

MONROE SCHOOL DISTRICT

# ANNUAL REPORT



**MONROE**  
SCHOOL DISTRICT

2020-21 REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY



## DISTRICT 1

**Jeremiah Campbell**

*Vice President*

Term Expires: 2023



## DISTRICT 2

**Chuck Whitfield**

*President Pro-Tem, Legislative Representative*

Term Expires: 2023



## DISTRICT 3

**Molly Barnes**

*Instructional Materials Committee (IMC) Representative*

Term Expires: 2025



## DISTRICT 4

**Sarah Johnson**

*Washington Interscholastic Activities Association (WIAA) Representative*  
Term Expires: 2025



## DISTRICT 5

**Jennifer Bumpus**

*President*

Term Expires: 2023

# MESSAGE FROM THE INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT

Dear Monroe community,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the start of the 2022-23 school year and officially introduce myself to the greater community. I am thrilled and honored to serve as the interim superintendent for the Monroe School District for the 2022-23 school year while the school board works through the process of selecting a permanent superintendent.

I am a career educator who began as a special education teacher. Throughout my career I have also served as an elementary school principal, director of curriculum & assessment & learning technology, executive director of teaching & learning, and superintendent. In January 2020, I retired from Mukilteo School District where I served as superintendent for 16.5 years.

In July, I learned that Monroe was in need of an interim superintendent for the 2022-23 school year after the recruiting firm, hired by the school board, reached out to me. I was happily retired and not looking to return to the workforce; however, with five family members of my own enrolled in Monroe schools, I was willing to consider stepping in to help. The decision to apply, however, was not only about family.

I applied for this position, and was ultimately selected by the school board, because **I continue to believe that the education of our children is the most fundamental and important work in the world.** I know the Monroe School District has incredible staff talent, who I know share this same belief, and I am passionate about supporting them in meeting the needs of all of our students.

Even in retirement, I have kept my hand on the pulse of the local school districts through my long-time education connections throughout Snohomish County. I know that the past few years have been challenging for the Monroe School District, including the recent failure

of the renewal of the School Program & Operations (SP&O) Levy last February that provides critical funding for our students. However, there is much to celebrate in Monroe. Our graduation rates have been increasing each year and were well above the state average in the 2020-21 school year, many of our student athletes and extracurricular clubs have been earning regional and state-level recognition, and our seniors were awarded a record breaking amount in scholarships.

As we kick off a new school year, I am confident that we can come together as a community, focus on our successes, and partner in the important work of supporting our students. This includes helping voters to understand the importance of the renewal of the SP&O Levy that will be on the November ballot so that we can continue to provide many crucial programs and services for our students. More information about school funding and the SP&O Levy is included in this publication. Most importantly, please remember to vote by November 8th!

Thank you for welcoming me and I look forward to serving our community.

**DR. MARCI LARSEN**

*Interim Superintendent*



Learn about the duties of the school board, read school board directors' bios, and view the board meeting calendar by visiting our website: [www.monroe.wednet.edu/about/school-board](http://www.monroe.wednet.edu/about/school-board)

**Cover Photo:** Monroe High School Boys' Soccer Team celebrates after earning a state berth for the first time in over 20 years, where they placed third.

**Photo Credit:** Striped Hat Photography



# WHERE OUR MONEY COMES FROM

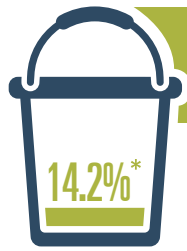
School district funding is very complex and can even be confusing for those who are well versed in finance. Generally speaking, Monroe School District receives its funding from four sources: the federal government, Washington state, local voter-approved bonds & levies, and grants & other sources.



## WA STATE FUNDING

The state of Washington provides school districts with state funding for “basic education” as defined by RCW

28A.150.220. Funding for basic education is based on a “prototypical school model” as defined by the Legislature in RCW 28A.150.260. The Basic Education Act of 1997 set a formula for giving each of the state’s school districts a certain dollar amount for every Full Time Equivalent (FTE) student (or, each student attending school all day). For students who need extra services, such as Special Education programs, Highly Capable Education, or Multilingual Education, there are state and federal formulas for additional dollars.



