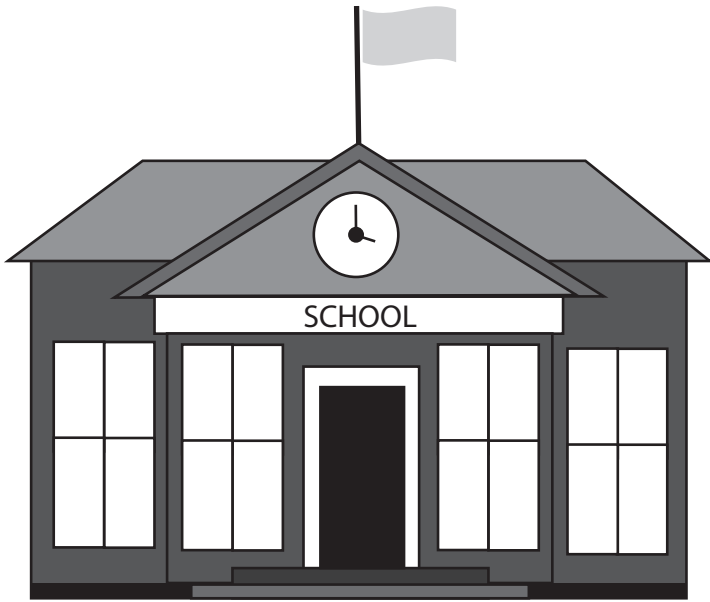


# Snohomish County

## Official Local Voters' Pamphlet February 12, 2019 Special Election

*as requested by Arlington School District No. 16*



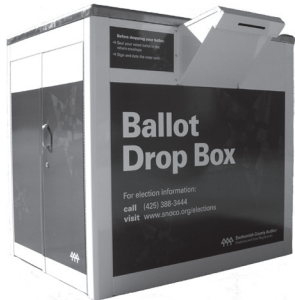
**Snohomish County Elections**

*A Division of the Auditor's Office*

3000 Rockefeller Avenue, M/S 505  
Everett, WA 98201-4046

(425) 388-3444 | [elections@snoco.org](mailto:elections@snoco.org) | [www.snoco.org/elections](http://www.snoco.org/elections)

## Ballot Drop Boxes - Open Now



Only the boxes below will be open for the February Special Election.

Boxes are open 24/7 until 8pm on Election Day, February 12.

No postage needed.

### Arlington (near library)

135 N Washington Ave

### Bothell (QFC parking lot)

22833 Bothell Everett Hwy

### Everett (Courthouse Campus)

Rockefeller Ave & Wall St

### Everett (McCollum Park and Ride)

600 128th St SE

### Lynnwood (in front of City Hall)

19100 44th Ave W

### Mill Creek (in turnaround near post office)

159th PI SE and Mill Creek Blvd

### Mukilteo (near library)

4675 Harbour Pointe Blvd

### Smokey Point (near Lowe's)

3300 169th PI NE

## Postage

Postage not required to return your ballot through the mail!

If mailing, make sure your ballot is in the postal box before the last pick-up time on Election Day.

## Know When Your Ballot is Arriving

Want to know what's coming to your mailbox? USPS® Informed Delivery® subscribers get to preview their mail before it arrives. Register at [informeddelivery.usps.com](http://informeddelivery.usps.com) so you can too.

## Election Services

Snohomish County Elections has the same services as accessible voting sites and can help with voter registration issues or elections questions.

### Snohomish County Auditor's Office

Elections Division  
3000 Rockefeller Ave  
1st Floor Admin West Building  
Everett, WA 98201  
(425) 388-3444

Monday - Friday 9am - 5pm  
Election Day, February 12, 8am - 8pm

## Accessible Voting

Accessible voting equipment will be available to allow voters who cannot vote independently by mail to vote a private, secure ballot.

