

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL
DISTRICT #624**



**SCHOOL BOARD
WORK SESSION
PACKET**

September 23, 2024

Independent School District No. 624

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the White Bear Lake Area School District, the community at the forefront of educational excellence, honoring our legacy and courageously building the future, is to ensure each student realizes their unique talents and abilities, and makes meaningful contributions with local and global impact through a vital system distinguished by:

- *Students who design and create their own future*
- *A culture that respects diverse people and ideas*
- *Safe, nurturing and inspiring experiences*
- *Exceptional staff and families committed to student success*
- *Abundant and engaged community partners*

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 624
WHITE BEAR LAKE, MN 55110**

To: Members of the School Board

From: Dr. Wayne A. Kazmierczak
Superintendent of Schools

Date: September 18, 2024

A work session of the White Bear Lake Area School Board will be held on **Monday, September 23, 2024**, at 5:30 p.m. in Room 112 at District Center, 4855 Bloom Avenue, White Bear Lake, MN.

WORK SESSION AGENDA

A. PROCEDURAL ITEMS

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call

B. DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Early Childhood Update
2. Transition Education Center Update

C. OPERATIONAL ITEMS

1. Certification for 2024 Payable 2025 Preliminary Property Tax Levy

D. ADJOURNMENT

B. DISCUSSION ITEMS

AGENDA ITEM: **Early Childhood Update**

MEETING DATE: **September 23, 2024**

SUGGESTED DISPOSITION: **Discussion Item**

CONTACT PERSON(S): **Dr. Alison Gillespie, Assistant Superintendent
for Teaching and Learning;**
**Tim Maurer, Director of Community Services
and Recreation;**
**Lisa Ouren, Director of Student Support
Services**

BACKGROUND:

Dr. Alison Gillespie, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning, Tim Maurer, Director of Community Services and Recreation, Lisa Ouren, Director of Student Support Services, Kristen Nelson, Assistant Director of Early Childhood, and Angela Drange, Assistant Director of Student Support Services will give an update on the Early Childhood Program.

