Highline Public Schools
Educational Programs Replacement Levy
Election Date: March 13, 2007

- Highline's Educational Programs Levy provides 18% to 20% of the district's general fund revenues.

- Levy dollars are needed to fund the direct education of children. The state does not pay for the full cost of educating students.

- Eighty percent of the revenue raised by the levy pays for teachers and other district employees. Levy dollars fund 95 teaching positions, 170 non-teaching positions, and training for all teachers.

- Levy dollars break down this way:
  71% pays for basic education salaries and benefits.
  11% pays for instructional materials.
  12% pays for special education costs (staff and materials).
  6% pays for bus transportation (staff and other costs).

- If the levy fails, the district will have to cut 18 to 20 percent from its general fund budget. The school board will decide what programs and positions will be cut. Faced with this situation after the levy failure in February 2003, the school board considered the following cuts:
  - Lay-offs of 71 teachers and non-teaching staff.
  - Shortening the school day by approximately 1 hour.
  - Eliminating music, band, and PE for elementary students.
  - Reducing electives and increasing class size for secondary students.
  - Cutting extracurricular activities and athletics by 50% by eliminating over 100 coaching positions and eliminating some sports completely.
  - Requiring students to pay a fee for participation in sports teams.
  - Closing elementary school buildings to community use and school use in the evenings and during weekends, and limiting use of middle and high schools.
  - Closing Camp Waskowitz and eliminating sixth-grade camp.
  - Closing the Performing Arts Center to community and school use.

- The levy requires a 60% yes vote to pass.

- The estimated tax rate for the first year of the levy is $2.56 per $1,000 in assessed home value. The owner of a $200,000 home would pay $512 in 2008.

- This is a four-year levy. It would expire at the end of 2011.