

Columbia Heights Public Schools 2023 Referendums

What You Need To Know

Strong Schools • Supportive Communities

Nov 7, 2023

OUR MISSION
Columbia Heights Public Schools
Creating worlds of opportunity for each and every learner
"All Belong, All Succeed"



The Columbia Heights Public Schools' Board of Education unanimously voted to place an **Operating Levy Referendum** question and a **Capital Project Levy Referendum** question on the November 7th ballot. This request is to revoke and replace the current **Operating Levy** and to renew the current **Capital Project Levy** for ten years.



- "Levies are for learning and bonds are for building" is a phrase that describes the difference between operating levies and bond referendums.
- **Operating Levies** support student learning by funding teachers and staff, classroom materials, student transportation and school operations.
- CHPS has not increased the **Operating Levy** amount in 18 years. The amount of \$308.93 annually per student was approved for the 2005 **Operating Levy** and renewed for the 2014 **Operating Levy**.

- In 2023, taxes on an average priced home decreased by \$4.25 because of an expiring CHPS bond. If the **Operating Levy** passes, the monthly increase for property owners for this levy would be \$12. This is an increase of \$7.75 per month from 2022 taxes on an average priced home. For a more in-depth look at tax impact, visit colheights.k12.mn.us/2023referendum.
- The 2023 **Operating Levy** is a 10-year levy. The school district would receive these funds in fiscal year 2025 through 2035.
- The second question is for a renewal of the expiring **Capital Project Levy**. Authorization of this levy will not increase taxes, as it is simply a direct renewal and would be authorized for ten years. This levy provides safety, security and technology for our schools.



Learn more at colheights.k12.mn.us/2023referendum

What does the ballot say?

There will be two referendum questions on the Nov. 7, 2023 Special Election ballot and will read as follows:

QUESTION 1:

“The board of Independent School District No. 13 (Columbia Heights Public Schools), Minnesota has proposed to revoke the School District’s existing referendum revenue authorization of \$308.93 per pupil and replace that authorization with a new authorization of \$827 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 ten (10) years unless otherwise revoked or reduced as provided by law.

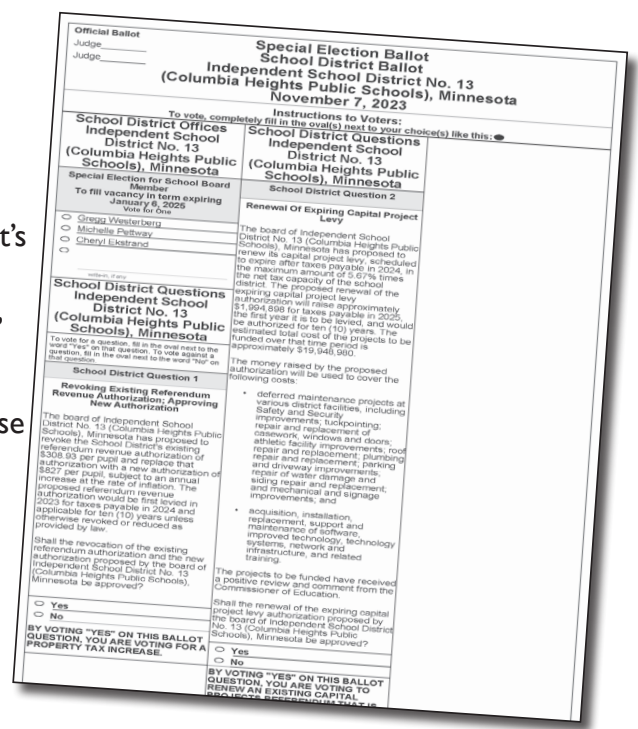
Shall the revocation of the existing referendum authorization and the new authorization proposed by the board of Independent School District No. 13 (Columbia Heights Public Schools), Minnesota be approved?

BY VOTING ‘YES’ ON THIS BALLOT QUESTION, YOU ARE VOTING FOR PROPERTY TAX INCREASE.”

QUESTION 2:

“The board of Independent School District No. 13 (Columbia Heights Public Schools), Minnesota has proposed to renew its capital project levy, scheduled to expire after taxes payable in 2024, at the maximum amount of 5.67% times the net tax capacity of the school district. The proposed renewal of the expiring capital project levy authorization will raise approximately \$1,994,898 for taxes payable in 2025, the first year it is to be levied, and would be authorized for ten (10) years. The estimated total cost of the projects to be funded over that time period is approximately \$19,948,980. The money raised by the proposed authorization will be used to cover the following costs: deferred maintenance projects at various district facilities, including Safety and Security improvements; tuckpointing; repair and replacement of casework; plumbing repair and replacement; parking and driveway improvements; repair of water damage and siding repair and replacement; and mechanical and signage improvements; and acquisition, installation, replacement, support and maintenance of software, improved technology, technology systems, network and infrastructure, and related training. The projects to be funded have received a positive review and comment from the Commissioner of Education.

Shall the renewal of the expiring capital project levy authorization proposed by the board of Independent School District No. 13 (Columbia Heights Public Schools), Minnesota be approved?”



Where can you vote?

There will be two polling locations open 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. for the Nov. 7 Election.

