



Board Meeting Date: 6/9/2025

Title: Operating Referendum Renewal

Type: Discussion

Presenter(s): Dr. Dan Bittman, Interim Superintendent; and Mert Woodard, Director of Finance & Operations

Description: The legislative session of 2023 resulted in an amendment to the State's Referendum Revenue statute authorizing School Boards to extend existing operating referendums without voter approval. The District's current referendum authority was approved by residents on November 7, 2017 for taxes payable in 2018 through taxes payable in 2027.

The District's estimated per pupil operating referendum authority for taxes payable in 2025 (fiscal year 2026) is \$2,260.63 for total revenue of \$21,447,478.46. This represents approximately 13.62% of Edina's total General Fund operating revenue. The estimated per pupil authority for the last year of authority, taxes payable in 2027, is \$2,375.57.

To renew an operating referendum without voter approval, the following conditions must be met:

- (1) The per pupil amount of the proposed renewed operating referendum authority must be the same as the expiring referendum authority;
- (2) The term of the renewed referendum cannot be longer than the initial term approved by the voters;
- (3) The School Board must adopt a formal resolution renewing the expiring levy after a public meeting is held allowing public comment on the proposed renewal;
- (4) The expiring referendum authority cannot have been previously renewed.

The Edina School Board's window to renew the existing referendum authority via resolution begins July 1, 2025 and ends June 15, 2027.

Recommendation: There is no recommended action.

Desired Outcomes from the Board: Prepare to discuss the School Board's authority to extend the District's existing operating referendum authority.

Attachments:

1. Slide Deck - School Board Operating Referendum Renewal
2. Resolution Draft – Operating Referendum Renewal