



\*\*\*\*\***PRESS RELEASE**\*\*\*\*\*

Tom Snell, Executive Director  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
White Bear Area Chamber of Commerce  
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The White Bear Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors unanimously passed a resolution to support the continuation of the current White Bear Lake school district levy that will be on the November ballot.

That action was taken at the Board of Directors meeting on August 17<sup>th</sup> 2017. The White Bear Area Chamber of Commerce supports the continued funding of the current levy for the following reasons:

- The current levy accounts for nearly 15% of the district general operating revenue and was first approved in 2007 and renewed in 2011.
  
- The levy request of \$1538.31 is not an increase in the levy, but rather an extension of the current levy. This will maintain current tax levels, while some homeowners may see a slight decrease in taxes.
  
- The school district has proven to be responsible financial managers. They are one of only a few school districts in the state to earn a AA bond rating from Standards and Poor. This allows them to borrow money at a low rate.
  
- The District is engaged in exciting work that impacts our students in positive ways and represents great value for our community.
  - The district offers 42 college credit courses students can access at the high school level (*the total value of credits earned by WBLAHS students was more than \$1.9 million at University of Minnesota tuition rates last year*)
  
  - Their work as state leaders in the development of career pathways in manufacturing, information technology, construction trades, and health careers (*high school students participated in paid learning internships with local businesses this summer*).

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