

Special School Board Meeting
Duluth Public Schools, ISD 709

Agenda

Thursday, July 26, 2018
UnitedHealth Group Building
4316 Rice Lake Road
Suite 108
Duluth, MN 55811
4:30 PM

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Roll Call**
3. **Public Comment**
4. **Board Approved Levy Discussion** 2
 - A. Action If Any 10
5. **Approval of Intent to Hold a Referendum Election in November 2018** 11
6. **Adjournment**

Duluth Public Schools

Engage Potential.

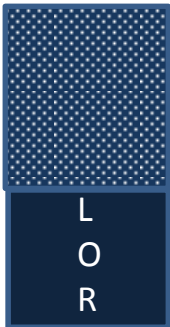
Unleash Ambition.

Every Student, every day

Operating Levy Referendum History

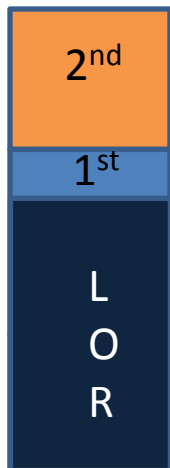
2008-2013 Referendum

- \$4.4 M
- In 2013 legislative action changed the funding formulas and gave authorization to transition \$212 per pupil (~\$1.9M) to Location Optional Revenue(LOR)
- School Board did not take action to stop LEA transition
- The legislature also granted the School Board the authority to approve up to \$300 Per Pupil (~\$2.7M)
- The School Board opted not to use that authority



2013 Operating Levy Referendum

- Local Optional Revenue stayed in place
- School Board approved referendum language for a two tiered ballot
- 1st Question renewed the operating referendum
- 2nd question increased the referendum by \$200 per pupil (~\$1.8M)
 - \$1.3 M Manage class size
 - \$250,000 Curriculum updates
 - \$250,000 Achievement Gap Strategies
- Subsequent legislative action increased Local Optional Revenue to \$424 per pupil



Operating Levy Referendum Planning

2018 Referendum

- \$424 Per Pupil Local Optional Revenue stays in place
- Consider Authority for Additional \$300 Per Pupil Board Approved Levy
 - If approved, a renewal would ask voters to approve \$71 Per Pupil
 - If not approved, a renewal would ask voters to approve \$371 Per Pupil



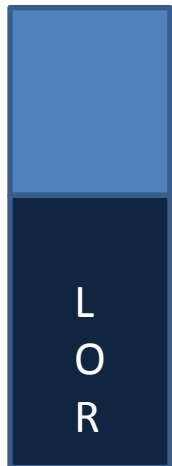
Current Operating Levy Sunsetting

2013-2018 Referendum

~\$7.2 M supports class size, curriculum investments, achievement gap efforts

If a referendum is not sought

\$3.8M Local Optional Revenue would stay in place
\$3.4M in reductions would need to be made likely increasing class size, reducing programs, and causing an inability to replace technology and curriculum as needed.

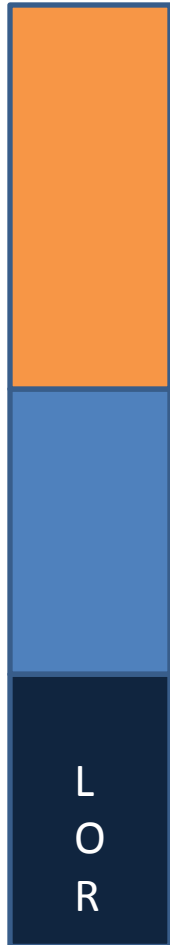


Resolution of Intent

If intent is declared, the administration would be asked to bring referendum language to the August Business Committee Meeting for discussion. A decision would be made at the August 21 School Board Meeting.

Referendum Language Proposal Guidance

- \$424 Per Pupil Local Optional Revenue is already in place.
- The Question(s)?
 - Renewal of \$795.78 Per Pupil (reductions likely)
 - Renewal with additional funding request (allows for further investments)
 - Both of the above with tiered questions
 - Other Guidance



Tonight's Decisions

\$300 Per Pupil Board Authorized Local Optional Revenue

- Yes vote authorizes
- No vote does not authorize

Resolution of Intent to Call for a Referendum

- Yes vote brings proposal to August School Board Meeting for consideration
- No vote allows Voter Approved Levy to sunset

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RESOLUTION

Converting Voter Approved Referendum Authority To A Board Approved Referendum Authority

BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of Independent School District No. 709, State of Minnesota, as follows:

1. Current Authority. The District has a current voter approved referendum authority that is estimated to be \$371.78 per adjusted pupil unit for fiscal year 2019, after the local option revenue subtraction and after preliminary adjustment by the Minnesota Department of Education in compliance with Minnesota Statutes, Section 126C.17, as amended.
2. Conversion of Referendum Authority. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 126C.17, subdivision 9a, the Board hereby determines to convert \$300.00 per adjusted pupil unit of its voter approved referendum authority which expires after taxes payable in 2018 to a Board approved referendum authority of approximately \$300.00 per adjusted pupil unit. This authority shall be further adjusted based on final pupil unit data and it is the intention of the Board to convert the maximum authority for which it is eligible, not to exceed \$300 per adjusted pupil unit. This Board approved referendum authority, as adjusted, shall be applicable for 5 years, beginning with taxes payable in 2019. The Board may subsequently reauthorize the Board approved referendum authority in increments of up to five years.
3. The clerk is authorized and directed to submit a copy of the adopted resolution to the Minnesota Department of Education as soon as reasonably practicable after its adoption, but in no event later than September 30, 2018.

RESOLUTION

Indicating the Intent to Move Forward with an Operating Levy Referendum in November, 2018

WHEREAS additional funds are needed to realize the mission and community vision for the Duluth Public Schools, and

WHEREAS the current operating levy for Duluth is below the state average, and

WHEREAS the total current operating levy for our district is \$795.78 per pupil unit, and

WHEREAS the current voter approved operating levy of \$371.78 for our district is scheduled to expire in 2018, and

WHEREAS additional funds are needed to create and maintain quality programs.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the School Board hereby intends to take future action to place an operating levy referendum on the November, 2018, ballot.