

# Notice of Measure Election District

**SEL 803**

rev 03/18 ORS 250.035,  
250.041, 255.145, 255.345

<b>Notice</b>			
<b>Date of Notice</b> 9/5/2019	<b>Name of District</b> Portland Public Schools	<b>Name of County or Counties</b> Mult., Wash. & Clack.	<b>Date of Election</b> 11/5/2019
<b>Final Ballot Title</b> The following is the final ballot title of the measure to be submitted to the district's voters. The ballot title notice has been published and the ballot title challenge process has been completed.			
<b>Caption</b> 10 words which reasonably identifies the subject of the measure.			
See attached.			
<b>Question</b> 20 words which plainly phrases the chief purpose of the measure.			
See attached.			
<b>Summary</b> 175 words which concisely and impartially summarizes the measure and its major effect.			
See attached.			
<p style="text-align: right;">RECEIVED 19 SEP -5 PM 4:13 TIM SCOTT DIRECTOR OF ELECTIONS</p>			
<b>Explanatory Statement</b> 500 words that impartially explains the measure and its effect.			
If the county is producing a voters' pamphlet an explanatory statement must be drafted and attached to this form for: → any measure referred by the district elections authority; or → any initiative or referendum, if required by local ordinance.			
			<b>Explanatory Statement Attached?</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Authorized District Official</b> Not required to be notarized.			
<b>Name</b> Amy Kohnstamm		<b>Title</b> PPS Board Chair	
<b>Mailing Address</b> 501 N Dixon St, Portland, OR 97227		<b>Contact Phone</b> 503-916-3741	
By signing this document: → I hereby state that I am authorized by the district elections authority to submit this Notice of Measure Election; and → I certify that notice of receipt of ballot title has been published and the ballot title challenge process for this measure completed.			

Signature Redacted



9/5/2019

Date Signed

**Portland Public Schools**  
**November 5, 2019 election**

**CAPTION:** Levy Renewal to Maintain Teaching Positions and Classroom Supports

**QUESTION:** Shall district maintain teaching positions, classroom supports; renew levy of \$1.99 per \$1,000 assessed value for five years beginning 2020? This measure renews current local option taxes.

**SUMMARY:** Portland Public Schools' current local option levy was approved by voters in 2014 to provide funding for schools over 5 years. The renewed levy will provide an estimated \$99.9 million in the first year. Over the past five years, the levy has funded an average of 825 teaching positions each year and, if approved, the renewed levy is projected to maintain that average over the next five years.

This renewed local option levy would continue to fund teaching positions to:

- Support a well-rounded education, including career and technical programs and enrichments and electives for all students.
- Help maintain class sizes
- Provide supports, such as reading specialists, for struggling students.

Levy cost remains \$1.99 per \$1,000 assessed property value, the same as the 2014 levy.

Funds will be placed in a sub-account, and independent citizen oversight will review expenditures to verify that funds are used as approved by voters. No levy funds will be spent for administration. Performance auditing of school district programs also will be done.

The levy will produce an estimated \$99.9 million in 2020-2021; \$103.9 million in 2021-2022; \$108.1 million in 2022-2023; \$112.4 million in 2023-2024; and \$111.9 million in 2024-2025. The estimated tax cost for this measure is an ESTIMATE ONLY based on the best information available from the county assessor at the time of estimate and may reflect the impact of early payment discounts, compression and the collection rate.

# Joint County Voters' Pamphlet Measure Explanatory Statement

**!** Important! Read all instructions before completing this form.

Use this form when filing a "Measure Explanatory Statement for County Voters' Pamphlet" with your County Elections office. If a local government is located in more than one county, the County Clerk of the county in which the city hall of the City or the administrative office of the local government is located shall be the filing officer for the "Measure Explanatory Statement for County Voters/Pamphlet".

### Filing Information

Election:  Primary \_\_\_\_\_  General 2019 \_\_\_\_\_  Special \_\_\_\_\_

Measure # \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

### Ballot Title Caption

Levy Renewal to Maintain Teaching Positions and Classroom Supports

Name of Person responsible for content of 'Explanatory Statement' (as it should appear in the Voters' Pamphlet):

Amy Kohnstamm, Portland Public Schools Board Chair

Name of Jurisdiction/Organization the Person is authorized to represent (as it should appear in the Voters' Pamphlet):

Portland Public Schools

### Contact Information:

Phone: Cell: 971-291-7411 Work: 503-916-3741 Home: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: rpowell@pps.net; akohnstamm@pps.net

### Signature

Signature Redacted

09/05/2019

Date

### Explanatory Statement

See attached for "Measure Explanatory Statement" (500 word/number MAX)

### For Office Use only:

County: Multnomah

Signed?  Yes  No

Explanatory Statement attached?  Yes  No

Intake Staff Initials: [Signature]

Word Count (500 max):

Providing digital copy?  Yes  No

Received digital copy?  Yes  No

Review Staff Initials: [Signature]

RECEIVED  
19 SEP -5 PM 4:13  
TIM SCOTT  
DIRECTOR OF ELECTIONS

## **EXPLANATORY STATEMENT**

Portland Public Schools currently serves over 49,000 students in 81 schools and other programs throughout the neighborhoods of Portland.

For the ninth straight year, PPS' 4-year graduation rates increased in 2017-2018. The graduation rate of 79.6% remains above the statewide average and has risen more than 17 points since 2010.

In serving the students of Portland, the district continuously strives to be fiscally responsible with taxpayer resources. Through many years of budget cuts, the school district and Board have worked to preserve classroom education. At the same time, PPS has advocated for a greater level of state investment by the Legislature and worked to ensure that all dollars are spent well and used for educational services for students. In December 2018, independent auditors gave PPS a clean bill of financial health. The district will receive regular performance audits to monitor effective use of taxpayer resources.

The legislature has recently increased its investment in K-12 education, but more investments are needed to continue to build career and technical programs, maintain class size and better support struggling students. In the meantime, funds raised by this local option levy will help to close the funding gap.

If renewed, the levy is estimated to produce \$99.9 million for Portland Public Schools in school year 2020-2021. The proposed levy renewal would:

### **Fund teaching positions and classroom supports at every school in the district**

- The funds help support a well-rounded education, with enrichments for elementary and middle grades and electives in varied interest areas and disciplines for high school students.
- The funds help support career and technical programs and STEM programs, including computer science education, so students can graduate with the skills necessary to be career or college ready.
- Over the past five years, the levy funded an average of 825 teaching positions annually. If approved, that average will be maintained.
- Academic support for struggling students is included.

### **Continue to provide fiscal accountability and independent oversight**

Portland Public Schools levy  
Measure Explanatory Statement  
November 5, 2019 Election

- This renewal maintains the existing local option levy rate of \$1.99 per \$1,000 assessed value and ensures that all funds raised are directed to the voter-approved purpose of supporting schools.
- This local option requires independent citizen oversight so that tax dollars are used only for purposes approved by local voters.
- Funds will be placed in a sub-account to ensure their correct use and accurate reporting.
- No funds from this local option levy will be used for district administration.

**Maintain the existing tax rate of \$1.99 per \$1,000 of assessed value**

- For a home with an average assessed value of \$233,925, the cost would be less than \$39 per month, or \$465 per year.

This local option levy replaces the one passed by voters in 2014, and maintains the existing tax rate.

Submitted by Amy Kohnstamm  
Board Chair, Portland Public Schools