



Strong Schools,
Strong Community,
Strong Tomorrows

The White Bear Lake Area School Board recently unanimously approved a 10-year Local Operating Levy Renewal question to be placed on the Nov. 7 ballot. This vote will be a renewal of the same question strongly supported by our community in the fall of 2011. Approximately 15% of the district's revenue comes from the local operating levy.

Stewardship

- The district has a **AA bond rating**, which we have received from Standard and Poor's every year the district has applied since 2010.
- Our district received **excellence in financial reporting awards** from both the Association of School Business Officials and Government Finance Officers Association for 17 consecutive years.

Increased student opportunities

- Our high school students can choose from **42 college-credit courses**. The total value of credits earned by WBLAHS students was more than **\$1.9 million** at University of Minnesota tuition rates last year.
- **Career Pathways** programs are available to our high school students in four areas: Manufacturing, Construction, Information Technology and Healthcare.
- Innovative programs provide individual **advancement and support** for students.
- District-wide world language, orchestra and gifted program offerings have expanded.
- The district's **impressive graduation rate** has continued to increase.

Partnership

Innovative opportunities for students through:

- Program and facility **community partnerships** with YMCA, MacPhail Center for Music, White Bear Center for the Arts, Tamarack Nature Center, and others.
- **Academic partnerships** with local universities and international schools.

Sustainable investment

This spring, our school board reviewed our current and anticipated needs for the local operating levy renewal and surveyed our school community:

- Community showed **strong support** for the White Bear Lake Area Schools and a belief that "the **district could be trusted** to properly manage additional local tax revenue."
- More than 80% of the community expressed **support** of the local operating levy renewal, which **will not increase current taxes**.

Looking forward

The district's student enrollment numbers are strong, with **continued growth projected** in next decade. The district will begin work on a new **Strategic Plan** in the fall of 2017, to be followed by a **Comprehensive Facilities Planning** process later in the year.