



SOUTH KITSAP
SCHOOL DISTRICT

2021 Election –
EP&O Levy



DESTINATION
TOP 5

Levies Support Learning

The Educational Program & Operations (EPO) Levy makes up about 15% of the SKSD Budget and levy funds support the Top 5 Focus Areas of the Priority Plan.



The Impact of Community Support:

- ▶ Lower class sizes
- ▶ Innovative instructional programs (AP, AVID, PLTW, etc.)
- ▶ Music and Arts programs
- ▶ Librarians
- ▶ Instructional Specialists
- ▶ Special Education programs
- ▶ Computers for students
- ▶ Curriculum adoptions
- ▶ Counselors, Social Worker
- ▶ School Psychologists
- ▶ Athletic Programs
- ▶ Nurses
- ▶ Technology backbone/security to support learning
- ▶ Extra Curricular Activities
- ▶ Transportation
- ▶ Safety & security, threat assessment, secured facilities
- ▶ Custodial services, maintenance of facilities, repairs, upkeep, replacement of aging systems and equipment.

Replacement of Expiring Levy:

- ▶ This is a **replacement levy with a stable tax rate**
- ▶ 4-year levy for calendar years 2022, 2023, 2024, and 2025
- ▶ Without a replacement levy at approximately \$2.50 per \$100,000 of assessed value, we will lose \$25 million dollars (current budget) of funding that directly supports our students

Levies are for Learning and Much More

This **replacement levy is not a new tax**, and will continue to:

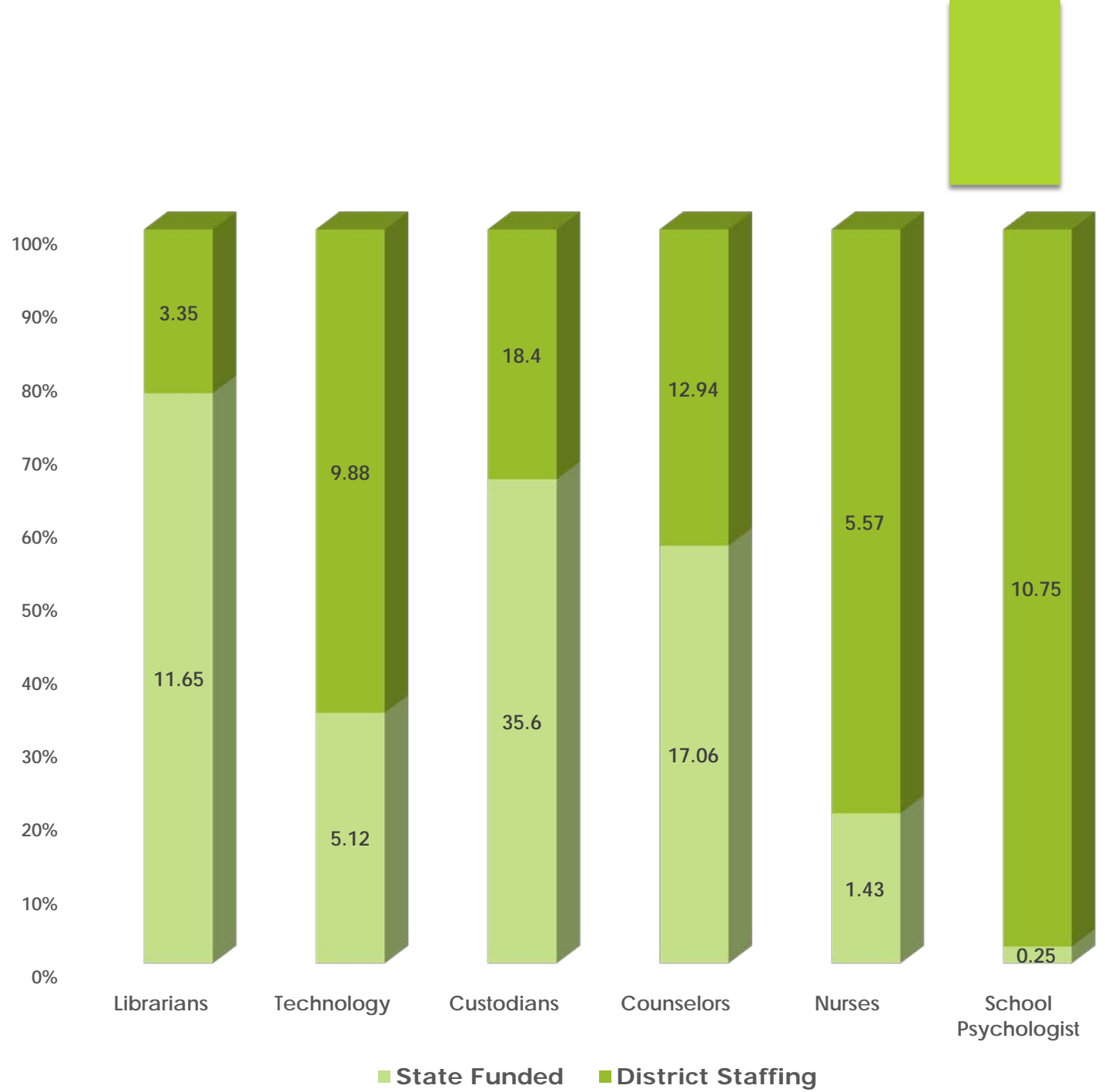
- ▶ Fund Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) education so our students are globally competitive;
- ▶ Ensure our students are college and career ready at graduation and are well prepared to pursue a skilled trade, community college, university, or military service; and
- ▶ Provide additional staffing not funded by the state which is critical to meeting the needs of our students, such as additional teachers, nurses, mental health specialists and school counselors.
- ▶ Provide opportunities to keep students engaged like libraries, arts/music, athletics, and clubs

