



TECHNOLOGY LEVY

A person wearing a blue shirt is holding a white rectangular sign with both hands. The sign has the words "Thank you!" written in a dark blue, cursive-style font. The background is a soft-focus green, suggesting an outdoor setting with foliage. The person's face is not visible, as the sign covers their eyes and nose.

Thank
you !



2002



2011



20
years

Community support
from our voters



Strong Financial Management

Moody's Aa2 long-term rating – top 2% of all Minnesota school districts

Multi-year Certificates of Excellence in Financial Reporting

30+ years **clean audit reports** from MMKR & Co. Certified Public Accountants and others

Finance Committee – oversight by **MBAs, CPAs, JDs**





How Schools are Funded

- Federal
- State
- Local Levies
 - Capital Projects Levy
(Technology)
- May be certified for up to 10 years





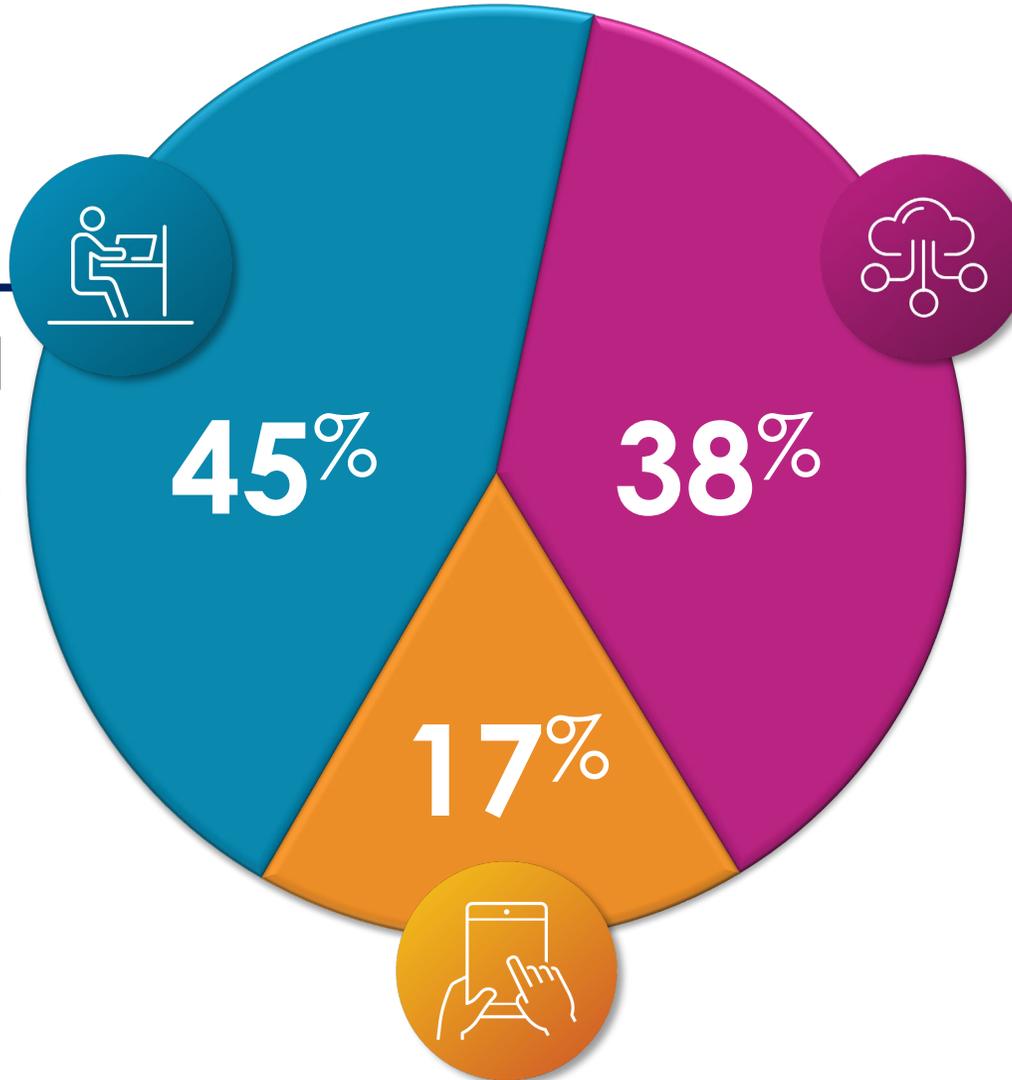
Minnesota
DOES NOT dedicate
specific funds
for **TECHNOLOGY**
in schools

Technology Levy Comparisons 2021-22

DISTRICT	ANNUAL TECHNOLOGY LEVY	
	TOTAL LEVY	PER PUPIL
Hopkins	\$11,924,180	\$1,613
Eden Prairie	\$7,599,850	\$805
Bloomington	\$8,685,049	\$785
Edina	\$6,490,673	\$707
Wayzata	\$8,385,892	\$585
Minnetonka	\$6,916,127	\$568
Westonka	\$1,576,199	\$588
Orono	\$1,122,409	\$454

Source: Ehlers, Inc.

