

Kitsap Sun

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Watch out for tax fatigue coming to South Kitsap

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Will you know what your property taxes will be before you vote on SKSD levy request in February 2021? A board member recently stated the voters will not know their new property taxes amounts prior to voting on upcoming February 2021 special election. The director was snickering, smiling, and winking when he said this.

Tax changes should be posted online by the county before we get those "pink" envelopes in the mail in February. I contacted our county's assessor's office and a staff person stated:

"I am not sure how soon the actual tax amounts are available online but in the past, it's well before the tax statements are mailed in mid-February. The information can be found under Parcel Details and Value & Tax History for an individual parcel".

Snickering, smiling, and winking about tax increases is never acceptable behavior from any board member when messing with our taxes. This is the wrong approach if the district is sincere about increasing trust, confidence and support from our community. At this time, the district has not disclosed how much they will be asking for in this new levy. Three board members did agree they would like to reduce tax rate for the next levy depending on shape of the district's future budget.

Ballots will be mailed out January 22 and must be returned by February 9. Rest assured SKSD will not be alone in seeking more tax dollars in 2021. The state has declared there will be huge budget shortfalls beyond 2021.

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