Early Childhood Programs Update

September 23, 2024

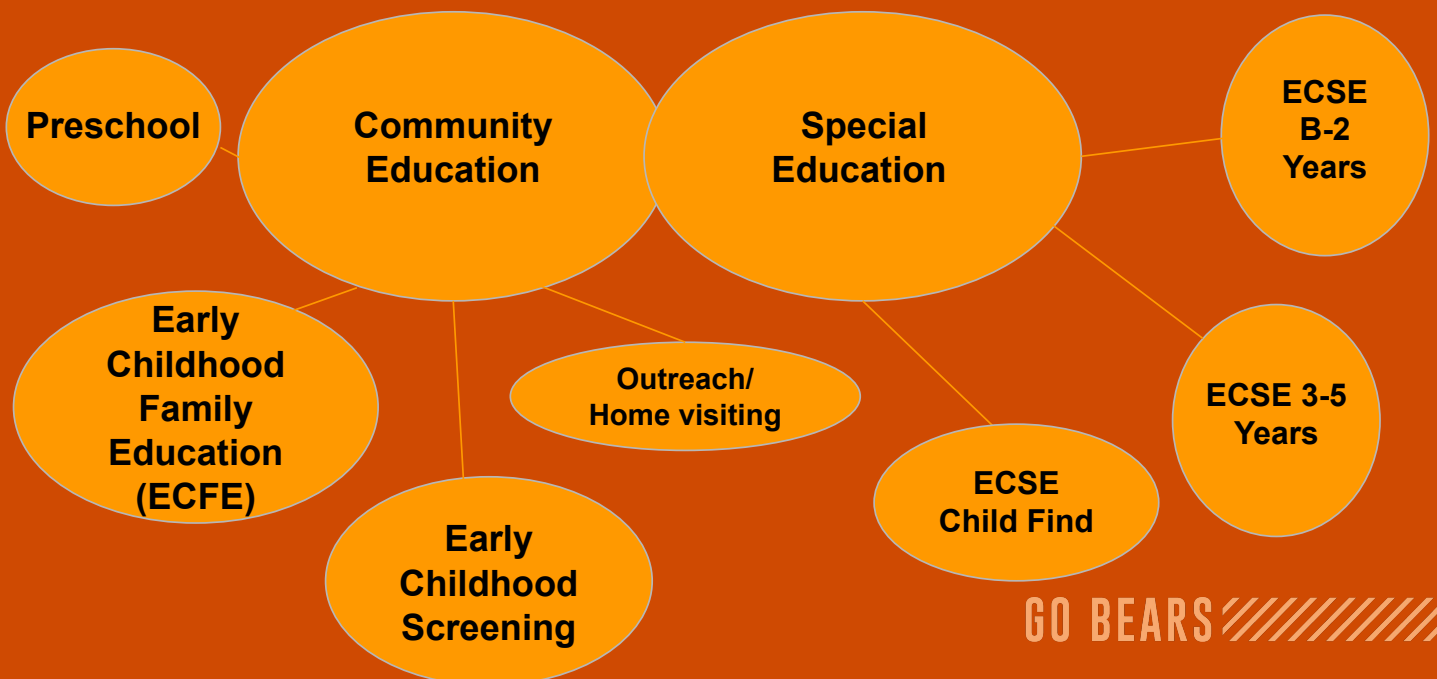
Angela Drange

Assistant Director of
Student Support Services

Kristen Nelson

Assistant Director of
Early Childhood Programs

What does Early Childhood look like in White Bear Lake Area Schools?



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Early Childhood Programs..

Early Childhood Screening

- Screening is required before entrance into kindergarten but is not a screening tool for kindergarten.
- It is offered by White Bear Lake Area Schools at no cost.
- Screening at age 3 is preferred, but a child may be screened between the ages of 3 and the start of kindergarten as required by law.



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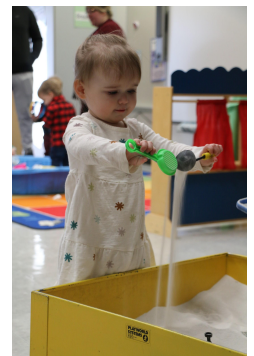
Early Childhood Programs

Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE)

Our programs include classes, playgroups, single parent groups, home visits and parent-child experiences that encourage positive parent/child interaction. Parents are offered hands-on experiences with the children, and participate in parent education discussions.

WBL Early Childhood Outreach Staff

Home visits are offered to families with children birth to age five (not yet in kindergarten). A licensed Family Educator will share information about community resources and talk about how children grow and develop, and how children learn.



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Early Childhood Programs

Preschool

- Full Day options are available at Willow, Vadnais, Birch, Otter, Lakeaires, Tamarack and Oneka.
- Co-taught ½ Day Preschool options are offered at Normandy Park and Oneka Elementary School.
- Families choosing the full day model have access to wrap around care and transportation within the local attendance area where the school is located.



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Early Childhood Special Education

Special Education

Special Education early childhood services are provided to children between the ages of birth to five years. Our children with exceptional needs are seen in a variety of environments including their home, childcare, integrated classes, coordinated playgroups and preschool.



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Early Childhood Action Plan: Strategic Emergence

We will engage diverse learners	We will increase access to early childhood programs	We will foster family and community engagement
<p>We will create an Early Childhood Equity Team.</p> <p>We will offer ongoing equity focused professional development & training for all Early Childhood staff.</p> <p>We will Investigate and research how the Grow Your Own programs & funding could help us connect and support diverse learners in our district.</p>	<p>We will expand outreach and awareness about district early childhood programs throughout the community.</p> <p>We will diversify program locations and options.</p> <p>We will foster collaboration with in-district partners</p>	<p>We will strengthen our partnerships with community preschool programs and childcare centers for outreach and training.</p> <p>We will encourage family participation in our programs.</p> <p>We will partner with community organizations to facilitate access to services.</p>



Engage Diverse Learners



Engaging with Young Multilingual Children and their Families	Diving into Language Focused Planning
<p>Introduction to working with multilingual learners, aimed at building a shared understanding among all staff.</p>	<p>This includes an introduction to intentional, practical tools to engage all adults working in early education settings to support the language development of both monolingual and multilingual children.</p>

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Increase Access to Early Childhood

