

Monthly Committee of the Whole Board Meeting

Duluth Public Schools, ISD 709

Agenda

Thursday, July 13, 2023

UnitedHealth Group Building

4316 Rice Lake Road

Suite 108

Duluth, MN 55811

3:30 PM

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

2. **ROLL CALL**

3. **AGENDA ITEMS**

A. Action Items - Consent Agenda

1) Presentation Items Requiring Approval

2) Resolutions

3) Other Action Items

B. Informational Items

1) All Things Special Education

Jason Crane

2) Baird Presentation

2

15

4. **ADJOURN**

DULUTH PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Special Services

July 2023

Overview:



- Special Services Department serves students ages birth to 22 years of age.
- Our department serves students attending public and private schools, students residing in residential facilities, students receiving services in mental health facilities, childcare, preschools, and homes.
- Targeted services based upon eligibility.
- Students with disabilities K-21 comprise 23% of our Duluth student population

What is Special Education?

Special Education means any specifically designed instruction and related services to meet the unique cognitive, academic, communicative, social and emotional, motor ability, vocational, sensory, physical, or behavioral and functional needs of a pupil as stated in the Individualized Education Program Plan (IEP).

- MN Rule Chapter 3525 Subp. 42



Special Education Disability Categories

- Speech/Language Impairment
- DHH -Deaf/ Hard of Hearing
- OHI-Other Health Impaired
- PI-Physical Impairment
- SMI-Severely Multiply Impaired
- TBI-Traumatic Brain Injury
- DD-Developmental Delay
 - Part C
 - Part B
- SLD-Specific Learning Disability
- VI-Vision Impairment
- DCD-Developmentally Cognitively Delayed
- ASD-Autism Spectrum Disorder
- EBD-Emotional Behavioral Disorder
- Deaf-Blind

Successes

Duluth Special Education SY 2022-2023

- Gains of 4.77% graduation rate for students receiving special education services
- UFLI (Science of Teaching Reading) Curriculum all resource teachers have been trained and will implement next year
- Expanded our continuum of services
- Increase in MA billing

Funding



Budget/Expenditures	
Federal funds budget:	\$2,854,204
Expenditures:	\$2,320,294
State funds budget:	\$22,198,120
Expenditures:	\$23,717,879
Local funds budget:	\$2,238,802
Expenditures:	\$2,271,512
CompEd ECSE budget:	\$108,032
CTE funds budget:	\$394,264
Expenditures:	\$451,039
Budget/Income	
MA Billing budgeted:	\$852,300
Income:	\$1,445,063
FY 24 Projected State Budget	
\$23,086,044 ... 4% increase	

Funding Impacts



- The state settle up process takes two years' to reach FY 23 actual costs.
- MDE report shows, 21-22 cost \$11,310.60 expenditure (cost) to educate a special education student?
- The General Education Cross Subsidy \$11,000,000

Overview of some of the largest increases

- Increases in ECSE speech language services and developmental delay: significant growth the past two years
- Specific Learning Disorders
- Setting 3 students: increase in incoming Kindergarten students needing setting 3 services: 18 students resulted in additional classrooms at 3 sites

Enrollment Growth

School Years 2019-2023



2019: Beginning of Year	1759
End of Year	1900
Increase	+141

2020: Beginning of Year	1648
End of Year	1795
Increase	+147

2021: Beginning of Year	1891
End of Year	1983
Increase	+92

2022: Beginning of Year	1937
End of Year	2222
Increase	+285

[Early Childhood Special Education ended with 367 students]

Staffing Levels

Federal Regulations

Minnesota State Statute

Minnesota Department of Education Workload Considerations for Effective
Special Education guidance

School Designations:

Targeted Performance-SPED SY 2023

- **Lowell:** Math, Reading

Comprehensive Performance-SPED SY 2023

- **Myers-Wilkins:** Math, Reading, Science
- **Piedmont (multi-year):** Math, Reading, Science

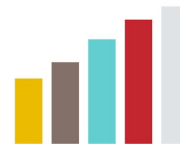
Prioritized Comprehensive-lowest 5% Title 1

- **L. MacArthur:** Math, Reading, Science

Needs Improvement

- **Stowe:** Math, Reading
- **Congdon-** continues-did not meet exit criteria from previous identification

