

Medical Lake School District

116 W Third Street, PO Box 128
Medical Lake, WA 99022



Phone: (509) 565-3100
FAX (509) 565-3102 www.mlsd.org

Dear Parents/Guardians and Community Members,

I hope all of you had an excellent start to 2018! For our district 2018 kicks off a busy year as we approach the levy election on **Tuesday, February 13, 2018** and begin the development of a new 5 year strategic plan. We want to thank those of you who participated in the "Thought Exchange" survey providing valuable input to direct the future of our district. We will be sending the results out to our entire community soon.

We also greatly appreciate the tremendous support our voters have demonstrated for our maintenance and operations levies. Most recently, the Washington State Legislators placed restrictions on the use of local levy dollars and placed a cap on the amount districts can request. Therefore, this year you will be voting on two propositions on your ballot.

Proposition 1 will authorize the District to meet the educational needs of its students by replacing the expiring levy, for support of educational programs and operations not funded by the state. This will support programs such as band, choir, athletics, robotics, FFA, ROTC and elementary extracurricular activities. It also assists in the funding of our special education and nursing programs which are not fully funded by the State.

Proposition 2 will authorize the District to levy taxes to make security and infrastructure improvements throughout existing school facilities. These funds will be used to improve the safety and security of our school buildings, such as secure entryways, access points, camera systems, repairs and improvements to walkways, parking lots and playgrounds. They will also be used to upgrade roofs, HVAC systems, carpets and door replacements.

The District has been good stewards of the use of our local tax dollars. We recently refinanced our bonds to save \$1,272,338 to our local taxpayers. We offer a great variety of programs and activities for our students, and our facilities are maintained well. In fact with two propositions on the ballot our tax payers will still save \$0.32 per \$1,000. For example:

| Current Local Tax Rate for 2017-2018 per \$1,000 | | Proposed Local Tax Rate for 2018-2019 per \$1,000 | |
|---|----------------------|--|----------------------|
| Maintenance & Operations | \$1.95 | Educational Programs & Operations | \$1.50 |
| Bonds | \$2.48 | Bonds | \$2.21 |
| Capital Levy | <u>\$0.00</u> | Capital Levy | <u>\$0.40</u> |
| Current Local Rate | \$4.43 | Proposed Local Rate | \$4.11 |

I am grateful for the continued support from the Medical Lake Community to help us reach for **"Every Student Every Day."** Thank you! If you have any questions, please give me call at 565-3100.

Sincerely,
Mr. Tim Ames - Superintendent