Diversify options and locations

Additional Monday- Friday All Day
Preschool Class in October

Additional 3's class at Normandy
Park in October

Hugo Elementary future offerings

Additional Spaces at Sunrise

Outreach

Home visiting

Normandy Park Baby Closet

ECFE Family Events

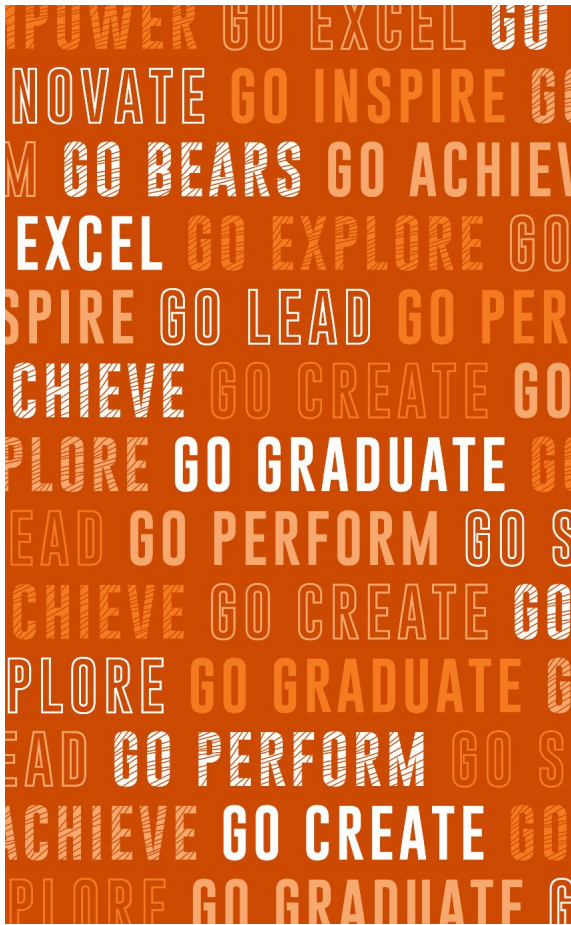
Child and Family Advocate

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Foster Family and Community Engagement



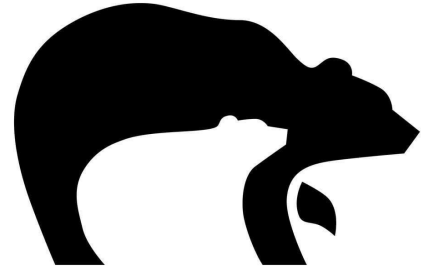
GO BEARS



White Bear Lake Area Schools Early Childhood Programs

"Where Bears Begin"

Thank you



GO BEARS // // // // // // //

AGENDA ITEM: **Transition Education Center Update**

MEETING DATE: **September 23, 2024**

SUGGESTED DISPOSITION: **Discussion Item**

CONTACT PERSON(S): **Dr. Alison Gillespie, Assistant Superintendent
for Teaching and Learning;**
**Lisa Ouren, Director of Student Support
Services**

BACKGROUND:

Dr. Alison Gillespie, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning, Lisa Ouren, Director of Student Support Services, and Sara Derby, Assistant Director of Student Support Services will give an update on the Transition Education Center programs.

Transition Education Center



Beginning the Fall of 2024, TEC relocated to the former Hugo Elementary School





TEC Programming

- Transition Plus (TPlus)
 - Typically students 18-22 years old
- Transition and Post-Secondary Preparation Program (TAPP)
 - Students in grades 9-age 22 years old
- Project SEARCH
 - Students in their last year of transition programming
 - Located at Gillette Children's Speciality Healthcare
- Accountability with Academics and Restorative Education (AWARE)
 - Students in grades 6-12

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Eligibility Until Age 22

Minnesota provides special education services to eligible students with disabilities until the age of 22.

Students are allowed to continue receiving support through Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) beyond 12th grade, helping them gain life, employment, and independent living skills necessary for adulthood.

Services end at the student's 22nd birthday or upon meeting graduation requirements, whichever comes first.

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- GO BEARS

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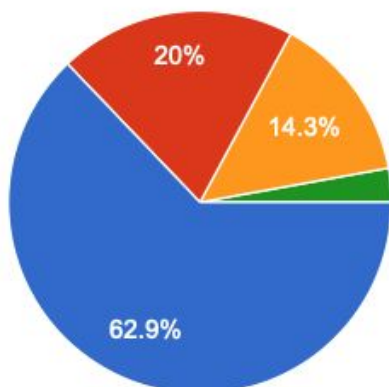
Strategic Plan Tactics

- We will embed personalized post-secondary planning opportunities into our programming during our student's final year of school.
 - Measurable Post-Secondary Goal Check In
- We will understand our students and their needs to ensure belonging.
 - Restorative Circles
 - Positive Feedback Tracking
 - Student survey