Our Special Service Department Team



DULUTH PUBLIC SCHOOLS
**Special
Services**

Director

Assistant Director

Clerical:

- 2 Administrative Assistants
- 1 Business Manager;
- 1 MA Billing/SPED Forms Specialist;
- 1 Early Childhood Special Education Administrative Assistant

TOSAs:

- 1 Setting 3
- 1 Assistive Technology

Supervisors-New school year 24

- 1-New-Filled
- 1-New-Filled
- 1-New-
- 1-New-

Program Improvement for 2023-2024

- STEPS fidelity of implementation
- IEP Development
- Increase the number of students returning to school from Shortened Day/Home Based Assignments
- Instruction (Literacy and Unique Learning System)
- Increase in Medical Assistance billing capacity
- Professional Development Continuation and Expansion

ISD 709 DULUTH UPDATED TAX IMPACTS FOR FUTURE FINANCIAL PLANNING (COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING ON JULY 13, 2023)

PREPARED BY: MICHAEL HOHEISEL

MATT RANTAPAA

SAM HYLLE

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Duluth
Public Schools



LAST SESSION REMINDER – COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING ON JUNE 15TH



All funding scenarios focused on generating \$5,916,810.63 of additional revenue annually

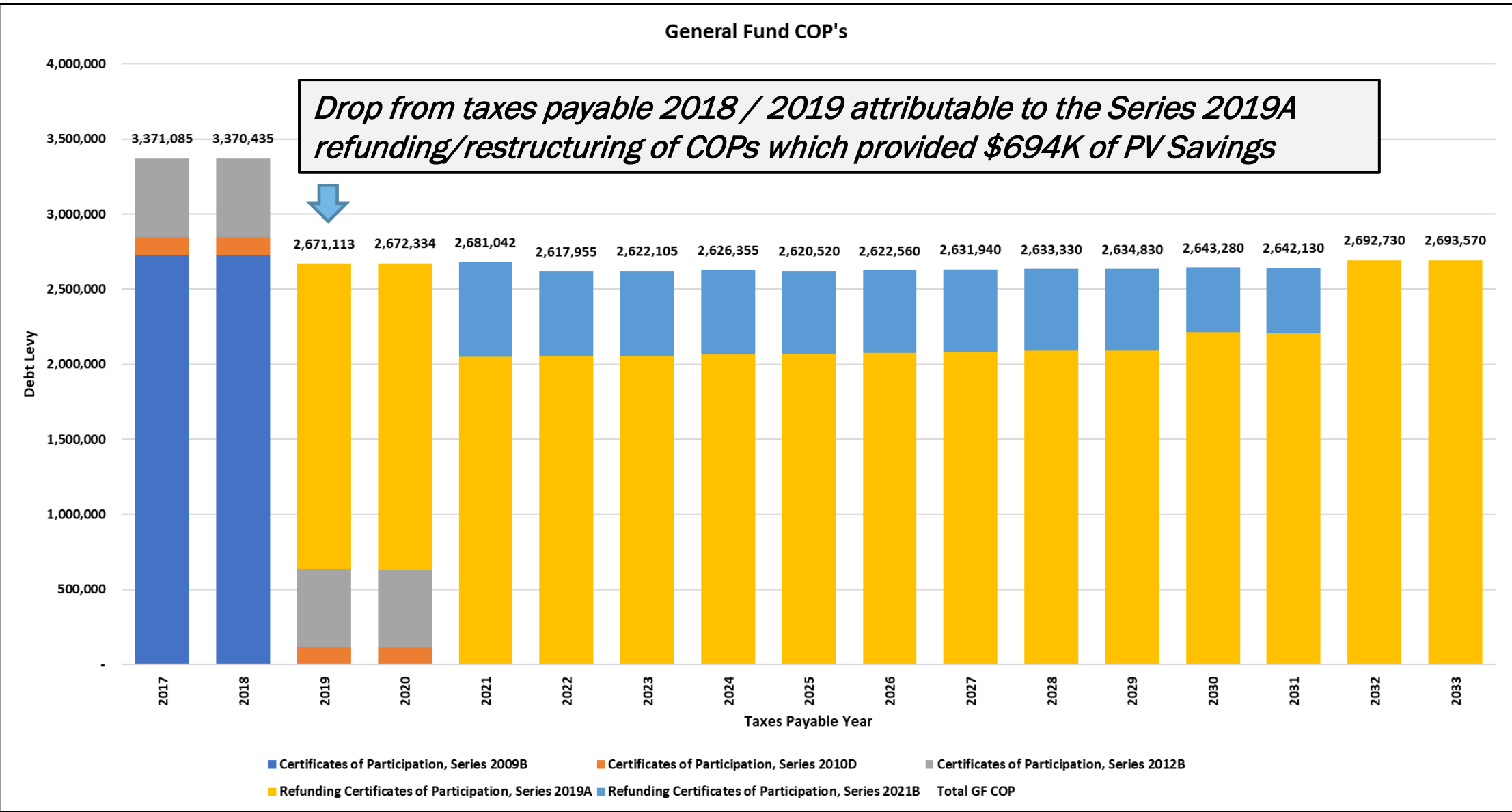


The following slides assume a \$2 million annual technology increase to fund \$7,916,810.63

FUNDING THE \$7,916,810.63 GAP – TWO OPTIONS

Property Type	Estimated Market Value	Voter-Approved Operating Levy Only Change of \$905.99 per PU		7.014% Voter-Approved Capital Project Levy Only	
		Est. Annual Impact	Est. Monthly Impact	Est. Annual Impact	Est. Monthly Impact
Homestead Residential	150,000	119.10	9.93	88.58	7.38
	200,000	158.81	13.23	126.81	10.57
	300,000	238.20	19.85	203.26	16.94
Commercial / Industrial	150,000	119.10	9.93	157.81	13.15
	200,000	158.81	13.23	227.95	19.00
	300,000	238.20	19.85	368.23	30.69
Apartments	150,000	119.10	9.93	131.51	10.96
	200,000	158.81	13.23	175.35	14.61
	300,000	238.20	19.85	263.02	21.92

ISD 709 – HISTORY OF DEBT IMPACTING OPERATIONS



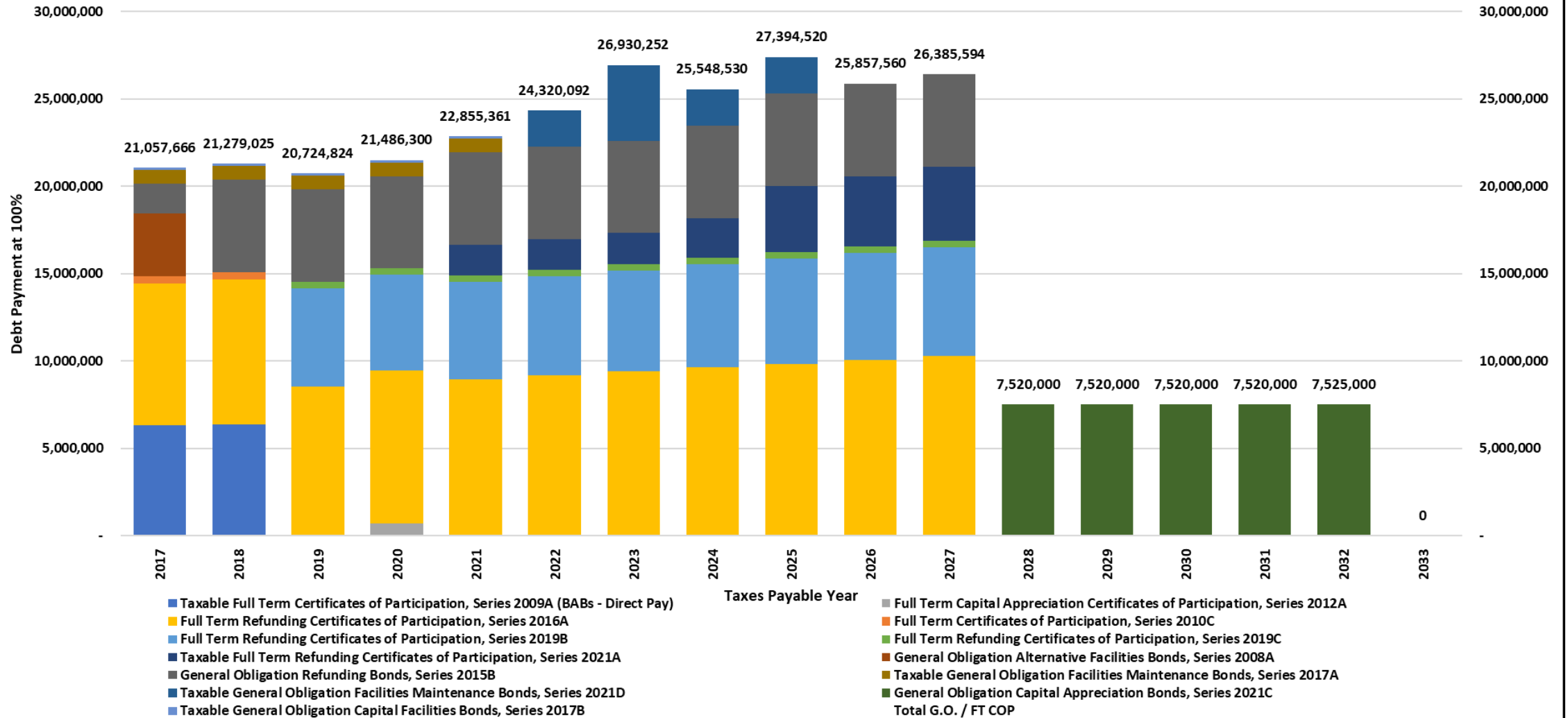
FUNDING THE \$7,916,810.63 GAP – TWO MORE OPTIONS

