



White Bear Lake
Area Public Schools

Independent School District 624

White Bear Lake Area School School Board
schoolboard@isd624.org

4855 Bloom Avenue
White Bear Lake, MN 55110
651-407-7563
www.isd624.org

October 18, 2017

Dear District 624 Property Owner:

Enclosed please find the District's official Notice of Special Election containing information about the upcoming local operating levy renewal for the White Bear Lake Area School District. This referendum will be on the ballot on Tuesday, November 7. The enclosed information and its specific content are required by state law to be mailed to you as a property owner in District 624.

As the tax impact information inside will show, this is a renewal of a levy already in place. **This is not a tax increase.**

The School Board has worked in partnership and followed through on its promises to the community after the last levy referendum in 2011. These promises included increased student opportunities. Today, 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 also are available to our high school students in four areas: manufacturing, construction, information technology and healthcare. Throughout the district, innovative programs provide individual advancement and support for students. District-wide world language, orchestra and gifted program offerings have expanded.

The local operating levy approved by the voters in 2011 is expiring. Failure to renew the levy would result in a \$14 million loss in revenue. This loss of revenue would require planning to reduce staff, which would increase class sizes, and reduce or eliminate programs.

The district has earned its reputation as a good steward of your tax dollars. The district has a AA bond rating from Standard and Poor's. Our district has received excellence in financial reporting awards from both the Association of School Business Officials and Government Finance Officers Association for 17 consecutive years.

As a school board, we are committed to being open and transparent with our constituents when it comes to the decisions we have made. Information about the district's finances and the upcoming levy referendum renewal can be found on the district's website.

If you were not able to make it to a Community Informational Meeting hosted earlier this fall, please find a podcast of the session at www.isd624/localoperatinglevyrenewal, which also lists additional levy-related communication pieces and information.

Please feel free to contact any of us at our numbers listed below or contact Superintendent Dr. Wayne Kazmierczak at (651) 407-7563 or wayne.kazmierczak@isd624.org if you have additional questions or comments about what the local community wants from and for our local schools.

Sincerely,
Your District 624 School Board

Janet Newberg, Chair
(612) 810-6776

Don Mullin, Vice-Chair
(651) 707-7403

Kim Chapman, Treasurer
651-762-0369

Ellen Fahey, Clerk
(651) 653-5234

George Kimball, Member
651-295-8914

Marge Newmaster, Member
(651) 429-0357

Scott Wilson, Member
651-426-9278

P.S. Looking forward, we are excited about our community-driven Strategic Planning process this fall. Community members, students, parents and District staff members are invited to participate in the Strategic Planning process, helping us to write the next chapter of our "tomorrows." We have many opportunities for community members to participate in the process, so please find information at <http://www.isd624.org/about/Strategic-Planning.asp> or contact the superintendent's office to get involved. Upon School Board adoption of the strategic plan in the spring of 2018, we will conduct a comprehensive facilities planning process to ensure our district facilities support our student needs now and in the future.



WHITE BEAR LAKE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT ISD#624
DR. WAYNE A. KAZMIERCZAK, SUPERINTENDENT
4855 BLOOM AVENUE
WHITE BEAR LAKE, MN 55110



White Bear Lake Area Schools

Leading Minds to Learning, Hearts to Compassion and Lives to Community Service

www.isd624.org

Notice of Special Election

NOTICE OF SPECIAL ELECTION

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 624
(WHITE BEAR LAKE AREA SCHOOLS)
STATE OF MINNESOTA

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a special election has been called and will be held in and for Independent School District No. 624 (White Bear Lake Area Schools), State of Minnesota, in conjunction with its general election on Tuesday, November 7, 2017, for the purpose of voting on the following question:

SCHOOL DISTRICT BALLOT QUESTION RENEWAL OF EXPIRING REFERENDUM REVENUE AUTHORIZATION	
The board of Independent School District No. 624 (White Bear Lake Area Schools) has proposed to renew its existing referendum revenue authorization of \$1,538.31 per pupil. This proposed referendum revenue authorization would replace the school district's existing revenue authorization which will expire after taxes payable in 2018. The proposed referendum revenue authorization would increase each year by the rate of inflation and be applicable for ten years, beginning with taxes payable in 2019, unless otherwise revoked or reduced as provided by law.	
Shall the increase in the revenue proposed by the board of Independent School District No. 624 be approved?	
<input type="radio"/>	YES
<input type="radio"/>	NO
BY VOTING "YES" ON THIS BALLOT QUESTION, YOU ARE VOTING TO EXTEND AN EXISTING PROPERTY TAX REFERENDUM THAT IS SCHEDULED TO EXPIRE.	

VOTING REGULATIONS

Any eligible voter residing in the school district may vote at said election at the polling place designated at right for the precinct in which he/she resides. The polls for said election will be opened at 7 a.m. and will close at 8 p.m. on the date of said election.

A voter must be registered to vote to be eligible to vote in this election. An unregistered individual may register to vote at the polling place on election day.

