

## Faribault Public Schools FALL 2022 LEVY Vote Early or on November 8, 2022.

Voters may vote early via absentee ballot.

On August 8, 2022, the Faribault School Board voted to give the community the opportunity to maintain current programming and invest in our students by supporting three questions that will be on this fall's ballot. Voting will take place during the General Election on November 8, 2022, or as early as September 23, 2022, via absentee ballot.

## HOW DO WE COMPARE TO OTHER DISTRICTS?

The Faribault community pays the least amount of school district property taxes of any school in the Big 9.





Data sourced from Minnesota Department of Education Pay 2021 School Tax Report

## **APPROVAL OF ALL THREE QUESTIONS WILL HELP US TO:**

- Maintain current classroom programs and electives, including innovative courses that provide access to industry-recognized certifications in the trades and college credits.
- Maintain reasonable class sizes.
- Maintain and support classroom technology, including equipment and software that is necessary for our industry and trades electives.
- Avoid significant budget cuts due to a lack of state funding.

Community support for these operating levies will allow us to provide pathways to excellence for all students. Faribault Public Schools is an important contributor to this community, including our business and industry partners, and this funding provides the necessary resources to prepare our students for career and college success.

## WHAT HAPPENS IF THE LEVY FAILS?

If none of the three ballot questions are approved, it will be financially devastating to our district and we will need to reduce program offerings and increase class sizes.

## Over the last six years, our district has made more than

# **\$7 MILLION**

**in responsible budget reductions** to account for declining enrollment and inadequate state funding.



## The basic state funding formula would be **\$598/pupil or \$2 MILLION HIGHER TODAY** if it had kept up with inflation.

## WHY DO WE NEED FUNDING?

Unfortunately, the State of Minnesota is not meeting its obligation to fund public schools, and this lack of funding impacts the budgeting decisions in our school district. Our current operating referendum that was approved by voters in 2013 is set to expire after the 2023-24 year. Without a renewal, we will lose \$716.22 per pupil in fiscal year 2025 and every year after.

Our district made \$2,161,700 in budget reductions for the 2021-22 school year. We're forecasting an additional \$1,625,000 in cuts next year and \$3,567,000 in cuts the year after.

### WHAT ARE WE ASKING THE COMMUNITY FOR?

**QUESTION #1:** Faribault Public Schools has an operating levy that will expire in fiscal year 2024. The district is asking voters to renew the current operating referendum. If voters approve this question, there will be no additional tax increase from the school district.

**QUESTION #2:** Faribault Public Schools is asking voters to provide funding to maintain and support classroom technology, including equipment and software to support industry and trades electives.

**QUESTION #3:** In order to maintain learning opportunities for students and avoid budget cuts, Faribault Public Schools is asking voters to provide additional funding for the district. Even if Question #1 passes, the district will need to cut millions of dollars over the next few years due to inflation and the lack of state funding. Question #3 will help minimize those cuts. Question #1 must pass in order for Question #3 to pass.









# The State of Minnesota is not meeting its obligation to fund Minnesota public schools.

### This lack of funding impacts the budgeting decisions in our school district.

- Basic education funding allocated on a per-pupil basis is the primary source of general operating funds for school districts. The basic state funding formula would be \$598 per pupil or \$2 MILLION higher today if it had kept up with inflation.
- In fiscal year 2023, it's estimated that 69 percent of our general education revenue will come from the State of Minnesota.
- The lack of state funding is an unfortunate budget reality impacting school districts across the state.
- Over the last six years, the district has made more than \$7 million in responsible budget reductions to account for declining enrollment and inadequate state funding.

## IF VOTERS APPROVE THESE LEVIES, WHERE EXACTLY WILL THE MONEY GO?

The funding from a voter-approved levy will go directly to student learning and development. We will be able to continue offering innovative classes and the technology necessary to support students in subject areas like manufacturing, robotics, engineering, and health and human services, allowing students to gain hands-on experience both in the classroom and through internships at local businesses and other community-based learning. It will also allow us to maintain reasonable class sizes.