Property Type	Estimated Market Value	Voter-Approved Operating Levy Change of \$605.43 plus Level Savings Refinance of General Fund COP		4.687% Voter-Approved Capital Project Levy plus Level Savings Refinance of General Fund COP	
		Est. Annual Impact	Est. Monthly Impact	Est. Annual Impact	Est. Monthly Impact
Homestead Residential	150,000	113.61	9.47	93.22	7.77
	200,000	154.82	12.90	133.44	11.12
	300,000	237.24	19.77	213.89	17.82
Commercial / Industrial	150,000	140.19	11.68	166.06	13.84
	200,000	193.66	16.14	239.87	19.99
	300,000	300.59	25.05	387.48	32.29
Apartments	150,000	130.09	10.84	138.39	11.53
	200,000	173.46	14.45	184.51	15.38
	300,000	260.19	21.68	276.77	23.06 ¹⁹

By refinancing the General Fund Certificates of Participation, it frees up \$2,626,355 of general fund operating dollars

ISD 709 – HISTORY OF DEBT IMPACTING THE LEVY

Debt Levy Side of Budget

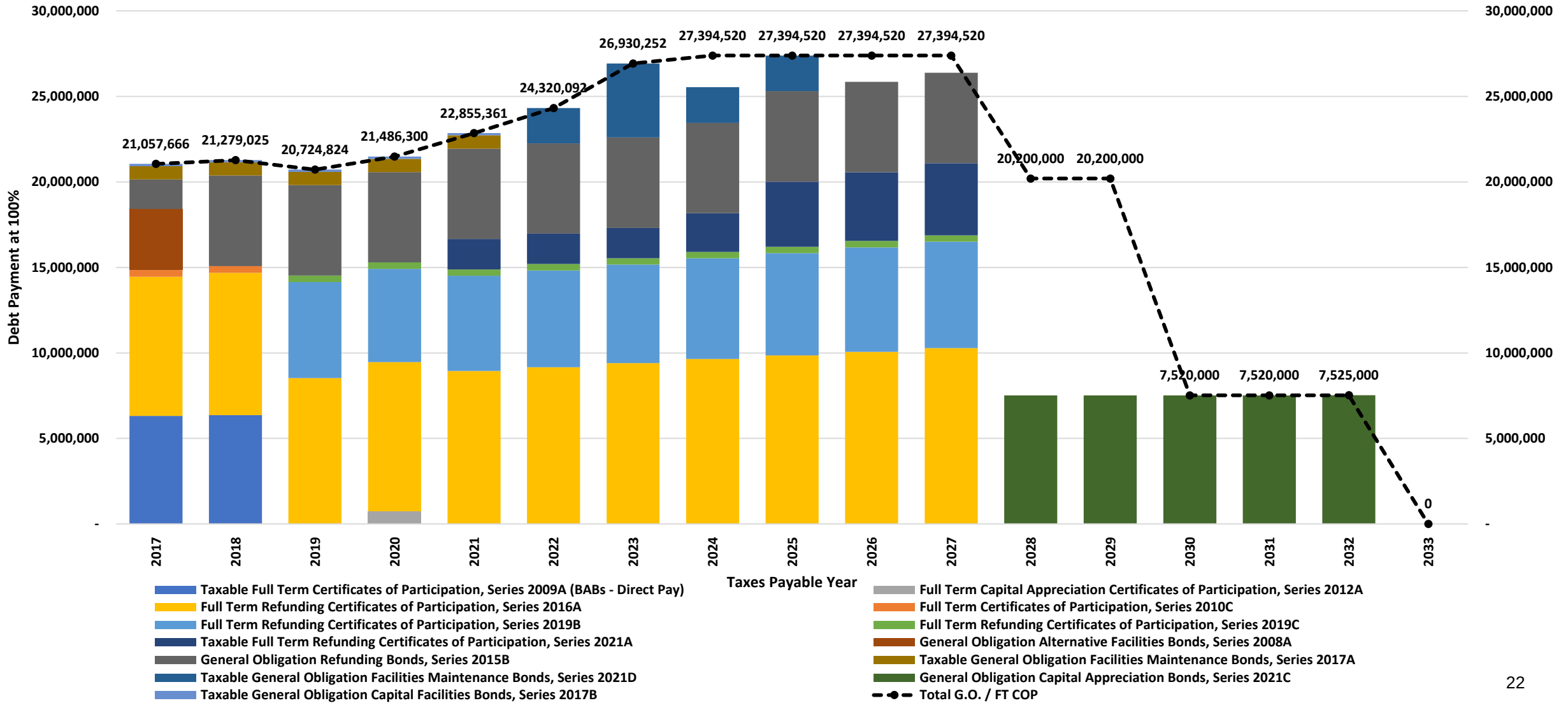


FUNDING THE \$7,916,810.63 GAP – TWO MORE OPTIONS

Property Type	Estimated Market Value	Voter-Approved Operating Levy Change of \$605.43 plus Structured Payment Refinance of General Fund COP		4.687% Voter-Approved Capital Project Levy plus Structured Payment Refinance of General Fund COP	
		Est. Annual Impact	Est. Monthly Impact	Est. Annual Impact	Est. Monthly Impact
Homestead Residential	150,000	85.04	7.09	64.65	5.39
	200,000	113.93	9.49	92.55	7.71
	300,000	171.70	14.31	148.35	12.36
Commercial / Industrial	150,000	89.31	7.44	115.18	9.60
	200,000	120.16	10.01	166.36	13.86
	300,000	181.85	15.15	268.74	22.40
Apartments	150,000	87.69	7.31	95.98	8.00
