

From: [Cohn, Gary](#)
To: [EPS.Maillist](#)
Subject: Capital Levy & Bond Results: YES & YES!
Date: Wednesday, April 27, 2016 9:34:31 AM
Attachments: [April 26 2016 Preliminary Results Mail.pdf](#)
[image002.png](#)

By the time you receive this message, I think it's likely that you have seen the news and know that last evening's first returns resulted in a **64.1 percent YES** vote for our replacement [capital levy](#), and a **61.4 percent YES** vote for the capital [bond](#). The *next* update from the county auditor is today, Wednesday, April 27, at around 5:00 p.m., when more ballots will be added to the results. (I've also attached a brief summary of results across the state in case you are interested.)

Last night our school board president, Ted Wenta, and I spent some time with the *Daily Herald* reporter saying thank you to this community for its historic and continued support of education for yesterday's, today's and tomorrow's students. We are encouraged by the strong support last night's results show; the results indicate our community supports its students and schools. We certainly will be watching the results over the next few days and eagerly awaiting the official results later this month.

This morning I extend a big, heartfelt thank you to the hundreds of volunteers and staff who made telephone calls, waived signs, pressed doorbells, put up signs, signed and mailed postcards, maintained web pages, designed mailers, made community presentations, made staff presentations (and those who played "Bond & Levy Jeopardy"), made PTA presentations, answered emails, returned phone calls, raised funds, donated funds, wrote letters, wore buttons, and spent countless hours involved in the election process. I especially want to thank the Citizens Committee co-chairs, Caroline Mason and Michele Nims, and EEA president Jared Kink for the remarkable leadership, planning, organizing, and persistence that makes such a huge difference in a community-wide effort like levy and bond elections.

Combined, the capital levy and bond funds will continue the educational programs we now have, and relieve a portion of the enrollment pressure kids, staff, and parents are feeling. Bond funds will build a new elementary school, modernize North Middle and Woodside Elementary, and fund several smaller projects to preserve facilities and help bolster student safety. The capital levy will also provide enhancements to student safety, and will take us into a digital future that holds the promise of transforming our instruction and the preparation our students will take into their careers and post-secondary pursuits.

This community's historic support of schools has paid off over the decades. We have one of the state's highest graduation rates, and we are making progress to close the education gap among diverse groups. This board and district have a documented track record of fiscal accountability and are committed to that accountability, transparency and stewardship of these public funds. Members of the board, who contributed huge amounts of time to make the ballot measure decisions, and the entire district are grateful for our communities' past and present support of schools and of students. We are committed to our responsibility of ensuring the highest quality education for each student.

Again, I say a hearty “Thank You!” ... and can’t help but feel the excitement about the things we will accomplish in our work together on behalf of students over the next several years. I hope you do, too!

Warmest regards,

Gary

p.s. – Check out the [“thank you” video](#) now posted on our website!



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