## LOCAL FUNDING

Because the funding provided by the state does not cover the actual costs to operate a school district, districts

rely on bonds and levies to bridge the funding gap. Both bonds and levies must be approved by local voters and are based upon local property valuations. Property owners pay a set amount for each \$1,000 of their assessed property values. Once approved, the total levy and bond amounts collected cannot be increased, which means that when community property values increase, the amount paid per \$1,000 decreases. There are exemptions for senior citizens who meet income requirements.



## FED. GOVT. FUNDING

The federal government provides financial support for high-poverty schools and students who require additional resources in order

to obtain a fair, equitable, high-quality education. Federal dollars pay for a percentage of programs including Career & Technical Education, Special Education, Native American Education, English Language Acquisition, Disability, and Nutrition as well as special grants.



## GRANTS & OTHER SOURCES

*\*These percentages reflect funding sources for the 2020-21 school year.*

## WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A BOND & A LEVY?

**Simply stated, levies are for learning and bonds are for building.** Bonds and levies are local property taxes approved by the voters of a school district that generate revenue to fund programs, services and projects that the state does not pay for as part of what they define as “basic education.”

### LEVIES



Since the funding provided by the state does not cover the actual costs to operate a school district, districts rely on funding from voter-approved levies to hire additional staff, or for student programming and services that are underfunded or not funded by the state. Some of the many things that levies help to fund may include: technology, extracurricular activities & athletics, special education, transportation, safety & security, custodial services, operations, supplies & materials, early childhood education, and other activities. There are three main types of levies: enrichment, capital (includes technology), and transportation, although this is not a complete list.

Typically, school districts propose levies of two to six years. After the allotted number of years, the levy expires. Voters must approve a renewal of funding, or local financial support for schools is no longer available. Generally, the levy community members are voting on simply replaces one that is about to expire. Levies must be approved by 50% plus one vote.

### BONDS



A bond is a long-term investment that authorizes the district to purchase property for schools, construct new schools, or modernize existing schools and athletic fields. Bonds are sold to investors who are repaid with interest over time from property tax collections, generally between 12-20 years. Upon their sale, bonds provide funds only for capital projects.

By law, bonds may not be used to pay for the day-to-day costs of operating schools or school districts. Bonds must be approved by a supermajority of 60% plus one vote.

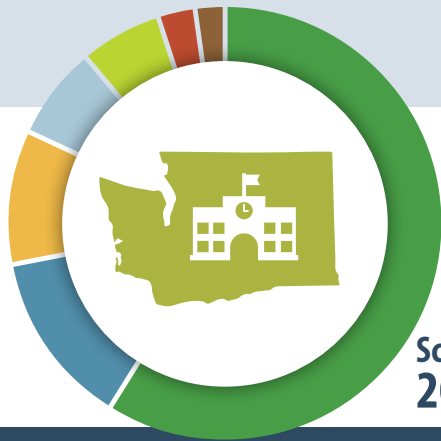
The last bond approved by local voters was in 2015, which has funded the modernization of Park Place Middle School, Salem Woods Elementary, and Frank Wagner Elementary, the expansion of Hidden River Middle School, the all-weather ball fields at Monroe High School, and many other facility improvements throughout the entire district.



Scan the QR code to learn more about the capital projects funded by this bond.

# HOW OUR MONEY IS SPENT

School districts in the state of Washington are required to annually report detailed financial data to the Washington State Office of the Superintendent (OSPI), including the "activities" on which they spend money. Below are the statewide total school district expenditures by activity compared to the total expenditures by activity in the Monroe School District for the 2020-21 school year.



School Year  
2020-21

## TOTAL SPENDING BY ACTIVITY FOR ALL WASHINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Teaching	\$10,053,000,000	59%
Teaching Support	\$2,175,000,000	13%
Other Support Activities	\$1,683,000,000	10%
Central Administration	\$1,110,000,000	7%
School Administration	\$1,021,000,000	6%
Student Transportation	\$510,000,000	3%
Food Services	\$348,000,000	2%

**TOTAL: \$16,900,000,000**



School Year  
2020-21

## TOTAL SPENDING BY ACTIVITY FOR MONROE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Teaching	\$55,820,977	62%
Teaching Support	\$8,417,177	9%
Other Support Activities	\$10,992,116	12%
Central Administration	\$4,956,167	6%
School Administration	\$5,498,417	6%
Student Transportation	\$3,069,952	3%
Food Services	\$1,290,554	1%

**TOTAL: \$90,045,360**



### TEACHING

Salaries and benefits for classroom teachers, direct classroom instruction, extracurricular activities, and payments to other districts for educational services.