How Do We Spend Local Levy Dollars?

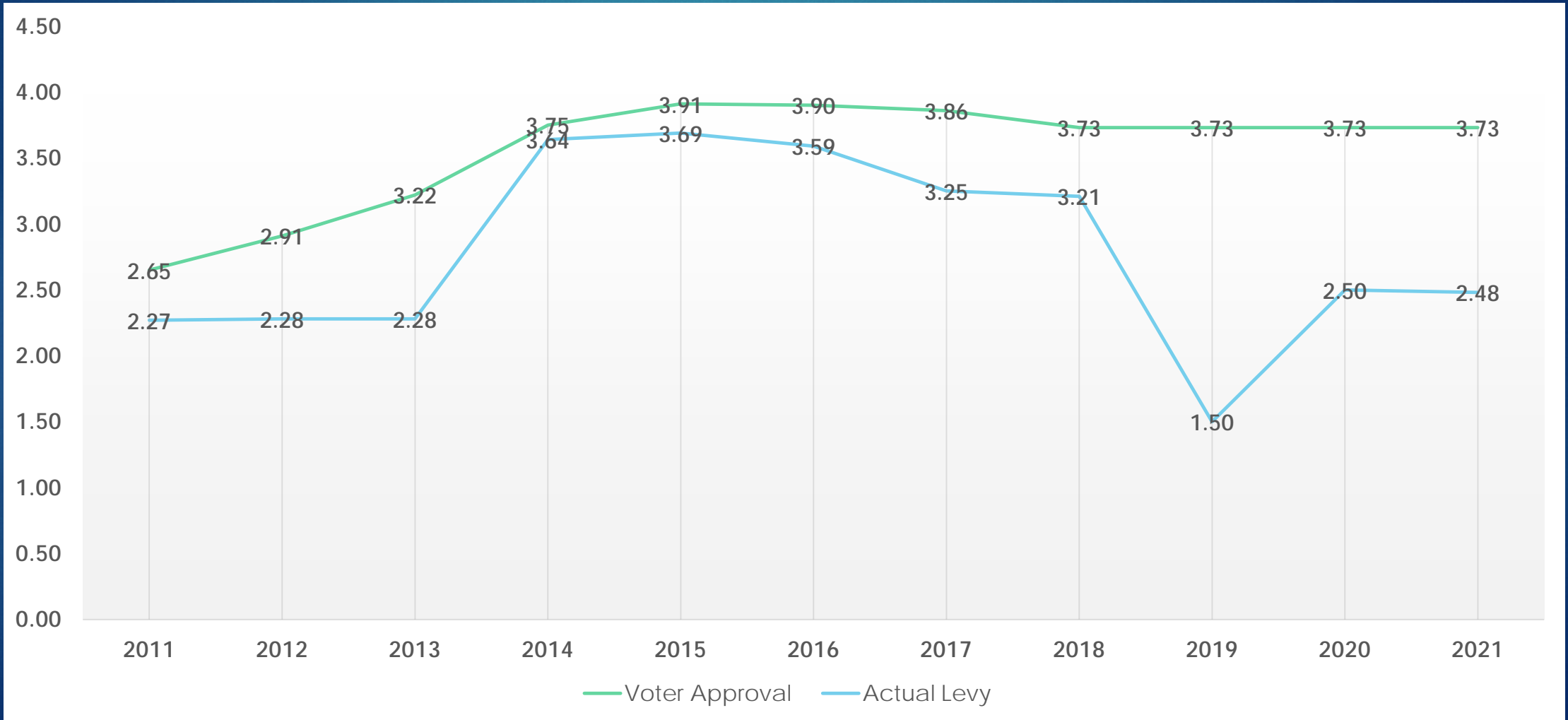


- Teachers and Support Staff
- Special Education
- Supplies
- Facilities
- Athletics & Activities

Local Levy Supports Critical Staffing:

