



# Gabbing with Gaston

## Learning About the Levies

with Special Guest: Superintendent Rob Morrow

Rob Morrow provided an informational PowerPoint Presentation to review facts of the 3 Levies that will be voted on **Feb. 13th** [Ballot drop box located at Rock Creek Elementary]. Please click on links for details of each Levy.

- [Proposition 1. Replacement Education Programs & Operations \(EP&O\) Levy](#)
- [Proposition 2. Replacement Technology Levy](#)
- [Proposition 3. Bus Levy](#)

**ADDITIONAL LINKS**  
[Budget Spending](#)  
[WA State Funding](#)  
[Tahoma School District](#)

**Bonds vs. Levies** | Bonds are for building, Levies are for learning. Fun Fact: Leftover money from Bonds CANNOT be used for Levy programs.

**EP&O Levy vs. Technology Levy** | EP&O are costs to run a program such as salaries and supplies. The Tech and Bus Levies are both Capital Levies, meaning they pay for assets such as computers, equipment, fleet. For example the Bus Levy will pay to purchase the fleet of buses, but EP&O will pay for gas, maintenance, bus driver salaries and all costs that it takes to "operate" school transportation.

**Why We Need Levies** | We have Levies to pay for beyond basic education programs that the state will NOT Pay. Basic education does NOT include all costs related to special-education, before/after school programs, etc. Click here for a [Full List \(bullets of Prop 1, pg 2\)](#).

**Keep In Mind** | Our society is changing,. We face new threats of shootings, suicide, bullying and many more. The way to fund intruder training, trauma counseling, meal plans, self prevention, social media awareness, etc. are through local levies.

## Food Fight!

Parents shared concerns with a couple of issues in the lunchroom.

A few parents mentioned that there seems to be an issue with the younger grades scarfing all the menu items before the higher grades get to lunch. Leaving the higher graders to have "sloppy seconds." For example: 'What's for Lunch' says Mozzarella Sticks or BBQ pork sandwiches for lunch. However, by the time a higher grade student get to lunch, Mozzarella Sticks are gone and it's hello "Sloppy Joes" (i.e. BBQ pork sandwiches)!

Another parent noticed a pattern of when a substitute teacher is present in Kindergarten classrooms, they struggle to get the kiddos to lunch on time (approximately, 3 minutes behind to lunch), yet students are still dismissed at normal time. This causes the Kindergartners to be rushed and not seem to have time to finish their lunch.



Share your [2¢](#)

All Concerns, Questions & Suggestions are Welcome!  
Principal Gaston



### Previous Session Topics

STEM

Music Program

Library Changes

Celebration of Learning Makeover

Please email Shelly with any concerns, questions or suggestions. She wants to hear from you! [sgaston@tahomasd.us](mailto:sgaston@tahomasd.us)

### Principal Comments

- Thank you to Jill Paust for creating this newsletter for those who weren't able to attend.
- I spoke with our Food Services Director and she explained that there were two menu items listed because the younger students had trouble with the BBQ pork sandwiches (sloppy joes) . After discovering how upset some 4th and 5th grade were because they did not get mozzarella bread sticks, they have decided not to serve them and BBQ pork sandwiches on the same day.
- We will continue to work with our teachers and substitutes to ensure that our students get to the lunchroom on time.