**CLASSROOM
LEARNING &
SUPPORT**



**SECURITY &
TECHNICAL
SUPPORT**

**RELIABLE
ACCESS**

\$1.2 million annually

ORONO TECHNOLOGY LEVY



HOW DOLLARS ARE ALLOCATED

Classroom Learning & Support

Orono's technology levy provides the **equipment** and technology-based **academic software tools** and **teacher training** to support excellence in teaching and learning and ensure students are **future ready**. Academic software enriches student learning and provides platforms for research, collaboration, presentations, coding, design and more. Digital classroom tools, like Seesaw and Schoology, offer a unique view into curriculum, assignments and progress. The district's **instructional technology support specialists** help keep our teaching staff on the cutting edge so students can develop in-demand skills.

45%
of annual
technology
budget



Reliable Access

Levy dollars support the technology infrastructure required to provide **reliable access** on campus to students, teachers and staff. This includes hardware (fiber, routers, switches, access points) and software needed to support district operations and provide on-demand access to networks and learning tools. Maintenance and upgrades are managed on a predictable, yet conservative cycle required to meet changing system demands.

17%
of annual
technology
budget

Security & Technical Support

The technology levy funds **physical security and cybersecurity** solutions districtwide. This means cameras, building access and visitor management systems in all school buildings. The recently upgraded phone system is now connected to E911 for enhanced emergency response. The levy also funds highly skilled **technical support specialists** (our IT department) who provide daily expertise to teachers, students and families, and manage thousands of devices on campus.

38%
of annual
technology
budget



2022 Technology Levy

- *Renewal only*
- No tax increase for residents
- A “yes” vote would continue funding for the next 10 years



Consequences of a **NO** vote



~~\$1.2M~~

The district will have to begin the process of **budget cuts** affecting:

- Programs
- Technology
- Classroom needs



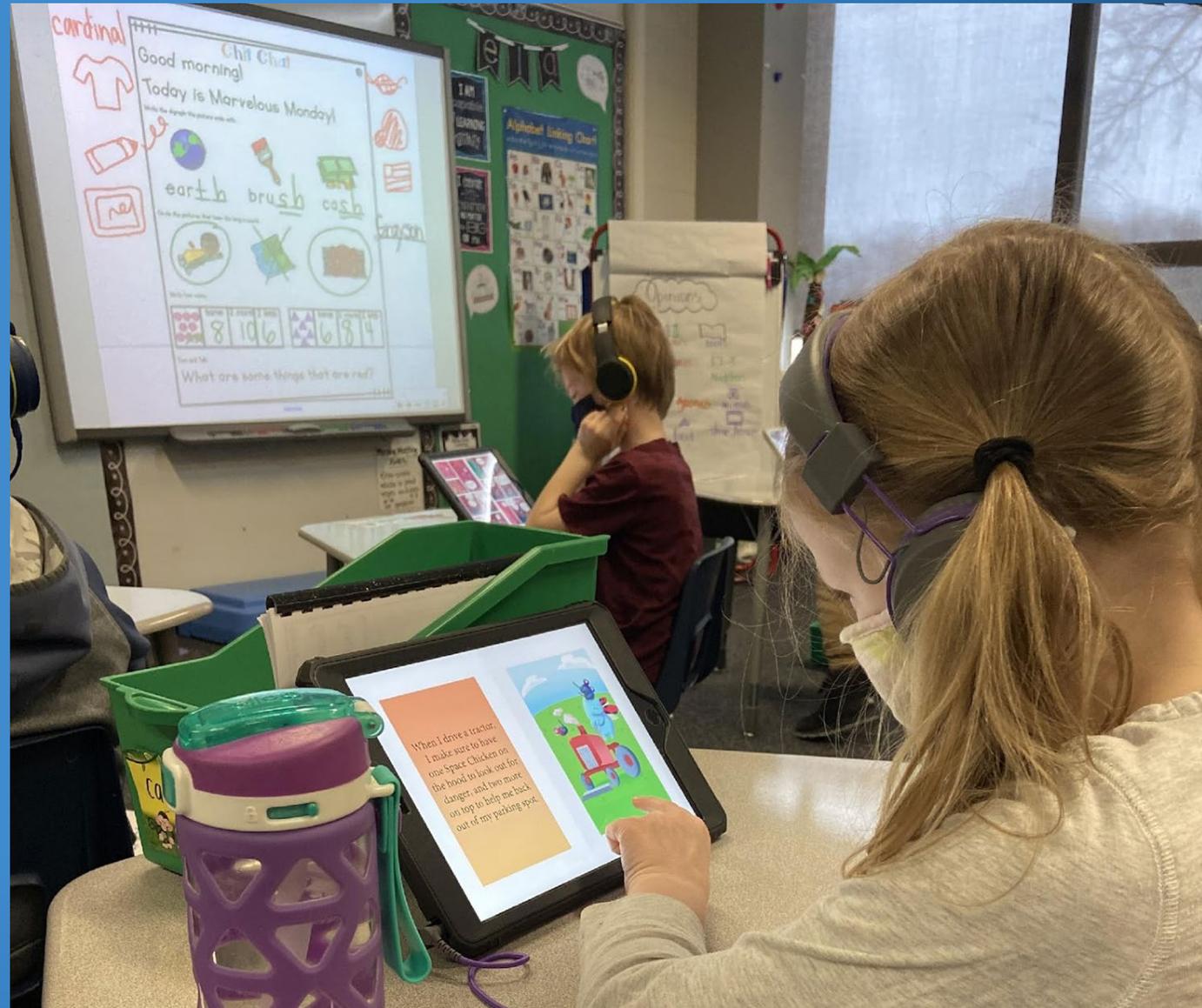
How does technology play a role in today's learning?



