



Operating Referendum Discussion – Board Renewal of Expiring Authority

Edina Public Schools, ISD No. 273

Regular Meeting

June 9, 2025

Operating Referendum

November election ballot question, stated per pupil

Allows districts to generate additional general education revenue

Revenue can be a combination of local property tax levies & state aid (Edina Public Schools doesn't qualify for aid)

Annual levy, maximum length of 10 years
Can be renewed by School Board one time

Taxes spread on Referendum Market Value
(most property types pay same taxes per dollar of property value)

Revenue may be used for any operating or capital expenses
(e.g. staff salaries & benefits, utilities, supplies, technology)

Referendum Allowances

Operating Referendum and Capital Project Levy Revenue

Election Year	Taxes Payable	Fiscal Year	Voter Approved		Board Renewal*		Tax Rate
			Operating Referendum	Renewal Years for Expiring Authorities	First Date	Deadline	Capital Project Levy
2023	2024	2025	2,204.03				5.932%
2024	2025	2026	2,288.42				5.932%
2025	2026	2027	2,360.90				5.932%
2026	2027	2028	2,407.73	**	July 1, 2025	June 15, 2027	5.932%
2027	2028	2029	0.00	***			5.932%
2028	2029	2030	0.00				5.932%
2029	2030	2031	0.00				5.932%
2030	2031	2032	0.00				5.932%
2031	2032	2033	0.00	^^			0.000%
2032	2033	2034	0.00				0.000%
2033	2034	2035	0.00				0.000%
2034	2035	2036	0.00				0.000%

Estimated Revenue for Fiscal Year 2026

Operating Referendum \$ 21,447,478

Capital Project Levy \$ 9,184,594

Estimated FY 2026 CPL Revenue Per Pupil: \$ 968.08

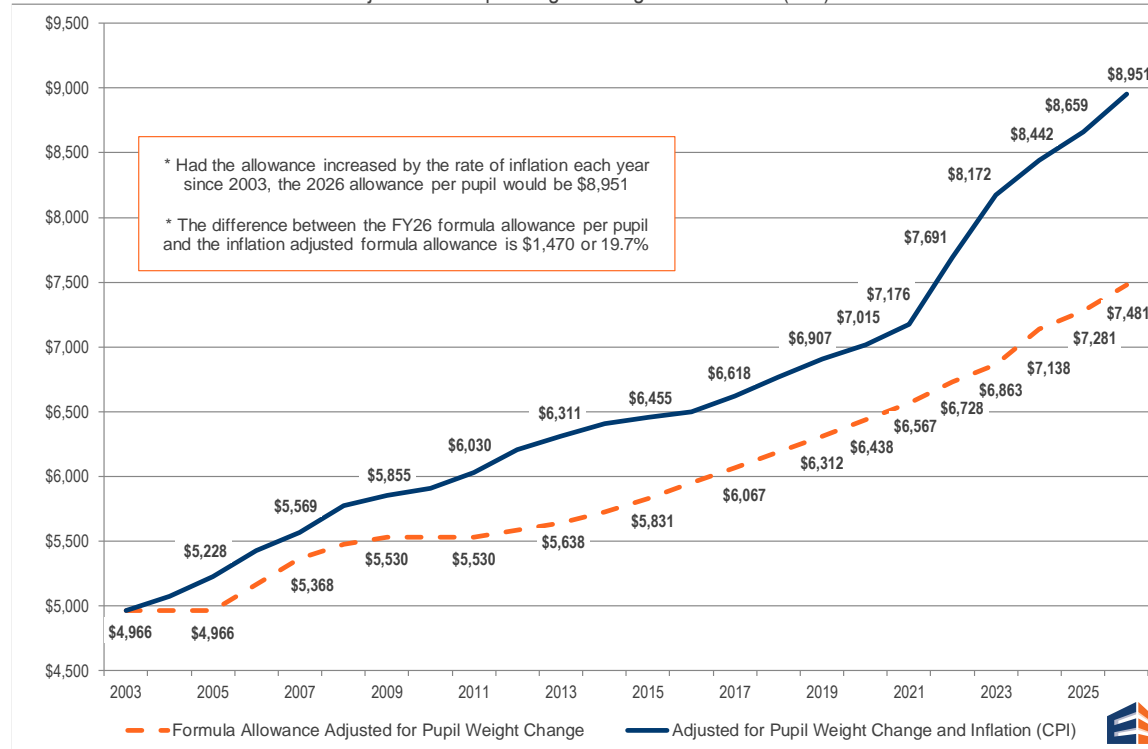
Notes:

- * Minnesota Statutes, Section 126C.17 allows school boards to renew an existing operating referendum one-time for the same term and same amount
- ** First year voters can renew expiring voter approved operating referendum authority
- *** Last year voters can renew expiring voter approved operating referendum authority
- ^^ Last year to renew expiring capital project levy

General Education Formula Allowance

General Education Formula Allowance, 2003-2026

Adjusted for Pupil Weight Change and Inflation (CPI)



Source: MDE December 2024 CPI Inflation Estimates and Minnesota Laws 2023

Reliance on Referendums

- Other funding sources also have not kept pace with inflation or costs of providing services
- Only options for districts to bridge funding gap are to cut budgets or request operating referendum and/or capital project levy revenue authority from voters; most districts have done both

School Board Renewal of Operating Referendum

- Renew authority up to the same authority and length
 - ✓ Timeframe for Board renewal is July 1, 2025 through June 15, 2027
 - ✓ Original authority was approved for a 10 year term
- Must allow for public comment (can be at same meeting)
- Board approves a resolution and submits to MDE and Hennepin County

School Board Renewal Information

Expiration	Timeframe to Renew	# Authorities	# Board Renewed	# Ask Voters	In Progress
FY24	5/25/23-6/15/23	13	13	0	0
FY25	5/25/23-6/15/24	16	15	1*	0
FY26	7/1/23-6/15/25	46	44	0	2
FY 27	7/1/24-6/15/26	20	10	0	10

*District requested longer term and an inflationary factor that was not included in the original authority.