	200,000	116.92	9.74	127.97	10.66
	300,000	175.38	14.61	191.96	16.00 ²¹

By refinancing the General Fund Certificates of Participation, it frees up \$2,626,355 of general fund operating dollars

Debt Levy Side of Budget



TAX IMPACT OPTION SUMMARY – ANNUAL IMPACT ONLY

Property Type	Estimated Market Value	Op Levy Only	Cap Proj Levy Only	Op Levy + Level Refi	Cap Proj Levy + Level Refi	Op Levy + Struc Refi	Cap Proj Levy + Struc Refi
Homestead Residential	150,000	119.10	88.58	113.61	93.22	85.04	64.65
	200,000	158.81	126.81	154.82	133.44	113.93	92.55
	300,000	238.20	203.26	237.24	213.89	171.70	148.35
Commercial / Industrial	150,000	119.10	157.81	140.19	166.06	89.31	115.18
	200,000	158.81	227.95	193.66	239.87	120.16	166.36
	300,000	238.20	368.23	300.59	387.48	181.85	268.74
Apartments	150,000	119.10	131.51	130.09	138.39	87.69	95.98
	200,000	158.81	175.35	173.46	184.51	116.92	127.97
	300,000	238.20	263.02	260.19	276.77	175.38	191.96



SAMPLE BALLOT QUESTIONS

1 QUESTION OPERATING LEVY

SCHOOL DISTRICT BALLOT QUESTION

APPROVAL OF SCHOOL DISTRICT REFERENDUM REVENUE AUTHORIZATION

The School Board of Independent School District No. 709 (Duluth) has proposed to revoke the school district's existing referendum revenue authorization of \$646.78 per pupil and to replace that authorization with a new authorization of \$1,552.77 per pupil. The proposed new referendum revenue authorization would be applicable for 10 years beginning in taxes payable 2024, unless otherwise revoked or reduced as provided by law. The additional revenue will be used to finance school operations.

