

## WHY THE LEVY IS NEEDED

- **Growing enrollment** creates a crowded learning environment. Permanent classroom space is needed to serve students effectively.



- **Lynden Academy** currently operates in leased space costing roughly \$20,000 per month. A district-owned facility would allow those program dollars to support students rather than rent.
- **The district is committed** to continued safety and security upgrades across all facilities in alignment with recommended best practices and expectations of the community.



**Good stewardship** requires planned maintenance on building systems as they age and replacing them at the end of their useful life.

## THE DISTRICT IS TAKING A STEP-BY-STEP APPROACH TO FACILITIES PLANNING

- **2026:** Capital Facilities Levy
- **2028:** Renewal of the Educational Programs & Operations (EP&O) Levy
- **2030:** Potential consideration of a future capital bond to address Lynden High School

*Each measure is separate and subject to voter approval.*

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### Is this the same as the high school bond?

No. The previous proposal was a bond focused on replacing Lynden High School. This measure is a short-term capital levy focused on maintaining existing schools, addressing existing facility needs, and making targeted upgrades at Lynden High School.

### Why can't the district save money for these projects?

State funding supports classroom operations such as teachers, staff, transportation, and student services, and those funds must be used in the year they are received to serve the students enrolled that year. Because of this system, communities fund larger building maintenance and improvement projects through voter-approved levies and bonds. This approach keeps decisions about school facilities transparent and in the hands of local voters.

### Why focus on Isom and Bernice Vossbeck Elementary Schools?

Both schools are older buildings where key systems such as heating & ventilation, plumbing, and other infrastructure are reaching the end of their useful life. The proposed improvements would add classroom space and update building systems so these schools can serve current and future enrollment more effectively and eliminate the need for a fourth elementary school in the future, which is a more cost-effective approach for the community.

### Why provide a facility for Lynden Academy?

Lynden Academy currently operates in leased space costing roughly \$20,000 per month. Providing a district facility allows those program dollars to support students and programs rather than rent while offering a space designed for daily school use.

### How much does the levy collect and over how long?

The proposed levy would collect \$6.375 million per year for four years, for a total of \$25.5 million.

## FOR MORE DETAILS ON THE APRIL 2026 CAPITAL LEVY:



[www.lynden.wednet.edu/school-board/2026-capital-levy/](http://www.lynden.wednet.edu/school-board/2026-capital-levy/)

# FACILITIES MAINTENANCE AND STEWARDSHIP

## STRATEGIC PRIORITY #4

## CAPITAL FACILITIES LEVY APRIL 28, 2026 ELECTION

**The April Levy will maintain and improve the schools** Lynden already owns, addressing practical facility needs today while avoiding more expensive problems later.



Maintain and expand existing facilities to improve safety and protect over \$200 million in community-owned assets to extend the lifespan of well-used facilities.



Expand and upgrade Isom and Bernice Vossbeck Elementary Schools to meet district-wide enrollment demands for decades to come.



Provide a permanent home for Lynden Academy, which currently serves 430+ students in a facility that is currently leased and not designed for daily instruction.



**LYNDEN**  
SCHOOL DISTRICT



# Lynden School District is asking the community to consider a **capital levy** focused on maintaining and improving the schools Lynden already owns.

This proposed four-year capital levy focuses on maintaining and improving the school facilities our community already owns. It would address capacity needs at Isom and Bernice Vossbeck Elementary Schools, provide a permanent facility for Lynden Academy, and support essential maintenance and safety improvements across district buildings including Lynden High School. These investments help schools continue serving students effectively while preserving community-owned facilities for the future.

**\$25.5 MILLION**  
TOTAL CAPITAL LEVY



**16,840**  
LYNDEN POPULATION

**4,028**  
LYNDEN POPULATION

**575** **602**

**1980**

**1,460** **1,621**

**2026**

Lynden population growth vs student capacity and enrollment past and present at Lynden elementary schools.

**ELEMENTARY CAPACITY**

**ELEMENTARY ENROLLMENT**

## WHAT THE LEVY WOULD ADDRESS

**Expand Isom Elementary** to accommodate 100-120 more students, expand shared spaces, and replace aging heating and ventilation system.

**Expand Bernice Vossbeck** to accommodate 100-120 more students and address parking and traffic safety.

*Both schools would serve the community for decades to come, avoiding the need for a fourth elementary school in the near future.*



## HOW THESE PROJECTS BENEFIT OUR COMMUNITY

It takes care of the schools our community has already invested in by protecting more than **\$200 million** in public facilities, addressing aging building systems and infrastructure so schools remain safe, functional, and reliable. It also provides additional classroom space at existing schools to accommodate enrollment growth and maintains facilities today to help avoid more costly repairs or larger construction projects in the future.

**Allows program funds for Lynden Academy** to support students instead of paying for leased space. This converts an ongoing expense into a community asset.



- **Secure a permanent home for Lynden Academy students.** Owning a facility eliminates lease costs and allows the district to support students directly through necessary renovations & design.
- **Complete safety, maintenance, and facility improvements** across all district buildings including targeted updates to Lynden High School, the transportation facility, and facilities used by the community including Judson Hall and the two gyms on Main Street.
- **Replace classroom technology** on a planned cycle, helping keep instructional tools reliable while avoiding large one-time replacement costs.



## 4-YEAR CAPITAL LEVY COSTS

Unlike bonds, levies do not generate interest costs. If approved, collection would begin in 2027 and is estimated at \$1.09/\$1,000 of assessed value. The levy expires after 4 years.

