fire and water supply loop valves; and (5) making other safety and critical infrastructure improvements to District facilities, all as determined necessary and advisable by the Board.

(b) Acquire, construct and install all necessary furniture, equipment, apparatus, accessories, fixtures and appurtenances in or for the foregoing, all as determined necessary and advisable by the Board.

(c) Pay incidental costs incurred in connection with carrying out and accomplishing the Projects. Such incidental costs constitute a part of the Projects and include, but are not limited to: (1) payments for fiscal and legal costs; (2) costs of establishing and funding accounts; (3) necessary and related engineering, architectural, planning, consulting, permitting, inspection and testing costs; (4) administrative, managerial and relocation costs; (5) site acquisition, assessment and improvement costs; (6) demolition costs; (7) costs related to demolition and/or deconstruction of existing school facilities to recycle, reclaim and repurpose all or a portion of such facilities and/or building materials; (8) costs of on and off-site utilities and road improvements; and (9) costs of other similar activities or purposes, all as determined necessary and advisable by the Board.

The Projects, or any portion or portions thereof, shall be accomplished insofar as is practicable with available money and in such order of time as shall be determined necessary and advisable by the Board. The Board shall determine the application of available money between the various parts of the Projects so as to accomplish, as near as may be, all of the Projects. The Board shall determine the exact order, extent and specifications for the Projects. The Projects are to be more fully described in the plans and specifications to be filed with the District.

Section 3. Calling of Election. The Auditor of Thurston County, Washington, as *ex officio* Supervisor of Elections (the "Auditor"), and the proper officer of the county to which the District belongs pursuant to chapter 28A.323 RCW, is requested to call and conduct a special election in the District, in the manner provided by law, to be held on April 28, 2026, for the purpose of submitting to the District's voters, for their approval or rejection, the proposition authorizing a Capital Projects Fund excess property 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 two years commencing in 2026 for collection in 2027 of \$2,628,405, the estimated dollar rate of tax levy required to produce such an amount being \$1.00 per \$1,000 of assessed value and in 2027 for collection in 2028 of \$2,783,747, the estimated dollar rate of tax levy required to produce such an amount being \$1.00 per \$1,000 of assessed value, all in excess of the maximum levy allowed by law for school districts without voter approval. The

exact levy rate may be adjusted based upon the actual assessed value of the taxable property within the District at the time of the levy.

Section 4. 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 provided in this resolution to pay costs of the Projects, all as may be authorized by law and determined necessary and advisable 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.

Section 5. Sufficiency of Taxes. If the excess property taxes authorized herein are more than sufficient to carry out the Projects, or should state or local circumstances require any alteration in the Projects, the District may apply such taxes to other capital purposes, or reduce or eliminate the excess property tax levies authorized herein, all as the Board may determine by resolution and as permitted by law.

If the Board determines that it has become impractical to accomplish the Projects or any portion thereof by reason of state or local circumstances, including changed conditions or needs, regulatory considerations, incompatible development or costs substantially in excess of those estimated, or for any other reason determined by the Board, the District will not be required to accomplish such Projects and may apply the excess property taxes authorized herein or any portion thereof to other capital purposes of the District, or reduce or eliminate the excess property taxes authorized herein, all as the Board may determine by resolution and as permitted by law. In the event that the excess property taxes, plus any other money of the District legally available therefor, are insufficient to accomplish all of the Projects, the District may use the available money for paying the cost of that portion of the Projects that the Board determines most necessary and in the best interests of the District.

Notwithstanding anything in this resolution to the contrary, the excess property taxes authorized herein may be used only to support the construction, modernization or remodeling of school facilities.

*[Remainder of page intentionally left blank]*

Section 6. Form of Ballot Title. Pursuant to RCW 29A.36.071, the Thurston County Prosecuting Attorney, as the county prosecuting attorney of the county within which the majority area of the District is located, is requested to prepare the concise description of the aforesaid proposition for the ballot title in substantially the following form:

PROPOSITION NO. 1

ROCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 401

CAPITAL LEVY FOR SAFETY AND  
CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

The Board of Directors of Rochester School District No. 401 adopted Resolution No. 25-05, concerning a proposition to fund safety and critical infrastructure improvements. This proposition would authorize the District to levy the following excess taxes on all taxable property within the District, to replace the deteriorating water system serving Rochester High School, Grand Mound Elementary School, and Rochester Primary School, including fire protection and water storage improvements for safe drinking water, school facility preservation and fire life safety:

<u>Collection Year</u>	<u>Estimated Levy Rate/\$1,000 Assessed Value</u>	<u>Levy Amount</u>
2027	\$1.00	\$2,628,405
2028	\$1.00	\$2,783,747

all as provided in Resolution No. 25-05. Should this proposition be approved?