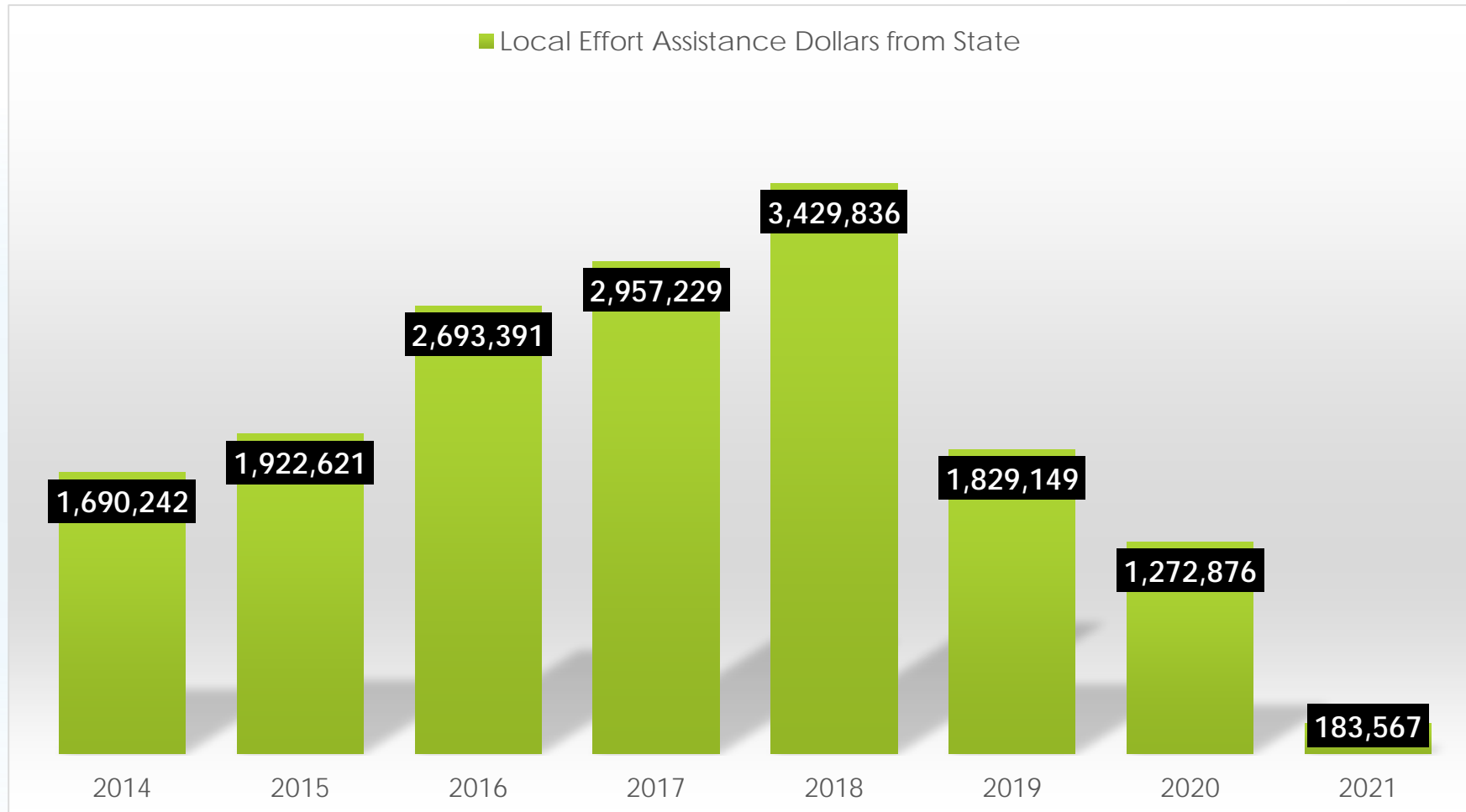


Levy Rate in South Kitsap Over Time:



Reduced State Revenue

- ▶ Local Effort Assistance, which is awarded to Districts with lower property values, has declined as property values in South Kitsap have increased, resulting in over \$3M in reduced resources since 2018.



Past Reductions During Funding Instability

- ▶ When the local levy limit was \$1.50/thousand, we anticipated reductions of approximately \$10 million dollars. Mid-stream in that process, the legislature raised the limit to \$2.50, which reduced our need to constrict but still resulted in the following unrestored reduced educational program:
 - ▶ Elementary Assistant Principals
 - ▶ Various teaching positions
 - ▶ Middle School Instructional Specialists
 - ▶ Athletic Director
 - ▶ Communications office support
 - ▶ Two security positions
 - ▶ Transportation position (in current budget for restoration but unfilled due to pause on hiring)

Election Process

- ▶ The Board of Directors must pass a resolution to place a levy on the ballot
- ▶ The resolution must be filed with the Kitsap County Elections Office not later than December 11, 2020
- ▶ Election costs are shared among those on the ballot (election costs are County-wide)
 - ▶ In 2017, our share of election costs was \$130,659, which was an election shared with Bainbridge Island SD's levy. Total costs were \$184K.
- ▶ Election Day is February 9, 2021

No Bond Request Planned in 2021

- ▶ The Board is convening a workgroup to look at future facilities needs
- ▶ The Capital Levy passed in 2018 will continue collection through calendar year 2022
 - ▶ Projects are ongoing, including ADA upgrades and planning for the SK Community Pool project approved by voters
- ▶ In any budget year, we may elect to allocate funding from the general fund to facility projects
 - ▶ This is not true in reverse – funds in the capital projects account may only be used for identified capital project purposes
 - ▶ Past investments: From 2014-2020, capital projects were supported annually

Ballot Measure Recommendation

Replace expiring \$2.50 EP&O Levy with equal amount to continue to provide and grow the best educational programs for our students.

