



# **Operating Referendum Board Renewal of Expiring Authority**

Long Prairie-Grey Eagle Schools, ISD 2753

School Board Meeting

June 16, 2025

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# Operating Referendum

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November election ballot question, stated per pupil; no cap for sparsity districts

Allows districts to generate additional general education revenue

Revenue can be a combination of local property tax levies & state aid

Annual levy, maximum length of 10 years  
Authority 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

Election Year	Taxes Payable	Fiscal Year	Voter Approved		Board Renewal*	
			Operating Referendum	Renewal Years for Expiring Authorities	First Date	Deadline
2023	2024	2025	458.48			
2024	2025	2026	458.48			
2025	2026	2027	458.48		July 1, 2024	June 15, 2026
2026	2027	2028	249.24			
2027	2028	2029	249.24			
2028	2029	2030	249.24			
2029	2030	2031	249.24			
2030	2031	2032	249.24			
2031	2032	2033	249.24	**	July 1, 2030	June 15, 2032
2032	2033	2034	0.00	***		
2033	2034	2035	0.00			
2034	2035	2036	0.00			

## Estimated Revenue for Fiscal Year 2026

Operating Referendum                      \$        512,122

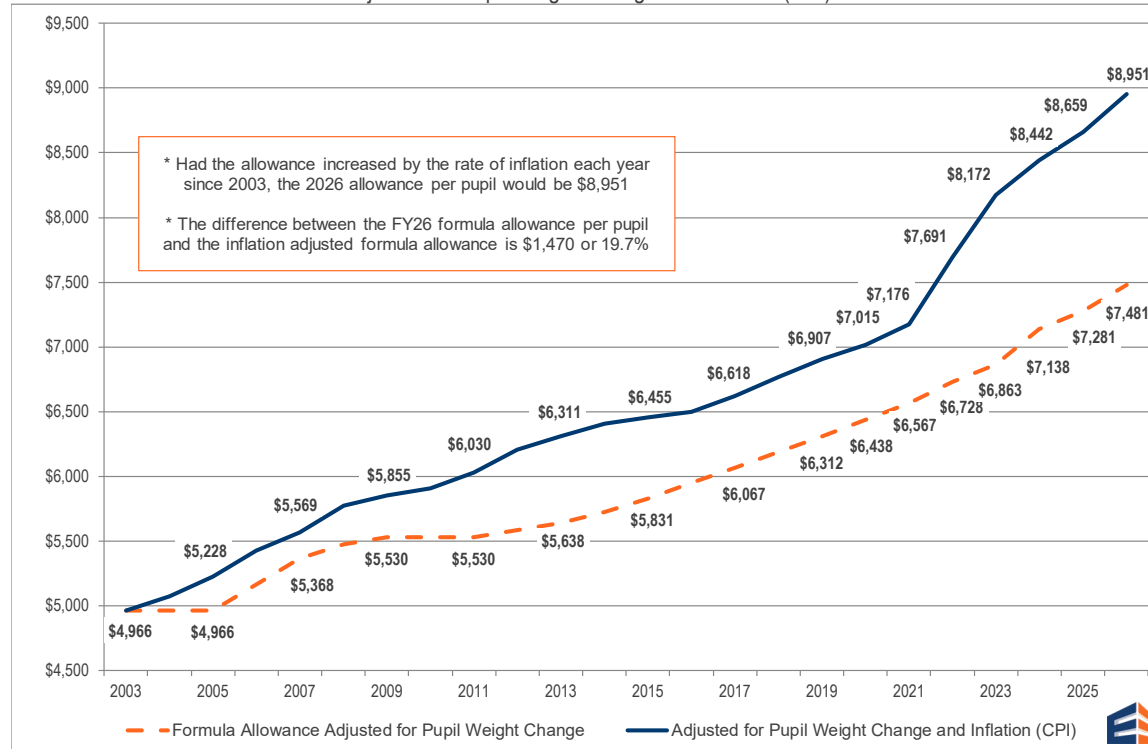
### Notes:

- \* 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

# 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

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- Other funding sources 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

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- Renew authority up to the same authority and length
  - ✓ Timeframe for Board renewal is July 1, 2024 through June 15, 2026
  - ✓ Original authority of \$209.24 per pupil 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 counties

# 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.