Accessible voting equipment is available during the hours listed below:



### Snohomish County Auditor's Office

3000 Rockefeller Ave  
1st Floor Admin West Building  
Everett, WA 98201  
Monday - Friday 9am - 5pm  
Election Day, February 12, 8am - 8pm

### Lynnwood Sno-Isle Library

19200 44th Ave W, Lynnwood  
Monday, February 11, 10am - 7pm  
Election Day, February 12, 8am - 8pm



For TDD service, please call 711.

## Get Elections News

Sign up for email and/or text message notifications from Snohomish County Elections at:

[www.snohomishcountywa.gov/signup](http://www.snohomishcountywa.gov/signup)

More information inside



## Arlington School District No. 16 Proposition No. 1

### Bonds to Construct and Renovate School Facilities and Improve Security

The Board of Directors of Arlington School District No. 16 adopted Resolution No. 18-11, concerning a proposition to improve infrastructure, educational opportunities and security. This proposition would authorize the District to: construct a new middle school to replace Post Middle School; make District-wide security and safety improvements; expand and renovate Arlington High School; make District-wide health, educational and infrastructure improvements; issue no more than \$96,000,000 of general obligation bonds maturing within 21 years; and levy annual excess property taxes to repay the bonds, all as provided in Resolution No. 18-11.

Should this proposition be:

Approved  
Rejected

### Explanatory Statement

Passage of this proposition would authorize Arlington School District to issue no more than \$96,000,000 of bonds to: construct a new middle school to replace Post Middle School; make District-wide security and safety improvements; add classrooms and instructional workshops to Arlington High School; and make District-wide health, educational and infrastructure improvements. The School Board determined that there is a need to make these improvements due to: student security and safety concerns, deteriorating and educationally outdated infrastructure and classrooms, and the need to improve educational opportunities and programs.

The bonds will be repaid from annual excess property taxes over 21 years. The District estimates a tax rate for this bond of approximately \$1.42 per \$1,000 of assessed value, or \$23.67 per month for a \$200,000 home. Based on recent changes to state law that reduce the District's educational programs and operations levy, overall tax rates for combined District levies will decrease starting in 2019. Even with passage of this new bond proposition, the District anticipates a combined tax rate decrease from \$4.68 in 2018 to \$2.92 in 2020.

Exemptions from taxes may be available to certain homeowners. To determine if you qualify, call the Snohomish County Assessor at 425.388.3433.

### Argument in Favor

Please vote YES for our kids. Arlington Public Schools' proposition to replace Post Middle School, ease overcrowding at Arlington High School and make vital security improvements to all schools is a tremendous value to the community.

Post Middle School is an important link in our community's school system. It will not survive even a moderate earthquake. Today's middle school students need classrooms that support technical education. The current Post would require extensive remodeling to support technical education. Post's 22 heat pumps are 30 years old and are inefficient.

A "Yes" vote on this bond promotes good property values and helps our kids stay in the community to take on high wage, high skill jobs in Snohomish County. It's a great investment in the future. When kids are safely learning, the whole community benefits.

#### Project overview:

- Build new Post Middle School on current site, tear down the old building, asbestos abatement, \$75,347,668
- Addition at AHS, as planned and prepared 20 years ago, \$9,994,247
- Additional projects at other schools include security cameras, building new secure entryways, fire safety, door locks, boilers, flooring, other building improvements, and site improvements.
- Total cost is \$96,215,667.

#### Estimated Cost for Tax payers:

- \$1.42 per \$1,000 Assessed Value per year
- \$426 per year for a \$300,000 home.
- Current rate is \$4.68 (\$3.31 levy, \$1.37 bond)
- Future rate \$2.92 (\$1.50 levy, \$1.42 bond)

Property tax exemptions may be available for senior and disabled homeowners.

Please vote YES!

Argument prepared by: John Meno, Mary Levesque, and Courtney Normand

### Rebuttal to Argument in Favor

Proposed bond cost is higher than current bond and lasts 21 more years.

Approval means 41 continuous years of bond payments with no break.