☐ YES

☐ NO

Shall the existing operating referendum revenue authorization be revoked and the increase in operating referendum revenue of \$1,552.77 per pupil for 10 years proposed by the School Board of Independent School District No. 709 (Duluth) be approved?

BY VOTING "YES" ON THE BALLOT QUESTION, YOU ARE VOTING YES FOR A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE.

APPROVAL OF SCHOOL DISTRICT CAPITAL PROJECTS LEVY

☐ YES	Shall the capital projects levy authorization proposed by the School Board of Independent School District No. 709 (Duluth) be approved.
☐ NO	

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SCHOOL DISTRICT BALLOT QUESTION

APPROVAL OF SCHOOL DISTRICT BOND REFERENDUM

☐ YES	Shall Independent School District No. 709 (Duluth) be authorized to issue its general obligation bonds in an amount not to exceed \$21,800,000 to provide funds to refinance, for general fund operational savings, the District's Refunding Certificates of Participation, Series 2019A, dated May 29, 2019, and Refunding Certificates of Participation, Series 2021B, dated March 9, 2021 both of which financed improvements to and equipment for the District's facilities throughout the District?
☐ NO	

BY VOTING "YES" ON THIS BALLOT QUESTION, YOU ARE VOTING FOR A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE.

SCHOOL DISTRICT BALLOT QUESTION

APPROVAL OF SCHOOL DISTRICT REFERENDUM REVENUE AUTHORIZATION

The School Board of Independent School District No. 709 (Duluth) has proposed to revoke the school district's existing referendum revenue authorization of \$646.78 per pupil and to replace that authorization with a new authorization of \$1,252.21 per pupil. The proposed new referendum revenue authorization would be applicable for 10 years beginning in taxes payable 2024, unless otherwise revoked or reduced as provided by law. The additional revenue will be used to finance school operations.

☐ YES	Shall the existing operating referendum revenue authorization be revoked and the increase in operating referendum revenue of \$1,252.21 per pupil for 10 years proposed by the School Board of Independent School District No. 709 (Duluth) be approved?
☐ NO	

BY VOTING "YES" ON THE BALLOT QUESTION, YOU ARE VOTING YES FOR A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE.

2 QUESTION OPERATING LEVY AND COP REFINANCING

SCHOOL DISTRICT BALLOT QUESTION

APPROVAL OF SCHOOL DISTRICT BOND REFERENDUM

☐ YES	Shall Independent School District No. 709 (Duluth) be authorized to issue its general obligation bonds in an amount not to exceed \$21,800,000 to provide funds to refinance, for general fund operational savings, the District's Refunding Certificates of Participation, Series 2019A, dated May 29, 2019, and Refunding Certificates of Participation, Series 2021B, dated March 9, 2021 both of which financed improvements to and equipment for the District's facilities throughout the District?
☐ NO	

BY VOTING "YES" ON THIS BALLOT QUESTION, YOU ARE VOTING FOR A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE.

