

EXCELLENCE IS OUR STANDARD

Robbinsdale Area Schools is committed to ensuring every student develops their unique potential and graduates career and college ready. To support academic achievement and create a world-class workforce, we urge the Governor and Legislators to address the following critical issues:

Allow Increased Flexibility for School Districts

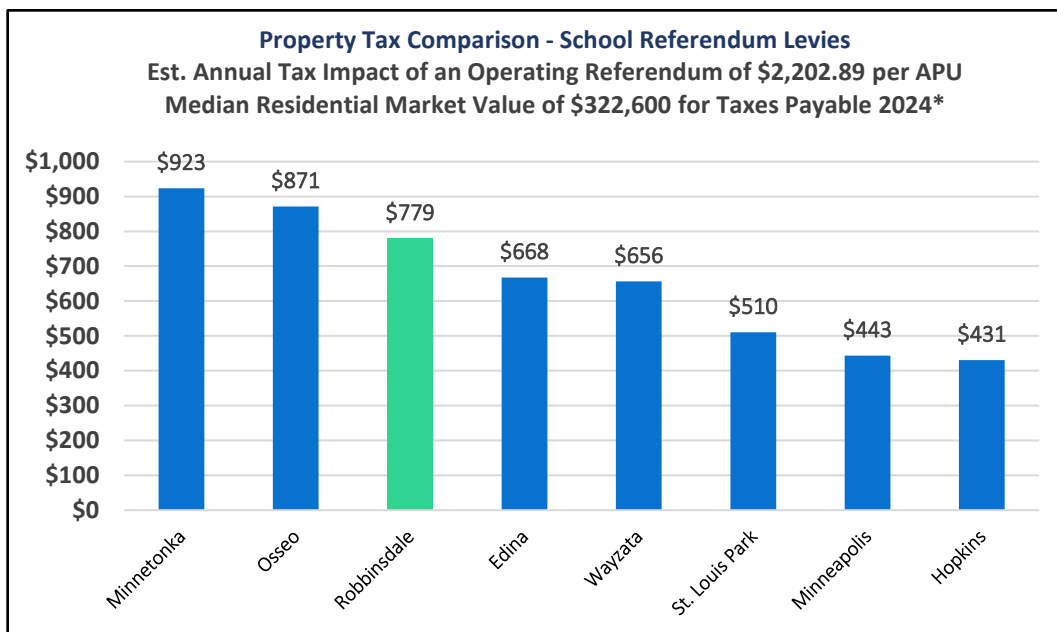
- **Expand the allowable uses of Long-Term Facilities Maintenance Revenue** to allow school districts to enhance safety through security modifications to buildings, including remodeling and additions to existing space.
- **Increase the maximum Safe Schools Levy and state aid** to support the mental health needs of our students and expand the permitted uses to offset the growing costs of cyber security and school communication technology.
- **Reduce mandated paperwork requirements for Special Education students.** Reducing paperwork requirements allows staff to spend more time with students.
- **Oppose any new unfunded mandates.** Unfunded state mandates add additional costs to an already stressed budget.

Enhance Educator Workforce

- **Support policies that attract, develop and retain a diverse educator workforce** to reflect diverse student populations. Maintain the tiered licensing system to ensure multiple pathways for licensure.

Institute Tax Equalization

- **Fund all districts equitably, considering the difference between commercial property-rich communities and residential communities.** Operating referendums play a crucial role in school funding. Residents of districts with lower commercial property wealth pay between \$200 to \$500 more in taxes than those who reside in districts rich with commercial property. For example, taxes on a home valued at \$322,600 cost Rdale homeowners \$348 more than what the commercial property-rich Hopkins district homeowners pay.



*Proposed Pay 2024 Referendum Market Values provided by Hennepin County. Districts may have more authority than the standard cap of \$2,203 per adjusted pupil unit. Data doesn't include any fiscal disparities adjustments. Prepared by PMA Securities LLC