Edina Public Schools
DEFINING EXCELLENCE

Board Meeting Date: 11/9/2026

Title: Review and Comment Requirements

Type: Discussion

Presenter(s): Mert Woodard – Executive Director, Finance & Operations

Description: As the School Board continues to consider potential facility needs and funding options, administration will provide an overview of the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) Review and Comment process. Under Minn. Stat. § 123B.71, Review and Comment is required for certain school construction, expansion, and remodeling projects prior to a school district holding a bond referendum.

The purpose of this discussion is informational and is not intended to seek Board approval of a Review and Comment submission or a decision regarding a future referendum. Rather, the discussion will help the Board understand the requirements that would apply should it determine that seeking voter approval for proposed facility investments is appropriate.

The discussion will include an overview of when Review and Comment is required; information that must be included in a submission, including enrollment projections, facility needs, proposed project scope and costs, financing and tax impacts; the School Board's role in the process; MDE's review timeline; and the publication and public meeting requirements that apply prior to a bond referendum.

Understanding these requirements will help the School Board consider the steps and timing that would be necessary should it choose to move forward with a future bond referendum.

Recommendation: No formal action is requested. Administration recommends that the School Board review and discuss the MDE Review and Comment requirements and provide any questions or direction that should be considered as facility and potential funding discussions continue.

Desired Outcomes from the Board: School Board understanding of the purpose, requirements, content, timing, and Board responsibilities associated with the MDE Review and Comment process should the Board decide to pursue voter approval for future facility investments.

Attachments:

1. Review & Comment Draft