

# Kitsap Sun

**LETTERS | Opinion** *This piece expresses the views of its author(s), separate from those of this publication.*

## Levy passed, but with representative support?

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The South Kitsap School District Education Programs & Operations Levy passed. It passed with 51.36% support of the voters who actually voted (as of Thursday's count). Between Bainbridge Island and South Kitsap there were 39.3% of registered voters who actually voted this February. Basically, 60% of registered voters just did not take the time or effort to vote on a 4-year, \$127,200,000 funding request.

Bainbridge had two levies pass, with 69.43% and 73.06% approval. Why the huge difference in support? Is it due to the school district management? Is it the actions of the schools Board of Directors? The 2019 General Election had 48,561 registered voters in the SKSD. The numbers will change some between elections, but that means the 10,104 "Yes" voters in the recent SKSD levy decided the financial fate of the 48,561 registered voters. Around 21% of the voters in SKSD made the decision to support the \$127,200,000 ask from the school district. This "continuing levy" request is around \$27,800,000 more than the previous levy ask.

I hope the over 48,000 voters are happy with the results. I hope you are happy with how this continuing levy was presented to the public. You can look forward to this from SKSD every 4 years, maximum request with minimal explanation. Maybe it is time Olympia did something to help taxpayers and limit the minor districts like the SKSD to running elections on the General Ballot in November. Contact your legislators to support such a change.

*Roger Gay, Port Orchard*