



**News release**

**May 22, 2019**

## **Moody's maintains districts rating of Aa1**

*High bond ratings benefit taxpayers over long-term*

Everett Public Schools has maintained a strong bond rating based on its creditworthiness and financial performance. Standard & Poors Global Ratings has assigned Everett Public Schools a rating of "AA+" and Moody's Investment Services has assigned a rating of "Aa1", both noting a stable outlook.

School districts are measured through a systematic rating structure which considers many factors including funding structures, local economy, property values, and fund balance. The analysts then evaluate whether or not the district demonstrates positive or negative characteristics that would move the rating up or down. In both instances, the characteristics for Everett moved the district up one level. The Moody's report notes that the district "benefits from a strong and proactive management team that demonstrates conservative budget practices, conducting multi-year forecasts, cash-flow projections, and scenario analysis."

Of the 295 school districts in Washington State, S & P and Moody's rank Everett Public Schools as 7th and 8th respectively in terms of bond ratings and financial performance. Continued high ratings translate into better interest rates which equals savings for taxpayers.

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