Levy rates can go up and we have limited control – remember 2018's large tax increase. "Estimated Cost" is subject to change upward.

Senior and disabled exemptions are severely income limited.

More building is already being planned.

**Only way to assure some real tax relief - please REJECT the Arlington School Bond.**

Argument prepared by: Joseph N. Amma, Jr.

## Argument Against

### Reject the Arlington School Bond

For the third time this year, the Arlington School District is proposing a bond - this time for \$96 Million - to be repaid by all homeowners over 21 years.

Homeowners have been paying the existing school construction bond for 19 years, and it is not paid off until next year. **If this new proposal passes, we will be making bond payments for 41 consecutive years, without a break.** This is an unreasonable burden, especially for seniors and others on a fixed income.

Under the proposed bond, \$1.42 per \$1,000 of home value represents \$497 for the owner of a home worth \$350,000; over 21 years, the total becomes \$10,437. Some would pay much more, others less. This is money we will not owe once the current bond is paid off - so long as the proposed new bond is rejected.

The District's Resolution provides that the bond can be used to acquire "land for sites for new and expanded facilities." New facilities would be paid for with additional bond requests.

The District "estimates" that school property taxes will be reduced under this proposal. There is no guarantee of that. The new bond rate is higher than the one we are still paying (\$1.37/\$1,000). If other school taxes go up, as they did this year, we will be committed to the increased amount for 21 more years.

**It is time for homeowners to give themselves some real tax relief. Please REJECT the Arlington School Bond.**

Argument prepared by: Joseph N. Amma, Jr.

## Rebuttal to Argument Against

Nearly every community neighboring Arlington has passed bonds in recent years, improving their schools. It's not unusual to do so; it is, in fact, unusual for communities to not improve schools. Total local school tax rates will drop from \$4.68 per \$1,000 in 2018 to \$2.92 per \$1,000 in 2020 when taxes would be levied on the new bond. Those on fixed incomes can apply for exemption from school bond and levy taxes. **Vote Yes!**

Argument prepared by: John Meno, Mary Levesque, and Courtney Normand

## How do I vote my ballot?

Fill in the oval as shown. Use blue or black ink. Do not use a felt pen.

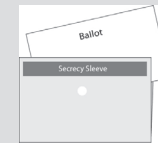


Remove the top stub.

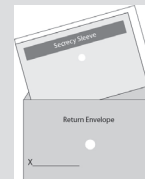
Please do not remove any other portion of your ballot. Ballots returned with portions missing require extra handling.



Place your voted ballot in the secrecy sleeve - ballot will extend beyond the sleeve.



Place secrecy sleeve into return envelope.



Sign and seal return envelope.

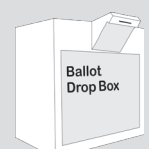


Place envelope in the mail before the last pick-up time on Election Day - No postage necessary.



or

Drop your ballot at any open Ballot Drop Box, Accessible Voting Site, or the Auditor's Office. No postage necessary.



Statements are printed as submitted.

## Additional Instructions

1. Remove stub at top of ballot.  
Please do not remove any other portion of your ballot.  
Ballots returned with portions missing require extra handling.
2. Place your voted ballot into the white secrecy sleeve.  
Ballot will extend beyond the sleeve.
3. Place the secrecy sleeve into your return envelope.
4. Sign and date your return envelope. All signatures are verified.
5. Return your ballot as soon as possible.

Option 1 - Mail your ballot so it is postmarked by Election Day, February 12.

**Make sure it is in the postal box before the last pick-up time on Election Day.**

Return postage is paid - no stamp needed.

Option 2 - Bring your ballot to an open 24-hour ballot drop box (see inside for locations).

It must be in the drop box by 8pm Election Day, February 12.

No stamp required.

6. Confirm your voted ballot has been received at [www.myvote.wa.gov](http://www.myvote.wa.gov).
7. Call or email Snohomish County Elections if your ballot is damaged, lost, or spoiled.