



**State of Washington  
PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION**

711 Capitol Way Rm. 206, PO Box 40908 • Olympia, Washington 98504-0908  
(360) 753-1111 • FAX (360) 753-1112

**Toll Free 1-877-601-2828 • E-mail: [pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov](mailto:pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov) • Website: [www.pdca.wa.gov](http://www.pdca.wa.gov)**

June 26, 2019

Delivered electronically to "white@livengoodlaw.com"

Subject: Complaint filed by Susan Wilkins, PDC Case 50704

Dear Lake Washington School District Officials:

Below is a copy of an electronic letter sent to Susan Wilkins concerning a complaint filed with the Public Disclosure Commission (PDC).

As noted in the letter to Susan Wilkins, the PDC has dismissed this matter in accordance with RCW 42.17A.755(1) and will not conduct a more formal investigation into these allegations or take further enforcement action in this matter.

If you have questions, you may contact Fox Blackhorn at 1-360-753-1980 toll-free at 1-877-601-2828, or by email at [pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov](mailto:pdcc@pdcc.wa.gov).

Sincerely,

/s \_\_\_\_\_  
Fox Blackhorn  
Compliance Coordinator 2

Endorsed by,

/s \_\_\_\_\_  
Barbara Sandahl  
Deputy Director  
For Peter Lavallee  
Executive Director



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June 26, 2019

Delivered electronically to "susanwi\_1234@yahoo.com"

Subject: Complaint regarding Lake Washington School District Officials, PDC Case 50704

Dear Susan Wilkins:

The Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) has completed its review of the complaint you filed on April 23, 2019. The complaint alleged that Officials and Public Employees of the Lake Washington School District may have violated RCW 42.17A.555 for misuse of public facilities to support a levy measure.

PDC staff reviewed the allegations; the applicable statutes, rules, and reporting requirements; the response provided by the Lake Washington School District (District); the applicable PDC reports filed by Respondent; and queried the Respondent's data in the PDC contribution and expenditure database, to determine whether the record supports a finding of one or more violations.

Based on staff's review, we found the following:

- The District passed Resolution 2259 on December 3, 2018, authorizing a levy measure to be placed on the ballot for the April 23, 2019, Special Election.
- The District created one informational flyer which was mailed to residents of the school district, providing an objective and fair presentation of the facts surrounding the district's needs and the anticipated costs and impact of the levy measure if passed, including projections of tax rate based upon a reasonable estimate of property appreciation.
- The District also included information concerning the amount, purpose, and uses of levy funds in the School District's regularly published newsletter, distributed to any who have signed up for the distribution list, along with links to videos posted on Youtube concerning the district's needs and uses of levy proceeds.
- PDC Interpretation 01-03, Guidelines for School Districts in Election Campaigns, provides that school districts are authorized to distribute a single districtwide objective and fair presentation of the facts for each ballot measure, and if a district distributes more than one publication, the district must be able to demonstrate that this is normal and regular conduct as provided by WAC 390-05-271 and WAC 390-05-273.
- The District's response included examples of prior newsletters distributed by the district to those on their distribution list, including videos related to matters affecting the district, schools, and community which were unrelated to the levy measure, and are published on a regular basis as part of the district's normal and regular conduct.

Based on our findings staff has determined that, in this instance, the evidence does not support a finding of a violation warranting further investigation.

Based on this information, the PDC finds that no further action is warranted and has dismissed this matter in accordance with RCW 42.17A.755(1).

If you have questions, you may contact Fox Blackhorn at 1-360-753-1980 toll-free at 1-877-601-2828, or by e-mail at [pdc@pdc.wa.gov](mailto:pdc@pdc.wa.gov).

Sincerely,

/s \_\_\_\_\_  
Fox Blackhorn  
Compliance Coordinator 2

Endorsed by,

/s \_\_\_\_\_  
Barbara Sandahl  
Deputy Director  
For Peter Lavallee  
Executive Director

cc: Lake Washington School District