- **If you have previously voted at the below locations, you will now vote at Highland Elementary School, 1500 49th Ave. NE**
 - Columbia Heights P-3 - CH Public Library
 - Columbia Heights P-4 - Highland Elementary
 - Columbia Heights P-5 - First Lutheran Church
 - Columbia Heights P-6 - Hylander Center
 - Fridley W-2 P-3 - North Park School for Innovation
- **If you have previously voted at the below locations, you will now vote at Valley View Elementary School, 800 49th Ave. NE**
 - Columbia Heights P-1 - John P Murzyn Hall
 - Columbia Heights P-2 - Greater Life Tabernacle
 - Columbia Heights P-7 - Valley View Elementary
 - Columbia Heights P-8 - Christlife Church
 - Fridley W-1 P-4 - Fridley Community Center
 - Fridley W-3 P-3 - Stevenson Elementary School
 - Hilltop P-1 - Hilltop City Hall

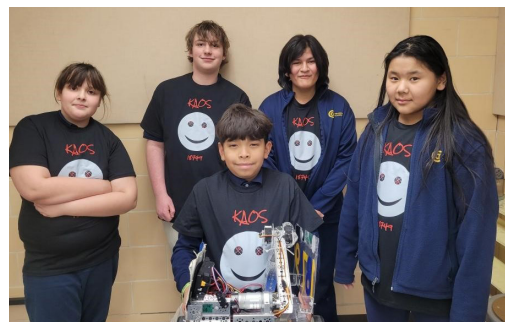


What will be the tax impact on homeowners if the Operating Levy passes?

The increase in taxes is based on the taxable market value of your home. This table provides five examples of home values in the community. This property tax table is only for for the Operating Levy Referendum (Question 1). Question 2 will not increase taxes. A more in-depth tax table can be found on the CHPS Referendum webpage.

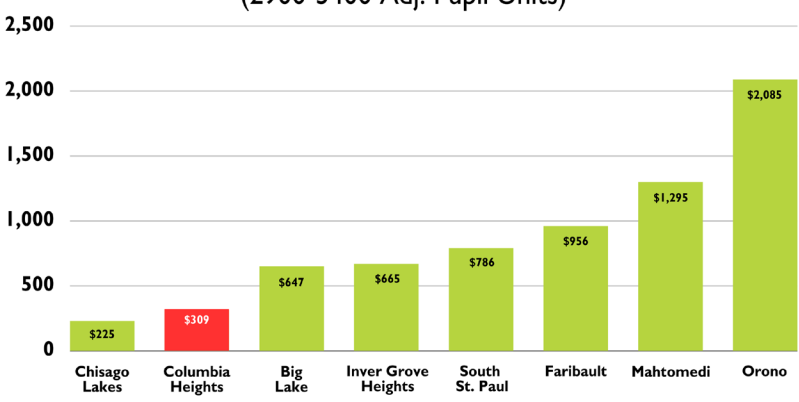
* Denotes the average price of a home in the community.

Taxable Market Value	Current Yearly Taxes	Proposed Yearly Taxes	Yearly Tax Difference
\$150,000	\$52.85 (\$4.40 monthly)	\$141.47 (\$11.79 monthly)	\$88.62 (\$7.39 monthly)
\$200,000	\$70.46 (\$5.87 monthly)	\$188.63 (\$15.72 monthly)	\$118.16 (\$9.85 monthly)
\$245,000*	\$86.32 (\$7.19 monthly)	\$231.07 (\$19.26 monthly)	\$144.75 (\$12.06 monthly)
\$300,000	\$105.69 (\$8.81 monthly)	\$282.94 (\$23.58 monthly)	\$177.25 (\$14.77 monthly)
\$400,000	\$140.92 (\$11.74 monthly)	\$377.25 (\$31.44 monthly)	\$236.33 (\$19.69 monthly)

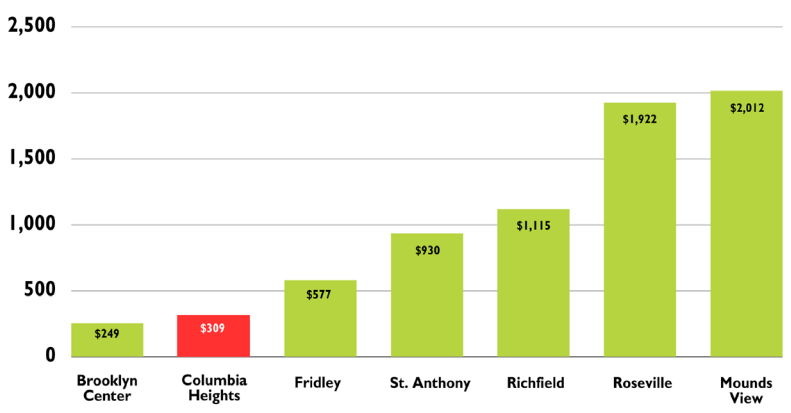


Where does CHPS stand compared to other districts?

Pay 2023 Operating Levy Authority for Similar Sized Districts near Metro (2900-3400 Adj. Pupil Units)



Pay 2023 Operating Levy Authority Neighboring Districts Comparison



Where can I get more information?

For more information, visit colheights.k12.mn.us/2023referendum. The District is also posting updates on social media sites (Facebook: Columbia Heights Public Schools or Instagram: @chpsid13). If you would like additional information, email News@colheights.k12.mn.us or contact Director of Community Ed and Communications, Kristen Stuenkel at StuenkeK@colheights.k12.mn.us or call 763.528.4515.



Columbia Heights Public School District #13
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Columbia Heights, MN 55421-1939
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Scan QR Code to Learn More
About the 2023 Referendum.



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