



The VHEDC is a group of business leaders engaging with community stakeholders to enhance the economic vitality of our community.

September 6, 2017

Dr. Wayne Kazmierczak & ISD 624 School Board
Superintendent, ISD 624
4855 Bloom Ave
White Bear Lake, MN 55110

Dear Dr. Kazmierczak & School Board Members:

Please accept this letter as our formal endorsement of the upcoming renewal of ISD 624's Local Operating Levy. We understand this to be no additional increase over the current levy which was approved strongly by the community in fall of 2011. We recognize that the District has been strong financial managers of resources and a district of high student success.

Recognizing that approximately 15% of your revenue comes from the local operating levy, we believe supporting this levy is vital toward the future continued success of the local school district. We want to particularly recognize the District's vital role in is guiding, forming, and educating the future workforce of our community. Your emphasis on career pathways should be particularly applauded as well as your openness to invest in innovative partnerships between education, non-profits, and the business community. We look forward to continuing to work with you in these efforts and are proud of your role in helping us to ensure a thriving local economy and community for years to come!

We thank you, the staff and educators of ISD 624 for their tremendous work, and it is without reservation that we support the renewal of the Local Operating Levy. If you have further, please do not hesitate to contact our Executive Director Ling Becker at lingbecker@vhedc.com or 651-485-9532.

Sincerely,

VHEDC Board of Directors

2017 Board of Directors

Becky Bjorgum, President
Innovize

Debby Gustafson, Vice President
Twin Cities Metro

Kevin Whelan, Past President
Peoples Bank Midwest

Marguerite DeFore, Secretary
MidWestOne Bank

Brian Deuel, Treasurer
Olsen Thielen & Co.

Mary Buerkle
Buerkle Automotive Group

Jill Funck
H.B. Fuller

Scott Haupt
Short Elliott Hendrickson

Eric Johannes
IC System

Colette Jurek
Xcel Energy

Wayne Kazmierczak
White Bear Lake Area Schools

Robert Morse
MidCountry Bank

Chris Olson
GDO Law

Larry Raddatz
Century College

Linda Reber
All Medical Personnel

Sara Stafki
F&M Bank

Kyle Sommer
Toshiba Business Solutions

Michael Spellman
Lakeshore Area Players

Thomas Voegele
Comcast Business

Marty Welch
Children's Discovery Academy

Mike Enright, Advisor
Cities Credit Union

Gerry Urban, Advisor
Urban's Farm & Greenhouses

Nancy Zylla, Advisor
Impact Group