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# **Preliminary Proposed 2025 Payable 2026 Property Tax Levy**

**Presented to the School Board  
Marie Schrul  
Chief Financial Officer  
September 30, 2025**

# Purpose

- To provide an overview of the school district's Preliminary Proposed 2025 Payable 2026 Property Tax Levy
- To certify the Preliminary Proposed 2025 Payable 2026 Property Tax Levy by the 9/30 deadline
- Set the date for the December Truth in Taxation meeting



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# Key Messages

- Preliminary levy certification is part of the overall levy process & due to the county auditor and the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) by Sept. 30
- Based upon calculations provided by MDE in September
- Adjustments to the levy are still being made which will likely change the total amount
- Certifying the “Maximum” allows for greater flexibility
- Levy can only move down after Oct. 1
- The School Board is scheduled to certify the final 2025 Payable 2026 property tax levy on Dec. 16



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# Levy Basics

- School levy authority is established in law
- School budgets are a combination of state, federal and local funding, including voter approved operating, bond & technology levies
- Unlike cities and counties, the 2025 Payable 2026 school levy is for the following school year (2026-2027)
- Levy revenue is approximately 24% of the district's total budget



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# Factors Impacting School Levies

- Changes in tax base (increases often result in less state aid)
- Changes in enrollment
- Legislative changes to education formulas
- Referendum
- Employment changes that drive severance and unemployment levies
- Capital bonds, refunding of bonds, abatements, long term facilities maintenance & health and safety projects, lease costs



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# General Fund Levies

General Fund	Certified 2024 Payable 2025			Preliminary Proposed 2025 Payable 2026			Preliminary Levy Change
	RMV Amount	NTC Amount	Total	RMV Amount	NTC Amount	Total	Amount
Operating Referendum - Voter Approved	\$ 17,406,637.76	0.00	\$ 17,406,637.76	\$ 16,959,178.26	0.00	\$ 16,959,178.26	\$ (447,459.50)
Prior Years Adjustments	(184,999.00)	0.00	(184,999.00)	137,561.57	0.00	137,561.57	322,560.57
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>17,221,638.76</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>17,221,638.76</b>	<b>17,096,739.83</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>17,096,739.83</b>	<b>(124,898.93)</b>
Equity	859,023.44	0.00	859,023.44	782,046.07	0.00	782,046.07	(76,977.37)
Local Optional	6,792,010.21	0.00	6,792,010.21	6,394,099.81	0.00	6,394,099.81	(397,910.40)
Transition	29,029.31	0.00	29,029.31	27,342.04	0.00	27,342.04	(1,687.27)
1st Tier Board Approved Referendum	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Prior Years Adjustments	13,073.96	0.00	13,073.96	81,920.63	0.00	81,920.63	68,846.67
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>7,693,136.92</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>7,693,136.92</b>	<b>7,285,408.55</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>7,285,408.55</b>	<b>(407,728.37)</b>
Capital Projects Referendum/Tech Levy	0.00	7,186,622.56	7,186,622.56	0.00	7,087,369.63	7,087,369.63	(99,252.93)
Operating Capital	0.00	1,888,790.42	1,888,790.42	0.00	1,832,988.34	1,832,988.34	(55,802.08)
Alt Teacher Comp (QComp)	0.00	772,093.14	772,093.14	0.00	773,122.35	773,122.35	1,029.21
Achievement & Integration	0.00	374,326.65	374,326.65	0.00	384,482.07	384,482.07	10,155.42
Reemployment Insurance	0.00	92,000.00	92,000.00	0.00	92,000.00	92,000.00	0.00
Safe Schools	0.00	338,140.80	338,140.80	0.00	330,343.20	330,343.20	(7,797.60)
Safe Schools Intermediate	0.00	140,892.00	140,892.00	0.00	137,643.00	137,643.00	(3,249.00)
Career and Technical	0.00	385,308.34	385,308.34	0.00	385,308.34	385,308.34	0.00
Annual Other Post Employment Benefits	0.00	2,053,817.00	2,053,817.00	0.00	1,128,037.00	1,128,037.00	(925,780.00)
Long Term Facilities Maintenance	0.00	5,060,914.00	5,060,914.00	0.00	6,353,773.54	6,353,773.54	1,292,859.54
Building/Land Lease	0.00	1,965,195.00	1,965,195.00	0.00	2,068,806.00	2,068,806.00	103,611.00
<b>Total Before Adjustments</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>13,071,477.35</b>	<b>13,071,477.35</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>13,486,503.84</b>	<b>13,486,503.84</b>	<b>415,026.49</b>
Prior Years Adjustments	0.00	1,668,325.02	1,668,325.02	0.00	166,312.75	166,312.75	(1,502,012.27)
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>14,739,802.37</b>	<b>14,739,802.37</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>13,652,816.59</b>	<b>13,652,816.59</b>	<b>(1,086,985.78)</b>
<b>Total General Fund</b>	<b>\$ 24,914,775.68</b>	<b>\$ 21,926,424.93</b>	<b>\$ 46,841,200.61</b>	<b>\$ 24,382,148.38</b>	<b>\$ 20,740,186.22</b>	<b>\$ 45,122,334.60</b>	<b>\$ (1,718,866.01)</b>



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# Community Service Fund Levies

