



TO: School Board Members

FROM: Peter Olson-Skog, Superintendent

DATE: August 10, 2026

SUBJECT: Approval of the School District General Election Ballot Language for a Capital Project Levy

BACKGROUND

District administration has prepared the proposed ballot language for a capital projects levy question to be presented to voters at the general election. A sample with the proposed language is included in the board packet.

The proposed ballot question would authorize a capital projects levy of 4.027% of the School District's net tax capacity. The levy is projected to generate approximately \$4.6 million annually, beginning with taxes payable in 2027, and would remain in effect for ten years. The estimated total amount generated over the ten-year authorization period is approximately \$46 million.

Revenue from the levy would be used to fund the capital projects identified by the District. The Minnesota Department of Education has completed its Review and Comment process and issued a positive Review and Comment for the proposed projects.

The proposed ballot language has been drafted in consultation with Ehlers Public Finance Advisors to accurately describe the levy authorization and comply with applicable election requirements. School Board approval of the ballot language is required before the question may be submitted for inclusion on the general election ballot.

RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of School District 197 to approve the General Election ballot language for the proposed Capital Projects Levy authorization as presented.