### TEACHING SUPPORT

Services that support the delivery of teaching services, including guidance counseling, library services, audio-visual functions, psychological services, and health related activities.



### OTHER SUPPORT ACTIVITIES

After teaching, the largest activity grouping for school district spending is utilities, grounds care, building operations and maintenance, insurance, information systems, and other support functions.



### CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION

School board functions, the superintendent's office, business functions, human resources, centralized programs, and other district-level administrative functions, including salaries and benefits for administration staff.



### SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

Expenditures for principals (salaries & benefits) and other building level administrative functions.



### STUDENT TRANSPORTATION

Bus and other vehicle operating costs, related maintenance, and program supervision.



### FOOD SERVICES

Food-operation functions, including program supervision and federal nutrition programs.



# SCHOOL PROGRAM AND OPERATIONS 2022 LEVY

# RENEWAL!

On November 8, 2022, voters will be asked to renew Monroe School District's School Program & Operations (SP&O) Levy. The current SP&O levy was approved by voters in 2018 and is due to expire at the end of 2022.

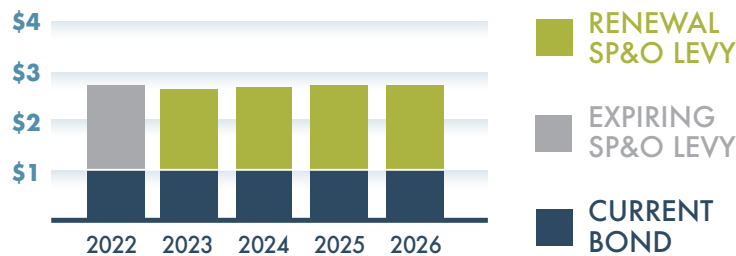
## It is not a new tax.

### Why is this levy needed?

School districts rely on voter-approved funding measures to cover costs not funded by the state to provide all students with a well-rounded education.

### Total Monroe School District Tax Rate

If approved by voters, the renewal of the SP&O Levy would allow the school district to collect an estimated \$1.71 per \$1,000 of assessed property value.



### How does our tax rate compare?

If approved by voters, the renewal of the SP&O Levy would allow the school district to collect an estimated \$1.71 per \$1,000 of assessed property value.

DISTRICT	TOTAL LOCAL SCHOOL TAX RATE *
Snohomish School District	\$4.40
Everett Public Schools	\$3.27
Lake Stevens School District	\$3.42
Northshore School District	\$3.25
<b>Monroe School District</b>	<b>\$2.61</b>
Sultan School District	\$2.07

\*2022 rates per \$1,000 of assessed property value



- Want to learn more about the renewal levy? Find answers to FAQs and more at [monroe.wednet.edu/levy2022](https://monroe.wednet.edu/levy2022)
- Para español, visite [monroe.wednet.edu/levy2022](https://monroe.wednet.edu/levy2022) o llame 360.804.2500
- For voter registration information, visit [snohomishcountywa.gov](https://snohomishcountywa.gov)

## What does this levy fund?

A renewal of the SP&O levy would directly support every MSD student by continuing funding, beyond what the state provides, for many critical day-to-day operations, programs, services, and essential staff, including:

- Athletics and extracurricular activities
- Additional teachers
- School safety and security
- Student transportation
- Special education programs
- Professional learning for staff
- Operations and building maintenance
- Instructional supplies and materials
- Additional support staff, including nurses, custodians, counselors, & paraeducators

NOVEMBER

8

# REMEMBER TO VOTE BY



6,225

STUDENTS ENROLLED



76.5%

OF STUDENTS  
REGULARLY  
ATTEND



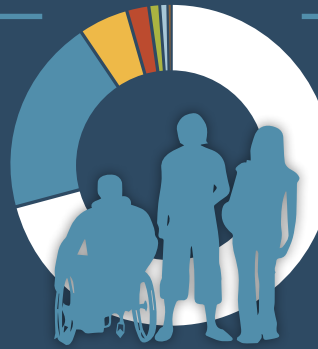
90%



CLASS OF 2021, 4-YEAR  
GRADUATION RATE  
(83% WA STATE AVERAGE)

## STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

White	64.4%
Hispanic/Latino of any race(s)	24.7%
Two or more races	6.2%
Asian	2.2%
Black/African American	1.5%
American Indian/Alaska Native	0.7%
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	0.2%



## STUDENTS IN SPECIAL PROGRAMS

18.2% SPECIAL  
EDUCATION

3.6% HIGHLY  
CAPABLE

10.3% ENGLISH LANGUAGE  
LEARNER



FREE OR REDUCED  
PRICE MEALS

## STAFF DEMOGRAPHICS

373

CERTIFICATED STAFF  
(TEACHERS, COUNSELORS,  
SPEECH LANGUAGE  
PATHOLOGISTS, ETC)

13

AVERAGE YEARS  
OF TEACHING

61.7%

TEACHERS WITH  
AT LEAST A  
MASTER'S DEGREE

38

ADMINISTRATORS  
(PRINCIPALS,  
DISTRICT)

10.8%

NATIONAL BOARD  
CERTIFIED

18.7

AVERAGE  
CLASS SIZE



CLASSIFIED SUPPORT  
STAFF (OFFICE  
STAFF, CUSTODIANS,  
PARAEDUCATORS,  
BUS DRIVERS, ETC.)

**District Assessment Scores** – State assessments were not administered to students during the 2020-21 school year due to school closures as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Previous years' assessment scores are available on the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction's website. Visit [reportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us](https://reportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us) and search for "Monroe School District."



# CONGRATULATIONS

## TO THE CLASS OF 2022!



**MONROE  
HIGH SCHOOL**



**LEADERS IN LEARNING  
HIGH SCHOOL**



**SKY VALLEY  
EDUCATION CENTER**

**450**



**GRADUATES**

**FROM MONROE HIGH SCHOOL,  
LEADERS IN LEARNING, AND SKY  
VALLEY EDUCATION CENTER**

**\$104K+**

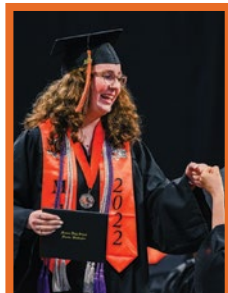
AWARDED IN LOCAL SCHOLARSHIPS FROM THE  
MONROE PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOUNDATION

**124**

**SENIORS ATTENDED  
RUNNING START TO  
EARN COLLEGE CREDITS**

**46**

**SENIORS EARNED AN  
ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE  
ALONG WITH THEIR  
HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA**





## Monroe School District 103

14692 179th Avenue SE  
Monroe, WA 98272

T 360.804.2500  
[www.monroe.wednet.edu](http://www.monroe.wednet.edu)

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# INVITATION TO THE COMMUNITY

There are many ways you can get involved in our schools. We invite you to contact your local school to ask how you can help or visit our website at [www.monroe.wednet.edu/community/volunteer](http://www.monroe.wednet.edu/community/volunteer) to learn about volunteer opportunities and our requirements for all volunteers. We hope to see you in one of our schools soon!



## Questioning why you are you receiving this publication?

An estimated 70 percent of the residents within the school district do not have school-age children in Monroe School District. The purpose of this publication, therefore, is to let those members of the community know about the programs and activities taking place in the Monroe School District. This publication is not mailed using an address list. Instead, to greatly reduce the cost of postage, we use a bulk mailing process that has it delivered to every residential customer on each carrier's route.

### Notice of Non-discrimination

The Monroe School District does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, honorably discharged veteran or military status, sexual orientation including gender expression or identity, the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following employees have been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination:

**Title IX Coordinator & Compliance  
Coordinator for 28A.640 and 28A.642 RCW**  
Dan Johnston  
[johnstond@monroe.wednet.edu](mailto:johnstond@monroe.wednet.edu)

**Section 504/ADA Coordinator**  
David Paratore  
[paratored@monroe.wednet.edu](mailto:paratored@monroe.wednet.edu)  
14692 - 179th Avenue SE, Monroe, WA 98272  
(360) 804.2609

The Monroe School District will also take steps to assure that national origin persons who lack English language skills can participate in all education programs, services and activities. For information regarding translation services or transitional bilingual education programs, contact: Chris Cronas, [cronasc@monroe.wednet.edu](mailto:cronasc@monroe.wednet.edu)