Dated: August 14, 2017.

BY ORDER OF THE SCHOOL BOARD

Ms. Ellen Fahey
School District Clerk
Independent School District No. 624
(White Bear Lake Area Schools)
State of Minnesota

ABSENTEE VOTING

Voter registration, absentee voting and early voting information is available on the Ramsey County Elections website: www.rcelections.org
Additional county election websites listed in the next column.

TAX IMPACT

Passage of this referendum would extend an existing operating referendum at the same amount per pupil as in the prior year. This is not a tax increase.

The annual dollar amounts for typical residential homesteads, apartments, commercial-industrial properties, and most other classes of property within the school district are as shown in the table below.

For agricultural property (both homestead and non-homestead), the taxes for the proposed referendum will be based on the value of the house, garage and surrounding one acre of land only. There will be no referendum taxes paid on the value of other agricultural lands and buildings. For seasonal residential recreational property (i.e. cabins), there will be no taxes paid for the proposed referendum.

Referendum Market Value	Pay 2018 Expiring Authority	Pay 2019 Proposed Authority	Net Change
\$100,000	-\$177	\$175	-\$2
\$125,000	-\$222	\$219	-\$3
\$150,000	-\$266	\$262	-\$4
\$175,000	-\$310	\$306	-\$4
\$200,000	-\$355	\$350	-\$5
\$225,000	-\$399	\$393	-\$6
\$250,000	-\$443	\$437	-\$6
\$300,000	-\$532	\$524	-\$8
\$350,000	-\$621	\$612	-\$9
\$400,000	-\$709	\$699	-\$10
\$450,000	-\$798	\$787	-\$11
\$500,000	-\$886	\$874	-\$12
\$600,000	-\$1,064	\$1,049	-\$15
\$700,000	-\$1,241	\$1,224	-\$17
\$800,000	-\$1,418	\$1,398	-\$20
\$900,000	-\$1,596	\$1,573	-\$23
\$1,000,000	-\$1,773	\$1,748	-\$25
\$1,250,000	-\$2,216	\$2,185	-\$31
\$1,500,000	-\$2,659	\$2,622	-\$37
\$2,000,000	-\$3,546	\$3,496	-\$50

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.

COUNTY ELECTION WEBSITES:

Ramsey County - www.rcelections.org
Anoka County - www.anokacounty.us/220/Elections-Voter-Registration
Washington County - www.co.washington.mn.us/667/Elections

POLLING PLACES

The polling places and combined polling places for this election and the precincts served by those polling places shall be as follows:

ANOKA COUNTY	
City of Lino Lakes P1	Lino Lakes Senior Center 1189 Main St.
City of Lino Lakes P4	Lino Lakes City Hall 600 Town Center Pkwy.
City of Lino Lakes P6	Living Waters Lutheran Church 865 Birch St.
RAMSEY COUNTY	
City of Gem Lake	Heritage Hall 4200 Otter Lake Rd.
City of Little Canada P2	Little Canada Elementary School 400 Eli Rd.
City of Maplewood P8	Ramsey County Library 3025 Southlawn Dr.
City of North Oaks P2	Presbyterian Homes/Waverly Gardens 5919 Centerville Rd.
City of Vadnais Heights P1	Vadnais Heights Commons 655 East Co. Rd. F
City of Vadnais Heights P2	Vadnais Heights Commons 655 East Co. Rd. F
City of Vadnais Heights P3	Vadnais Heights Commons 655 East Co. Rd. F
City of Vadnais Heights P4	Vadnais Heights South Fire Station 3595 Arcade St.
City of White Bear Lake W1 P1	Council Chambers (WBL City Hall) 4701 Highway 61 North
City of White Bear Lake W2 P1	White Bear Lake Armory 2228 Fourth St.
City of White Bear Lake W3 P1	Sunrise Park Middle School 2399 Cedar Ave.
City of White Bear Lake W3 P2	Sunrise Park Middle School 2399 Cedar Ave.
City of White Bear Lake W4 P1	Golfview School Building 2449 Orchard Lane
City of White Bear Lake W4 P2	Golfview School Building 2449 Orchard Lane
City of White Bear Lake W5 P1	St. Stephen's Lutheran Church 1965 County Rd. E East
White Bear Township P1	Otter Lake Elementary 1401 County Rd. H2
White Bear Township P2	Eaglebrook Church 2401 Buffalo St.
White Bear Township P3	South Shore Trinity Lutheran 2480 South Shore Blvd.
White Bear Township P4	Heritage Hall 4200 Otter Lake Rd.
WASHINGTON COUNTY	
City of Birchwood Village P1	Birchwood City Hall 207 Birchwood Ave.
City of Hugo W1, P1	Hugo Fire Hall 5323 140th Street North
City of Hugo W2, P2B	Oneka Elementary 4888 Heritage Pkwy. North
City of Hugo W3, P3A	Hugo City Hall 14669 Fitzgerald Ave N.