Predictable & Dedicated Funding Stream



Classroom
learning &
support



Classroom Learning & Support



- Up-to-date tools and systems to support excellence in teaching and learning
- College and career preparation – ensuring our students are future-ready
- Classroom teacher training for the most effective use of teaching and communication tools

Predictable & Dedicated Funding Stream



Security &
Technical
Support

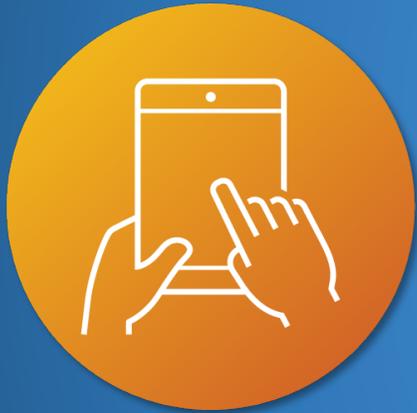


Security and technical support



- Campus security – cameras and visitor management systems for student and staff safety
- Cyber security – student data protection, secure internet environment
- Technology support staff – help desk, troubleshooting, network and computer support

Predictable & Dedicated Funding Stream



Reliable
Access



Reliable Access



- Updated infrastructure, wireless systems, networks
- Classroom communication tools for students, staff, parents – assignments, expectations, academic progress, grades
- Appropriate replacement and upgrade cycles



Current Efforts

Classroom learning & support

- All iPads and Chromebooks reset and refreshed with student identifiers removed
- Integrated access with our Student Info System and Schoology (Secondary)
- Personalized support for students and staff
 - Team fully staffed
 - Tech Integration Specialist - Elem and Secondary
 - Technology Support Specialists



Current Efforts

Reliable access

- Refreshed broken devices following a period of heavy use
- Provided nearly \$20,000 for student devices through the Orono Schools/Best Buy partnership
- Implementing an Upgrade Plan for Current Wireless Infrastructure



