



STUDENT SUPPORT • CLASS SIZES • LEARNING SPACES  
CLASSROOM MATERIALS • BUILDING REPAIRS

## STRONG SCHOOLS. STRONG COMMUNITIES.

On **November 5, 2019**, residents of ISD 728 will decide whether to increase school funding through two referendum questions. The School Board unanimously approved holding a referendum after a year and a half of community input, research and planning.

### QUESTION 1

An operating levy increase to address high class sizes and fund school materials, student support and academic programs.

### QUESTION 2

Bond funds to address enrollment growth, deferred maintenance needs across the district's more than 20 buildings, more flexible learning spaces and updated physical education and athletic facilities at all three traditional high schools.



*Question 2 can only pass if Question 1 is approved*

## IF VOTERS **APPROVE** BOTH QUESTIONS?

- ▶ Both questions would address classroom, budget and building needs across the district and at every level - **benefiting ALL students**.
- ▶ Funds would support our community's values as outlined in the community-developed Strategic Plan and identified in community surveys.
- ▶ ISD 728 would have more stable funding while being able to:
  - » **Address** growing enrollment.
  - » **Improve** equity and access to quality learning environments for ALL students.
  - » **Help** protect our community's investment in its schools.

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# IF VOTERS DO NOT APPROVE BOTH QUESTIONS

There would be continued budget cuts and inadequate funding for our school buildings, resulting in:

- ▶ Increased class sizes.
- ▶ Decreased academic support for struggling students.
- ▶ Fewer and outdated classroom resources for students.
- ▶ A growing list of building maintenance needs - such as roofs, HVAC systems and parking lots - without adequate funding to address them.
- ▶ Spaces that are not equitable or adequate for students throughout ISD 728, such as classroom spaces, indoor physical education and outdoor athletic facilities.
- ▶ Fewer students eligible for bus transportation with longer walk distances.
- ▶ Boundary changes to accommodate space for enrollment growth.

## DID YOU KNOW...



We are the 8th largest district in Minnesota, but our per student operating levy and total general fund revenue are **last** among the 15 largest districts.



Because school funding has not been keeping pace with the changing needs and expenses of education, we have cut more than **\$20.2 million** in 7 years. Cuts have impacted programming, classroom resources, staff levels and class size.



Projections estimate an additional **2,000 students** in the next 10 years, or an average of about 200 students per year. That's the equivalent of a new elementary school every few years.

## WHAT WILL IT COST?



If both questions are approved, the tax impact on the average homeowner (\$250,000 value home) would be less than \$32 per month.

## VOTING INFORMATION



Polls will be open 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. on November 5, 2019. Early voting begins September 20. To find your polling location or get an absentee ballot, visit [www.mnvotes.org](http://www.mnvotes.org) or call 763-765-4351.

## LEARN MORE

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