LEVY . . . YES

LEVY . . . NO

Section 7. 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, the Auditor of Lewis County, Washington (the “Lewis County Auditor”) and the Auditor of Grays Harbor County (the “Grays Harbor County Auditor”) no later than February 27, 2026; 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 annual excess property taxes to pay costs of the Projects.

Section 8. 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 (a) the Business Manager/Human Resources Director (Jill Pratt), telephone: 360.273.5536 ext. 1005; email: [jpratt@rochester.wednet.edu](mailto:jpratt@rochester.wednet.edu); and (b) special counsel, Foster Garvey P.C. (Lee Marchisio), telephone: 206.447.6264; email: [lee.marchisio@foster.com](mailto:lee.marchisio@foster.com), as the individuals to whom the Auditor, the Lewis County Auditor and the Grays Harbor County 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 Thurston County Prosecuting Attorney.

Section 9. 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 President of the Board (the "President"), 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 President, the Secretary, the District's Business Manager/Human Resources Director, other appropriate officials of the District and the District's special counsel, Foster Garvey P.C., are 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 10. 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 11. Effective Date. This resolution takes effect from and after its adoption.

*[Remainder of page intentionally left blank; signature page follows]*

ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of Rochester School District No. 401, Thurston, Lewis and Grays Harbor Counties, Washington, at a regular open public meeting held on February 25, 2026.

ROCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 401  
THURSTON, LEWIS AND GRAYS HARBOR  
COUNTIES, WASHINGTON

DocuSigned by:  
*Grant Roddeheaver*  
53DAD8A5501C49D...  
President and Director

DocuSigned by:  
*James (Neil) Turner*  
057F5549179C486...  
Vice President and Director

DocuSigned by:  
*Susie Hawes*  
78DD4965E0454C...  
Director

Signed by:  
*[Signature]*  
209943A7A7704B2...  
Director

Signed by:  
*[Signature]*  
A1D11262704BA...  
Director

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:  
*Jennifer Bethman*  
34D9FA4107E6F...  
DR JENNIFER BETHMAN  
Secretary to the Board of Directors

CERTIFICATION

I, DR. JENNIFER BETHMAN, Secretary to the Board of Directors (the "Board") of Rochester School District No. 401, Thurston, Lewis and Grays Harbor Counties, Washington (the "District"), hereby certify as follows:

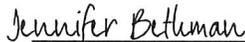
1. The foregoing Resolution No. 25-05 (the "Resolution") is a full, true and correct copy of the Resolution duly adopted at a regular meeting of the Board held at its regular meeting place on February 25, 2026 (the "Meeting"), as that Resolution appears in the records of the District, and the Resolution 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.

Dated: February 25, 2026.

ROCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 401  
THURSTON, LEWIS AND GRAYS HARBOR  
COUNTIES, WASHINGTON

DocuSigned by:



DR. JENNIFER BETHMAN

Secretary to the Board of Directors

# For/Against Committee Member Appointment Form



Name of District: Rochester School District  
District Contact Name: Jennifer Bethman  
Email Address: jbethman@rochester.wednet.edu Phone: 360.273.5536

### Jurisdiction's responsibility:

1. Email completed form to [pamphlet@co.thurston.wa.us](mailto:pamphlet@co.thurston.wa.us) 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 located in the administrative rules. Questions? Contact the Elections Division at: [Pamphlet@co.thurston.wa.us](mailto:Pamphlet@co.thurston.wa.us) or call 360.786.5408.

### Information for inclusion in voters' pamphlet:

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

Committee Name: None  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Web: \_\_\_\_\_  
Committee Member #1: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Committee Member #2: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Committee Member #3: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Committee Name: None  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Web: \_\_\_\_\_  
Committee Member #1: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Committee Member #2: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Committee Member #3: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

RECEIVED  
THURSTON COUNTY AUDITOR

FEB 26 2026

AT 1:09 AM/PM  
BY: \_\_\_\_\_ DEPUTY