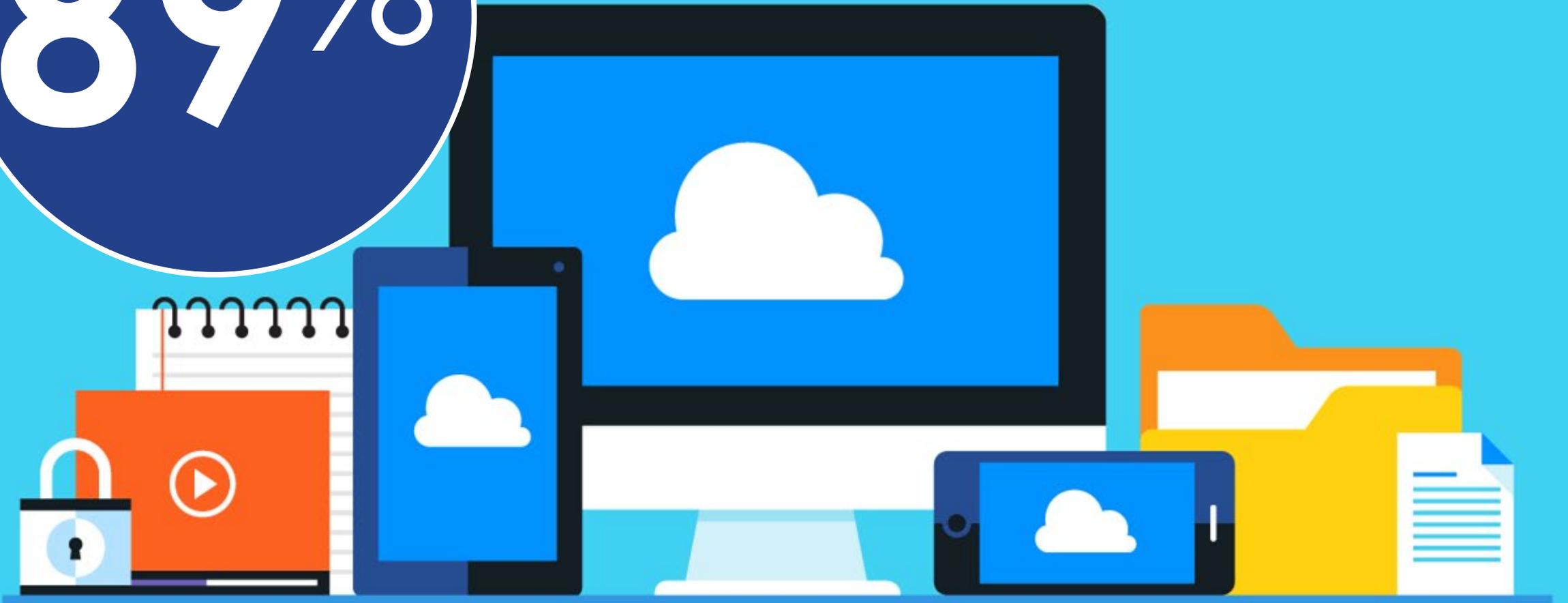
Current Efforts

Building Security, Cyber Security, Support

- Phone upgrade from analog to digital format
 - Enhanced e911 directs first responders to an exact room in our buildings
- Began a formal partnership with a local Cybersecurity Firm to ensure a stable and secure network.
- Implementing MFA and other Security Requirements at staff account level

89%

Believe **technology** is
absolutely **essential** or
very important



94%



Believe they receive
a **good value** from
investments in schools

94%



Rate the quality of
Orono Schools'
education as
Excellent or **Good**

96%



Believe Orono Schools
increases property
values in the
community

Summary



- Tech Levy Renewal only
- No tax increase
- Funds will be directed to:
 - Classroom learning and teacher training
 - Campus security and cyber security
 - Reliable access
- More information at **oronoschools.org/techlevy**

Tech Levy Renewal – Ballot Language



The board of Independent School District No. 278 (Orono Public Schools) has proposed to renew its expiring capital project levy authorization in the amount of 2.539% times the net tax capacity of the school district. This authorization would renew the school district's existing authorization scheduled to expire after taxes payable in 2022.

The proposed capital project levy authorization will raise approximately \$1,253,030 for taxes payable in 2023, 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 \$12,530,300.

The revenue raised by this authorization will provide continued funds for the acquisition, replacement, maintenance and support of instructional technology and software, devices, equipment, networks, security, operational infrastructure, and technology support personnel.

Shall the school district's existing capital project levy authorization to fund technology proposed by the board of Independent School district No 278 be approved?

BY VOTING YES ON THIS BALLOT QUESTION, YOU ARE VOTING TO RENEW AN EXISTING CAPITAL PROJECTS REFERENDUM THAT IS SCHEDULED TO EXPIRE

2022 Election



September 23, 2022

November 8, 2022

Vote November 8

**TECH LEVY
RENEWAL**



More information at oronoschools.org/techlevy



Questions?

Please email info@orono.k12.mn.us

Telephone **952-449-8300**