



**EDEN PRAIRIE SCHOOLS**  
Inspiring each student every day

September 23, 2024

To: Dr. Josh Swanson, Superintendent  
From: Andrew Adams, Executive Director of Business Service Re:  
Preliminary Tax Levy

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Dear Superintendent Swanson,

Eden Prairie Schools, along with all school districts across the state continue to work with the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) on the preliminary levy certification. At the time of this memo, we are still waiting for final numbers from MDE.

The levy is not final at this point, and we are asking the school board to approve this preliminary levy at the 'maximum.' This is a customary practice among school districts and is recommended by MDE to allow the Business Office to continue working with the Department to finalize the amounts that will appear on truth in taxation notices in November.

The preliminary levy for taxes payable in 2025 is required to be school board approved by September 30<sup>th</sup> and we will provide numbers and comparative data at the September 23<sup>rd</sup> board meeting. We do know there will be a levy increase due to a few items:

- The real estate market increase we've experience over the last couple of years continues to drive increases to the capital project levy (technology levy). The increase for Pay 2025 is \$677,000.
- The operating referendum passed by the community in November 2022 includes an inflationary adjustment, this year of 1.02%, which generates a levy increase of approximately \$983,000.
- The District purchased the property at 11840 Valley View Road and financed the purchase through a Certificate of Participation (COP) which resulted in a \$1.1 million increase in lease levy.
- The District reduced the LTFM levy by \$1.9 million in alignment with the purchase of the Valley View Property to meet the board promise related to state approved projects.
- The principal and interest payments on the school district debt are \$726,000 higher than the previous year, as scheduled and planned for in the long-term financing plan for the district.

The combination of these items will result in an overall levy increase for Eden Prairie Schools. Specific details will be presented at the board meeting on September 23<sup>rd</sup>.

At the September 23<sup>rd</sup> School Board meeting, we propose the school board approve the preliminary tax

levy at the maximum for taxes payable in 2025 for Independent School District #272.