Community Service Fund	Certified 2024 Payable 2025			Preliminary Proposed 2025 Payable 2026			Preliminary Levy Change
	RMV Amount	NTC Amount	Total	RMV Amount	NTC Amount	Total	Amount
Basic Community Education	0.00	\$ 553,112.82	\$ 553,112.82	0.00	\$ 561,211.80	\$ 561,211.80	\$ 8,098.98
Early Child Family	0.00	381,176.77	381,176.77	0.00	289,480.05	289,480.05	(91,696.72)
Home Visiting	0.00	10,260.00	10,260.00	0.00	9,960.00	9,960.00	(300.00)
Adults w/ Disabilities	0.00	10,121.67	10,121.67	0.00	9,241.11	9,241.11	(880.56)
School Age Care	0.00	300,000.00	300,000.00	0.00	375,000.00	375,000.00	75,000.00
Prior Years Adjustments	0.00	103,242.27	103,242.27	0.00	77,581.16	77,581.16	(25,661.11)
<b>Total Community Service Fund</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,357,913.53</b>	<b>\$ 1,357,913.53</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,322,474.12</b>	<b>\$ 1,322,474.12</b>	<b>\$ (35,439.41)</b>



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# Debt Service Fund Levies

	Certified 2024 Payable 2025			Preliminary Proposed 2025 Payable 2026			Preliminary Levy Change
	RMV Amount	NTC Amount	Total	RMV Amount	NTC Amount	Total	Amount
<b>Debt Service Fund</b>							
Debt Service Voter-Approved	0.00	\$ 17,821,336.00	\$ 17,821,336.00	0.00	\$ 15,889,336.00	\$ 15,889,336.00	\$ (1,932,000.00)
Debt Service Voter-Approved	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,536,926.00	3,536,926.00	3,536,926.00
Debt Excess	0.00	(440,010.92)	(440,010.92)	0.00	(605,944.60)	(605,944.60)	(165,933.68)
Prior Years Adjustments	0.00	19,811.21	19,811.21	0.00	64,897.34	64,897.34	45,086.13
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>17,401,136.29</b>	<b>17,401,136.29</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>18,885,214.74</b>	<b>18,885,214.74</b>	<b>1,484,078.45</b>
Debt Service Other	0.00	552,848.00	552,848.00	0.00	1,284,751.00	1,284,751.00	731,903.00
Debt Excess	0.00	(13,649.82)	(13,649.82)	0.00	(48,994.44)	(48,994.44)	(35,344.62)
Prior Years Adjustments	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>539,198.18</b>	<b>539,198.18</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>1,235,756.56</b>	<b>1,235,756.56</b>	<b>696,558.38</b>
<b>Total Debt Service Fund</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$ 17,940,334.47</b>	<b>\$ 17,940,334.47</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$ 20,120,971.30</b>	<b>\$ 20,120,971.30</b>	<b>\$ 2,180,636.83</b>
<b>Total - All Funds</b>	<b>\$ 24,914,775.68</b>	<b>\$ 41,224,672.93</b>	<b>\$ 66,139,448.61</b>	<b>\$ 24,382,148.38</b>	<b>\$ 42,183,631.64</b>	<b>\$ 66,565,780.02</b>	<b>\$ 426,331.41</b>



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# Preliminary Proposed 2025 Payable 2026 Levy

Fund	Certified 2024 Payable 2025			Preliminary Proposed 2025 Payable 2026				
	RMV Amount	NTC Amount	Total	RMV Amount	NTC Amount	Total	Preliminary Levy Change	% Change
General	\$ 24,914,775.68	\$ 21,926,424.93	\$ 46,841,200.61	\$ 24,382,148.38	\$ 20,740,186.22	\$ 45,122,334.60	\$ (1,718,866.01)	-3.67%
Community Service	0.00	1,357,913.53	1,357,913.53	0.00	1,322,474.12	1,322,474.12	(35,439.41)	-2.61%
Debt Service	0.00	17,940,334.47	17,940,334.47	0.00	20,120,971.30	20,120,971.30	2,180,636.83	12.15%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 24,914,775.68</b>	<b>\$ 41,224,672.93</b>	<b>\$ 66,139,448.61</b>	<b>\$ 24,382,148.38</b>	<b>\$ 42,183,631.64</b>	<b>\$ 66,565,780.02</b>	<b>\$ 426,331.41</b>	<b>0.64%</b>



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# Estimated Annual Property Tax Impact

## Ehlers Public Finance Advisors



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# Levy Timeline

Date	Action
July – September	District submits levy information to MDE
September 8	MDE provides preliminary levy calculations
September 30	School Board meeting to certify the Preliminary Proposed 2025 Payable 2026 Property Tax Levy
September 30	Deadline for the district to provide the county with the preliminary proposed levy and the date of the truth in taxation meeting. The proposed levy and current school year budget will be discussed at the truth in taxation hearing.
November 10-24	County mails property tax statements showing estimated Payable 2026 property taxes and meeting date/time/location for the final levy and budget discussions
December 2	Proposed meeting date for the Truth in Taxation meeting, 6:00 p.m. (time certain)
December 16	School Board meeting to adopt the final 2025 Payable 2026 Property Tax Levy
December 29	School district deadline to certify final adopted levies to home county auditor



# Recommended Actions

- Certify a “Maximum” Proposed 2025 Payable 2026 Property Tax Levy
- Set the Truth in Taxation meeting for December 2, 2025 at 6 p.m. at Oak Park Learning Center, 6355 Osman Avenue North, Stillwater, MN 55082



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# Questions