SCHOOL DISTRICT BALLOT QUESTION

APPROVAL OF SCHOOL DISTRICT CAPITAL PROJECTS LEVY

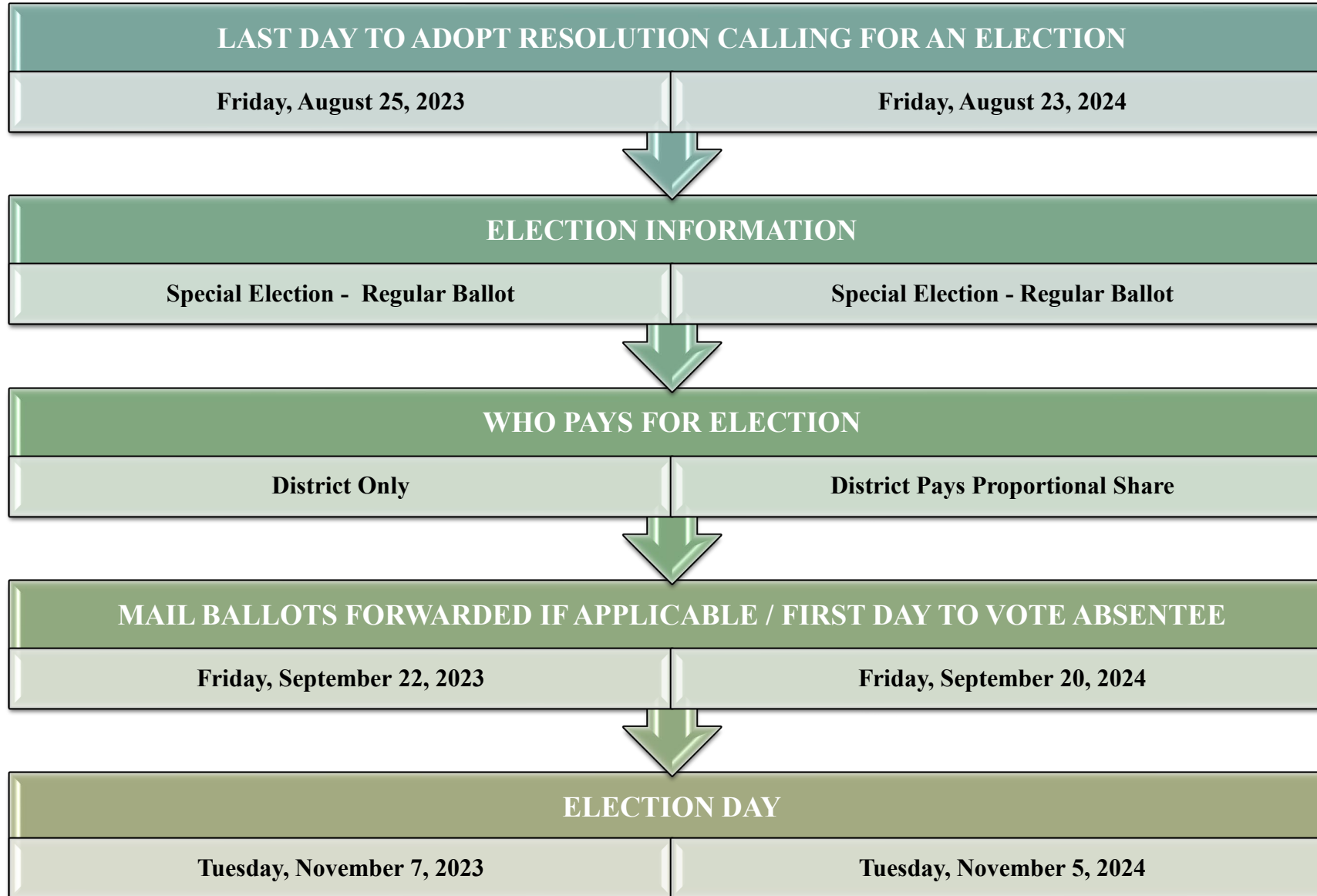
The School Board of Independent School District No. 709 (Duluth) has proposed a capital project levy authorization of 4.687% times the net tax capacity of the School District. The proposed capital projects levy authorization will raise approximately \$5,290,455.87 for taxes payable in 2024, the first year it is to be levied, and would be authorized for ten years. The estimated total cost of the projects to be funded over that time period is approximately \$52,904,558.70. The additional revenue from the proposed capital projects levy authorization will provide funds for the acquisition, installation, replacement, support and maintenance of software, software licenses, computers, improved technology equipment, networks, infrastructure and costs of technology related personnel and training.

☐ YES	Shall the capital projects levy authorization proposed by the School Board of Independent School District No. 709 (Duluth) be approved.
☐ NO	

BY VOTING "YES" ON THIS BALLOT QUESTION, YOU ARE VOTING FOR A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE.

2 QUESTION CAPITAL PROJECTS LEVY AND COP REFINANCING

KEY OPERATING LEVY ELECTION DATES – 2023 AND 2024



Based on District's financial status (not in SOD), the District can only ask for a voter approved operating referendum from voters once a calendar year. If the voter approved request is not held on the November general election date, it must be by mail ballot.

Pros of a 2023 Election:

- Statistically better passage rate in odd years
- Avoid November 2024 General Election



FURTHER THOUGHTS / QUESTIONS / STATEMENTS?