### WHAT IS THE TAX IMPACT?

The amount the levy will increase your taxes depends on the market value of your home. If Question #1 is voter-approved, there will be no additional tax increase from the school district. If Question #1 and Question #3 are voter-approved, the tax impact on an average market value home will be \$90 per year. If Question #1 and Question #2 are voter-approved, the tax impact on an average market value home will be \$90 per year. If Question #1, Question #2, and Question #3 are all voter-approved, the tax impact on an average market value home will be \$90 per year. If Question #1, Question #2, and Question #3 are all voter-approved, the tax impact on an average market value home will be \$180 per year.

Below are three examples of tax impacts based on homes valued at \$175,000, \$252,900, and \$350,000. The average home market value in Faribault is \$252,900.



Home Market Value: \$175,000		
Question 1	\$0.00	
Question 2	\$4.83	
Question 3	\$5.16	
Total Yearly Increase \$120		

#### COMPARED TO NETFLIX BASIC PLAN: \$120/yr (\$9.99/mo)

## At a Glance: Monthly Increase



Home Market Value: \$252,900		
Question 1	\$0.00	
Question 2	\$7.50	
Question 3	\$7.50	
Total Yearly Increase \$180		

COMPARED TO NETFLIX STANDARD PLAN: \$186/yr (\$15.49/mo)



#### Home Market Value: \$350,000

Question 1	\$0.00
Question 2	•
Question 3	\$10.83
<b>Total Yearly Increa</b>	se \$254

COMPARED TO NETFLIX PREMIUM PLAN: \$240/yr (\$19.99/mo)

# What You Will See on the Ballot

#### **SCHOOL DISTRICT BALLOT QUESTION NO. 1**

#### **RENEWAL OF SCHOOL DISTRICT REFERENDUM REVENUE AUTHORIZATION**

The Board of Independent School District No. 656, Faribault, has proposed to renew its referendum revenue authorization, which is set to expire in 2023 for taxes payable in 2024, in an amount equal to \$716.22 per pupil, subject to an annual increase at the rate of inflation. The proposed referendum revenue authorization would be first levied in 2023 for taxes payable in 2024 and applicable for 10 years unless otherwise revoked or reduced as provided by law.

## BY VOTING "YES" ON THIS BALLOT QUESTION, YOU ARE VOTING TO EXTEND AN EXISTING PROPERTY TAX REFERENDUM THAT IS SCHEDULED TO EXPIRE

#### SCHOOL DISTRICT BALLOT QUESTION NO. 2

#### APPROVAL OF SCHOOL DISTRICT CAPITAL PROJECT LEVY AUTHORIZATION

The Board of Independent School District No. 656, Faribault, has also proposed a capital project levy authorization of 3.855% times the net tax capacity of the school district. The money raised by this authorization will provide funds for the acquisition and installation of technology equipment, improvements and systems. The proposed capital project levy authorization will raise approximately \$1,366,200 for taxes payable in 2023, the first year it is to be levied, and would be authorized for 10 years. The estimated total cost of the projects to be funded over that time period is approximately \$13,662,000.

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

#### **SCHOOL DISTRICT BALLOT QUESTION NO. 3**

#### APPROVAL OF SCHOOL DISTRICT REFERENDUM REVENUE AUTHORIZATION

The Board of Independent School District No. 656, Faribault, has proposed to increase its general education revenue by \$302.00 per pupil. If Ballot Question No. 1 is approved, subject to an annual increase at the rate of inflation. The proposed referendum revenue authorization would be first levied in 2023 for taxes payable in 2024 and applicable for 10 years unless otherwise revoked or reduced as provided by law.

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

### WHERE TO VOTE

Any eligible voter residing in the school district may vote at their designated polling place. The polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Tuesday, November 8. In Minnesota, you can register to vote or update your registration at your polling place on Election Day.

**To find your polling location**, simply visit the Minnesota Secretary of State's <u>Polling Place Finder</u> (pollfinder. sos.state.mn.us) and type in your address.

**You can also vote early by mail or in person** from September 23 through November 7 at the Rice County Government Services Building (320 3rd St NW in Faribault). Information about how to <u>vote early by mail</u> and how to <u>vote early in person</u> can be found on the Minnesota Secretary of State's website, or by contacting Rice County Elections at <u>rcelections@co.rice.mn.us</u> or 507-332-6104.

Faribault Public Schools currently receives less in voter approved operating referendum funds per pupil than the state average.