

Our Kids. Our Community. Our Future.

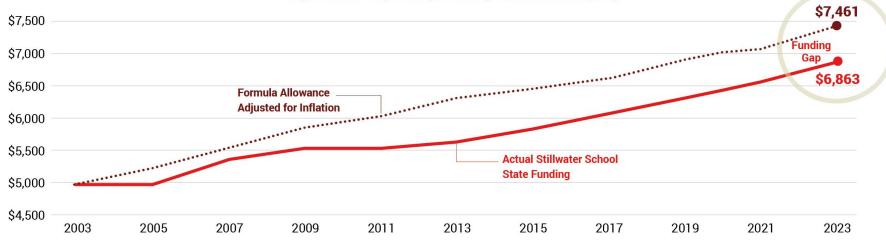
Funding Facts

- Expiring levy currently generates about \$12 million
- State funding hasn't kept pace with inflation or increasing costs
- We've cut our budget 3 times since levy was approved in 2013 totaling \$7 million
- We lost 3% of our student enrollment in 2020-2021 due to COVID-19.



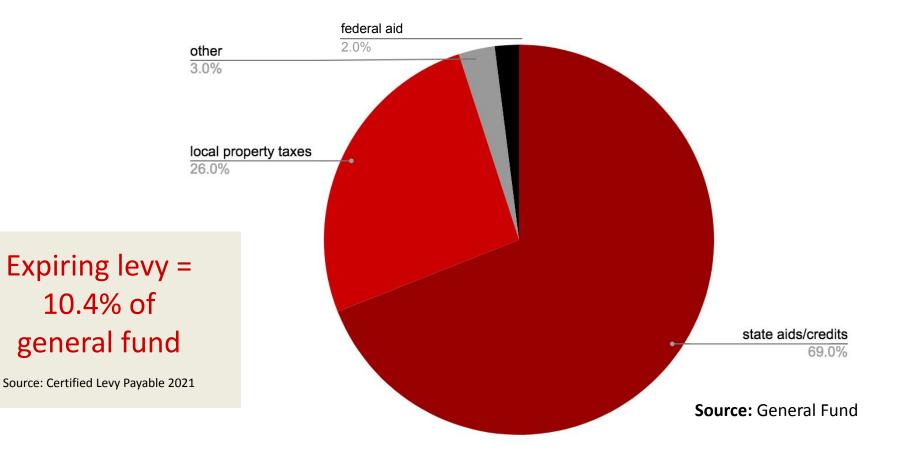
General Education Formula Allowance, 2003-2023

Adjusted for Pupil Weight Change and Inflation (CPI)



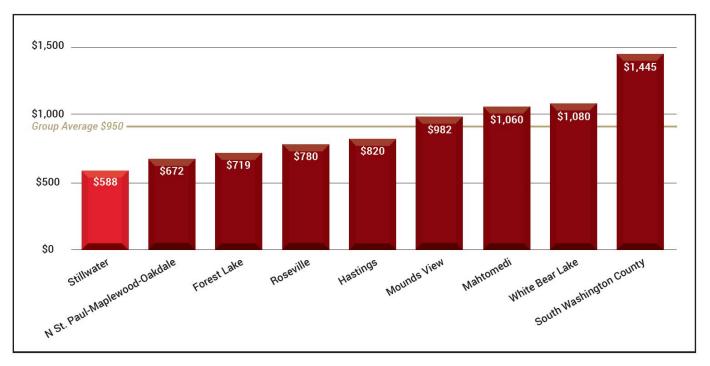
If state funding had kept up with inflation since 2003, our schools would receive \$500 more per student - for a total of \$4.2 million more this year. Source: Minnesota Department of Education and the Association of Metropolitan School Districts 2021 Inflation estimates

Where Our Money Comes From



Stillwater Area Public Schools, ISD 834

Estimated Voter Approved School Property Taxes, Payable 2021, \$350,000 Residential Homestead



Tax Base Source: Final values from Washington, Dakota and Ramsey Counties.

Levy Source: Taxes Payable 2021 Levy Certification Reports for voter approved operating referendum, capital project levy and debt only

Two ballot questions: Q1: Replacement Levy Q2: Technology Levy

Request is based on:

- Needs of our students
- Expiring levy
- Years of inadequate state education funding leading to budget cuts
- Analysis of district finances
- Stakeholder feedback



Replacement Levy

Maintain quality learning:

- Renew expiring levy
- Help stabilize the district's budget
 - Address state funding gap, enrollment change, rising costs/inflation

- Retain teachers, support staff
- Maintain existing programs and services
 - Continue to support academic achievement for all students
- Minimize but not eliminate future budget cuts



If **APPROVED** by voters

- Address state funding gap, enrollment change, rising costs/inflation
- Retain teachers, support staff
- Continue to support academic achievement for all students
- Maintain existing programs and services
- Minimize but not eliminate future budget cut





If NOT APPROVED by voters

Face a \$12 million deficit in 2022-2023 and more in future years

- Significantly higher class sizes
- Reduce more than 100 full time teachers and support staff
- Loss of academic and social/emotional interventions
- Loss of electives classes, specialized programs, as well as art and athletic opportunities



Technology Levy

Provide kids the tools they need to learn

- Provide classroom devices, teacher and student computers
- Keep technology up-to-date
- Give students reliable access to technology tools at school and at home
- Provide students and staff with technology support and training
- Support infrastructure, software and security needs



If APPROVED by voters:

- Technology for classrooms
- Devices for students, teachers
- Technology support staff
- Dedicated funding source for technology





Consideration:

Capital projects levy for technology is <u>NOT</u> based on enrollment

Stable and reliable funding for technology

If NOT APPROVED by voters:

- No dedicated funding source for technology, equipment, support staff and purchases
- 10-year replacement cycle for classroom technology
- No funding for student device replacement
- Failure to meet future state testing requirements
- Minimal technology access for students



Reinvesting In Our Kids

Priority is to use any new funds to improve academic achievement

- Stabilize the budget and avoid additional budget cuts
- Keep class sizes from growing
- Support quality learning for our students
- Provide more academic support for kids needing extra help
- Provide emotional and mental health support for students



Overview of Levy Request

Election November 2, 2021

Two ballot questions:

- Para Lievy REALTER DATE AND A CONTRACT OF THE DA
- **Q1:** Replacement levy to maintain quality learning *Tax impact on average homeowner = \$0.17 more per month*
- **Q2:** Technology levy to provide kids the tools they need to learn *Tax impact on average homeowner = \$11.50 more per month*

Tax impact on average home (\$350,000) if voters approve both questions is less than \$12 more per month