



REFERENDUM FACTS

VOTE APRIL 4

Loyal School District Operational Referendum April 4

On April 4, 2023, Loyal School District residents will have the opportunity to vote on renewal of the District's existing operational referendum, which expires this year. The **existing** operational referendum is \$675,000 per year. The **new** proposed referendum would authorize the District to exceed the revenue limit for five years in the following amounts:

Operational Referendum Renewal		
Existing	2022-23	\$ 675,000
Year 1	2023-24	\$ 900,000
Year 2	2024-25	\$1,400,000
Year 3	2025-26	\$1,400,000
Year 4	2026-27	\$1,500,000
Year 5	2027-28	\$1,500,000

Estimated Tax Increase - Year 1*

If voters approve the operational referendum, taxpayers would see the **school portion** of their property taxes increase **\$1.06 per \$1,000 of property value per year**, or **\$106 per year on a \$100,000 home**.

* All estimates are based on the current state funding calculations.

What are operational funds used for?



The funds will be used for the District's day to day operational expenses to **maintain current educational programs** and to **maintain current staff**.



In addition, the plan accounts for a 3% wage increase for all staff in Year 1.

Why now?

Since 2014, the District has had an annual operational referendum to help meet operational costs. Each year, the District balances the budget by cutting costs, implementing energy conservation, and through staff attrition. However, recent cost increases and declining enrollment have impacted the District's ability to maintain operations at the current level of \$675,000 per year.



VOTE APRIL 4, 2023

Referendum Facts



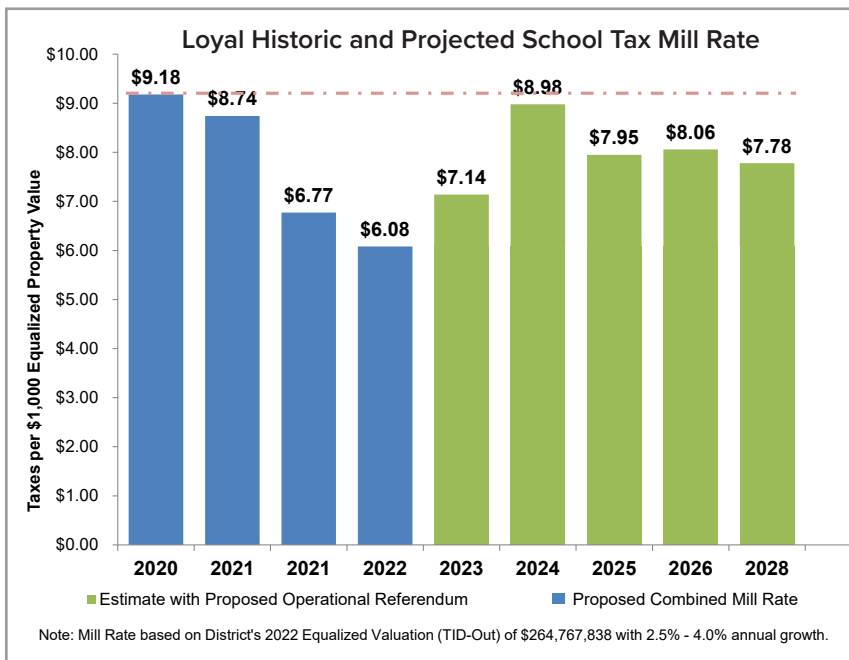
More than 16 years of revenue caps have limited our District's ability to generate revenue to keep pace with rising costs and inflation. In fact, **more than 80% of Wisconsin school districts have gone to referendum in the last 5 years.** In our region, Granton, Greenwood, Owen-Withee, and Spencer school districts have operational referenda.



The District currently has no outstanding debt. In addition, the District has taken many **steps to reduce costs**, including reducing teaching and support staff through attrition; using ESSER funds (COVID relief) to complete building ventilation projects; increasing class sizes at the high school; installing energy efficient equipment; and forming sports co-ops with neighboring districts to create efficiencies and offer more programs for students.



Shifts in enrollment and student revenue have also had an impact on our district. Over the past five years, **overall membership declined from 542 in 2018 to 493 in 2022**, which impacts the level of funding we receive from the state of Wisconsin.



DISTRICT	2022 Mill Rate
Abbotsford	\$8.68
Spencer	\$8.47
State Average	\$7.68
Owen-Withee	\$7.60
Granton Area	\$7.39
Greenwood	\$7.24
Colby	\$7.04
Thorp	\$6.23
Loyal	\$6.08
Neillsville	\$5.07

We are #LoyalProud! Please Vote April 4, 2023

