



SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL

Legislative Summary

Res 31860

Record No.: Res 31860

Type: Resolution (Res)

Status: Adopted

Version: 1

Ord. no:

In Control: City Clerk

File Created: 01/10/2019

Final Action: 01/25/2019

Title: A RESOLUTION supporting the Seattle Public Schools' Proposition 1 and Proposition 2 and urging Seattle voters to vote "Yes" on Proposition 1 and Proposition 2 on the February 12, 2019, special election ballot.

Notes:

Filed with City Clerk: Date 1/25/2019

Mayor's Signature: 1/25/2019

Sponsors: González ,Johnson

Vetoed by Mayor:

Veto Overridden:

Veto Sustained:

Attachments:

Drafter: Emilia.Sanchez@seattle.gov

Filing Requirements/Dept Action:

History of Legislative File

Legal Notice Published: Yes No

Ver- sion:	Acting Body:	Date:	Action:	Sent To:	Due Date:	Return Date:	Result:
1	City Clerk	01/10/2019	sent for review	Council President's Office			
	Action Text:	The Resolution (Res) was sent for review. to the Council President's Office					
	Notes:						
1	Council President's Office	01/10/2019	sent for review	City Council			
	Action Text:	The Resolution (Res) was sent for review. to the City Council					
	Notes:						
1	City Council	01/14/2019	referred	City Council			
1	City Council	01/14/2019	adopted				Pass
	Action Text:	The Motion carried, the Resolution (Res) was adopted by the following vote, and the President signed the Resolution:					
	Notes:						

PUBLIC COMMENT ON RESOLUTION 31860

In accordance with Revised Code of Washington 42.17A.555, and Seattle Municipal Code 2.04.300, Council President Harrell provided the public an opportunity to speak in favor of or in opposition to Resolution 31860.

Alex Tsimerman addressed the Council in opposition to Resolution 31860.

Melissa Pailthorp addressed the Council in support of Resolution 31860.

Jake Ewart addressed the Council in support of Resolution 31860.

Public Comment on Resolution 31860 was closed.

Motion was made and duly seconded to adopt Resolution 31860.

In Favor: 8 Councilmember Bagshaw, Council President Harrell, Councilmember Herbold, Councilmember Johnson, Councilmember Juarez, Councilmember Mosqueda, Councilmember O'Brien, Councilmember Sawant

Opposed: 0

- 1 City Clerk 01/17/2019 submitted for Mayor
Mayor's signature
Action Text: The Resolution (Res) was submitted for Mayor's signature. to the Mayor
Notes:
- 1 Mayor 01/25/2019 Signed
Action Text: The Resolution (Res) was Signed.
Notes:
- 1 Mayor 01/25/2019 returned City Clerk
Action Text: The Resolution (Res) was returned. to the City Clerk
Notes:
- 1 City Clerk 01/25/2019 attested by City Clerk
Action Text: The Resolution (Res) was attested by City Clerk.
Notes:
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CITY OF SEATTLE

RESOLUTION 31860

A RESOLUTION supporting the Seattle Public Schools' Proposition 1 and Proposition 2 and urging Seattle voters to vote "Yes" on Proposition 1 and Proposition 2 on the February 12, 2019, special election ballot.

WHEREAS, as of October 2017, there were approximately 53,775 students enrolled in Seattle School District No. 1 (SPS) in 103 school buildings across the City of Seattle; and

WHEREAS, the students enrolled at SPS are increasingly diverse and come to the classroom with varying needs. For example, SPS-enrolled students speak 154 languages and/or dialects; 33.9 percent of SPS students are eligible for free and reduced-price meals; 21.7 percent of SPS students speak a home language other than English; 4,280 SPS students are currently experiencing housing instability and/or homelessness; and 6,748 special education students are enrolled at SPS; and

WHEREAS, investing in public education and strengthening equitable access to high-quality education helps students and their families optimize their potential. Equitable access to high-quality education will prepare and build future leaders to participate in our workforce while strengthening community and civic life; and

WHEREAS, the opportunity and academic achievement gap persists for SPS students and disproportionately impacts students of color, students who are experiencing housing instability and/or homelessness, students needing special education, and students who are English Language Learners (ELL). For example, in the 2016-2017 school year, the adjusted four-year cohort graduation rate for all students was 79 percent, yet for Alaska Native/Native American students it was 50 percent, for Black and Latinx students it was

1 71.4 percent and 64 percent, respectively. Students needing special education had a 54
2 percent graduation rate, ELL students had a 55.7 percent graduation rate, and students
3 experiencing homelessness and/or housing instability had a graduation rate of 47.5
4 percent; and

5 WHEREAS, Article IX, Section 1 of the Washington State Constitution states that “it is the
6 paramount duty of the state to make ample provision for the education of all children
7 residing within its borders, without distinction or preference on account of race, color,
8 caste, or sex”; and

