



HOOD RIVER COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Excellence. Every student. Every day.

May 15, 2018 Election Information

Measure 14-61 Local Option Levy: Maintain Staffing Levels & Quality School Programs

What is a Local Option Levy?

The Local Option Levy is a local property assessment approved by the voters of Hood River County to provide additional funds to the Hood River County School District (HRCSD). By Oregon Law, Local Option Levies are limited to five years. HRCSD’s Levy will expire on June 30, 2018.

Is it new?

No. It is a renewal of the existing Local Option Levy. It has been approved by the voters of Hood River County since 2004. Your elected School Board is asking for renewal of this levy for five more years.

A “YES” Vote Will NOT Increase Your Tax Rate

Quick Facts - By the Numbers

\$3,000,000	The amount of funds that will need to be cut from the HRCSD budget without the Local Option.
\$546,421	The amount received from the state as a “match” if we pass the Local Option.
4,056	The number of children learning and growing in our community’s public schools.
2004	The year Hood River County voters first approved the Local Option.
1865	The year voters first approved a local levy and we became the Hood River County School District.
35	The estimated number of teaching and staff positions paid for by the Local Option.
7	The number of middle school sports programs paid for by the Local Option.
6	The percent of the school district’s operating budget that comes from the current Local Option.
3	The number of high school sports programs paid for by the Local Option.
\$0	The estimated tax rate increase for you if the Local Option Levy is approved.

Can’t the Capital Construction Bond be used to cover these expenses?

No. Capital Construction Bond funds cannot be used for general operations like paying for teachers – the Capital Construction Bond is legally restricted to pay only for facilities, fields and other infrastructure. The Local Option Levy resources go directly into teaching and learning!

How much will it cost?

The proposed rate is the same rate that has been assessed the past five years – *so the tax rate will not increase*. The proposed maximum rate of \$1.25 per \$1000 of assessed value will cost approximately \$231 per year for a property with the average Hood River County assessed value of \$184,752.

How much revenue will it generate?

The continued rate of \$1.25 per 1000 is estimated to raise \$2,500,000 per year. The Local Option Levy results in “matching” revenue from the State equal to approximately 23% of local option revenue collected, or approximately \$560,000 per year.

How is the rate set each year?

The amount to be levied will be set by the Budget Committee and School Board as part of the annual budget process, after considering state funding and inviting public comment each year. The School Board has a history of prudence, only levying the full rate when necessary.