

# Levy Referendum By the Numbers

## 16 CERTIFICATES OF EXCELLENCE IN FINANCIAL REPORTING

Last year, District 196 received its 16th consecutive Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Association of School Business Officials for accuracy and transparency.

## 29 MILLION DOLLAR UNDERFUNDING OF SPECIAL EDUCATION

Last year, \$29 million was the difference between the special education funding District 196 received from the state and federal governments who mandate that districts provide needed special education services, and the actual cost to the district to provide these services. General funds must cover this unfunded difference each year.

## 160 TEACHING POSITIONS CUT

Since 2009, 160 teaching positions have been cut as part of \$40 million in budget adjustments needed due to lack of state and federal funding for regular and special education. These cuts have led to larger class sizes at all schools.

## 14 FOCUS GROUPS TO GET PUBLIC INPUT

District 196 held 14 focus group meetings last December to get public input on \$7 million in budget adjustments that were approved for this year. Participants voiced support for a levy increase to avoid more cuts and improve programming.

## 25 DOLLAR PER MONTH TAX INCREASE ON AVERAGE-VALUE HOME

The levy referendum question asks for an increase that would cost \$25 per month for the owner of the average-value home in the district, which is \$286,500.

## 2 CHOICES FOR DISTRICT 196 VOTERS

- YES** - Tax increase of \$25 per month on the average-value home, no additional budget cuts and improvements to classroom staffing, mental health support for students and transportation for after-school activities.
- NO** - No tax increase, up to \$18 million in additional budget adjustments over the next two years, including significant staffing cuts, larger class sizes, program cuts or elimination, and reduced transportation service.



[www.District196.org/Levy2019](http://www.District196.org/Levy2019)

# Vote Now Through November 5

## You Don't Need a Reason to Vote Early

### Absentee Voting In-Person

Offered September 20-November 4 at 4 locations:

- School District Office in Rosemount (3455 153rd St. W.), 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., M-F, and
- Dakota County government centers in Apple Valley, Hastings and West St. Paul – 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., M-F.

Complete and submit the single page absentee ballot application form, fill out your ballot on site and give it back to the election clerk before leaving.

### Absentee Voting By Mail

Download the single page absentee ballot application form at [www.District196.org/Levy2019](http://www.District196.org/Levy2019).

- Complete the application and mail in the materials as directed, and
- After receiving your ballot in the mail, complete and return it as directed in the postage-paid envelope provided.

If not registered to vote, you will receive a voter registration application that should be completed and returned with your completed absentee ballot. Voter registration can also be completed online at [www.mnvotes.org](http://www.mnvotes.org).

### Early In-Person Voting

Tuesday, Oct. 29 through Monday, Nov. 4, each business day at:

- School District Office in Rosemount (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Nov. 4).
- Dakota County Administration Center, 1590 Highway 55, Hastings (8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Nov. 4).

Just like absentee voting in person, except voters place their ballot directly into the vote-counting machine.

### Election Day Voting

Tuesday, November 5, 2019

- 14 combined school district precincts
- Polling places open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

To find out where you vote, go to [www.mnvotes.org](http://www.mnvotes.org) or call the Superintendent's Office at 651-423-7725.



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