9 WHEREAS, a funding gap between what the State of Washington allocates for public education
10 and what Seattle’s public-school students need persists even after the resolution of
11 *McCleary, et al., et al. v. State of Washington*, No. 84362-7 (*McCleary Decision*); and

12 WHEREAS, as the largest school district in the state, SPS has asked voters to approve levies to
13 close these historic and ongoing funding gaps to support school district operations and to
14 fund capital projects, improvements, major maintenance and repairs through operations
15 levies and capital levies; and

16 WHEREAS, in 2018, the Washington State Legislature authorized school districts to seek voter
17 approval of special levies to raise funding for maintenance and operation support (RCW
18 84.52.053), allowing SPS to seek additional levy funding for district-wide capital,
19 maintenance, and operation needs; and

20 WHEREAS, the SPS Board of Directors voted unanimously on October 30, 2018, to place a
21 three-year operations levy and a six-year capital levy before Seattle voters on the
22 February 12, 2019, special election ballot; and

1 WHEREAS, Proposition 1 will bridge the funding gap for day-to-day operations important to
2 building student success and health by, for example, funding the following basic
3 education needs of SPS students: special education services for 7,000 students; essential
4 educational costs such as staff salaries, nurses, librarians, counselors, family support
5 workers, and instructional and curriculum materials; additional Science, Technology,
6 Engineering and Math education; and evidence-based strategies to close the opportunity
7 gap; and

8 WHEREAS, Proposition 2 will fund significant capital construction and renovations to address
9 capacity challenges for a growing school district by adding a total of 1,908 classroom
10 seats to the school district; and

11 WHEREAS, Proposition 2 is essential to replacing and/or modernizing Rainier Beach High
12 School, Mercer International Middle School, Alki Elementary, Kimball Elementary,
13 Montlake Elementary, Northgate Elementary, John Rogers Elementary, and Viewlands
14 Elementary School. Additionally, if approved by voters, Proposition 2 funding will be
15 utilized to replace aging portables at West Seattle Elementary with new classrooms; and

16 WHEREAS, Proposition 2 will improve safety and security of SPS students at every school by
17 funding secure entrances, earthquake safety improvements, and upgraded fire alarm
18 systems; and

19 WHEREAS, Proposition 2 will fund classroom technology and supports for student learning as
20 well as improve district systems and infrastructure; and

21 WHEREAS, Proposition 2 will fund the design phase and planning of future projects, including
22 Aki Kurose Middle School and Sacajawea Elementary, to meet the needs of a growing
23 public-school student population in the City of Seattle; and

1 WHEREAS, Propositions 1 and 2 complement the City of Seattle’s Families, Education,
2 Preschool, and Promise Levy (FEPP Levy) (Ordinance 125604 and Resolution 31821),
3 which was approved by voters in the November 2018, general election; and

4 WHEREAS, The City of Seattle has a long history of partnering with SPS and its Board of
5 Directors to ensure that FEPP Levy investments complement instructional seat-time and
6 initiatives led by SPS for the educational benefit of Seattle students and their families;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, The City of Seattle recognizes that an ongoing partnership with SPS and its Board
9 of Directors is an important partnership that yields meaningful investments in the
10 children and young adults enrolled at SPS; and

11 WHEREAS, after notice in accordance with RCW 42.17A.555 and Seattle Municipal Code
12 Section 2.04.300, persons in favor of Propositions 1 and 2 and those opposed to it have
13 been given an equal opportunity to share their views in an open public meeting; NOW,
14 THEREFORE,

15 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEATTLE, THE**
16 **MAYOR CONCURRING, THAT:**

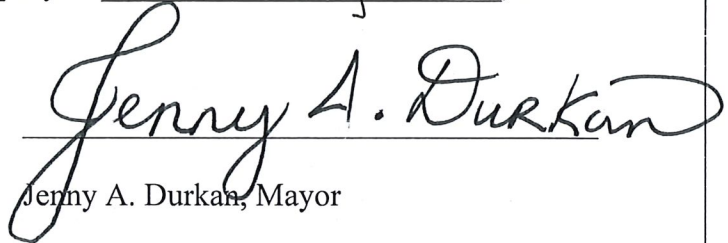
17 Section 1. The Mayor and Seattle City Council urge Seattle voters to vote “Yes” on
18 Seattle Public Schools’ Proposition 1 and Proposition 2 in the February 12, 2019, special
19 election.

1 Adopted by the City Council the 14th day of January, 2019,
2 and signed by me in open session in authentication of its adoption this 14th day of
3 January, 2019.

4 

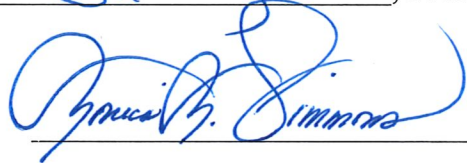
5 President _____ of the City Council

6 The Mayor concurred the 25th day of January, 2019.

7 

8 Jenny A. Durkan, Mayor

9 Filed by me this 25th day of January, 2019.

10 

11 Monica Martinez Simmons, City Clerk

12 (Seal)