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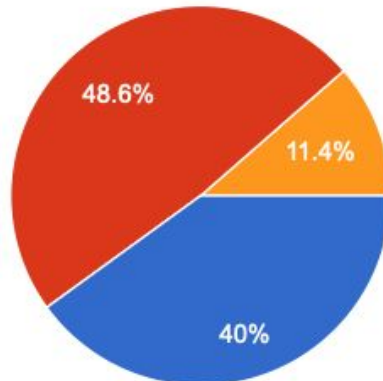
Student Climate Survey Data 2023-2024

TEC Program



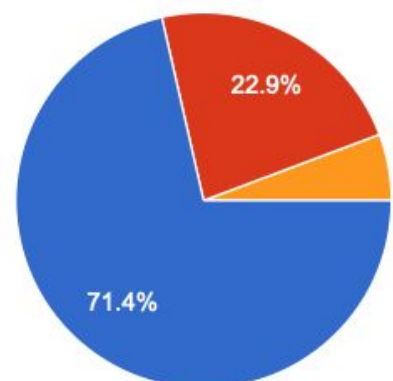
● T-Plus: Transition Plus
● TAPP: Transition and Post-Secondary Preparation Program
● Project SEARCH
● AWARE: Accountability with Academics & Restorative Education

I like school



● Yes
● Sometimes
● No

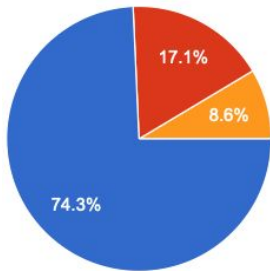
I feel safe at school



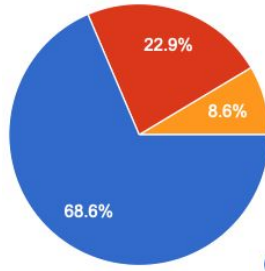
● Yes
● Sometimes
● No



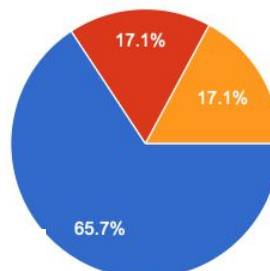
I have friends at school



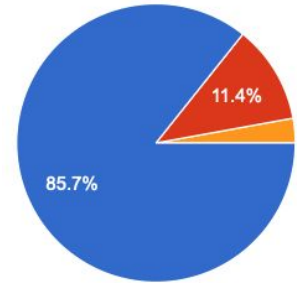
I can be myself at school



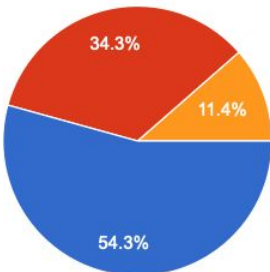
I feel part of this school



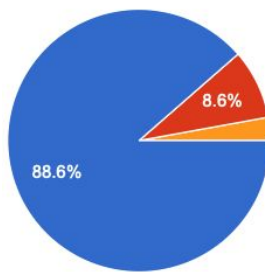
I feel respected by staff



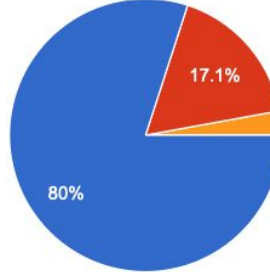
I feel successful at school



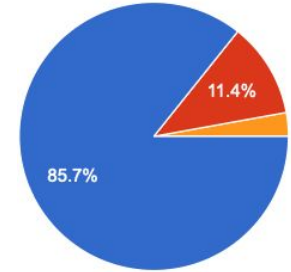
Staff want me to be successful



Staff listen to me

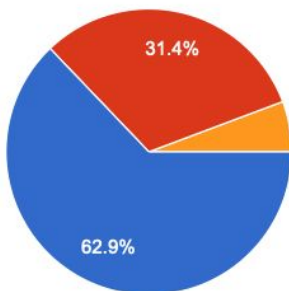


Staff care about my feelings

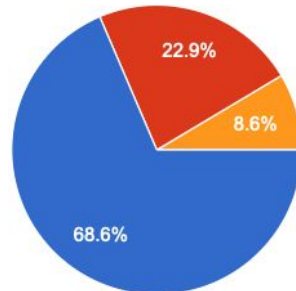


Yes
Sometimes
No

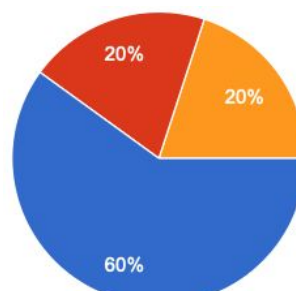
I will ask for help if I need it



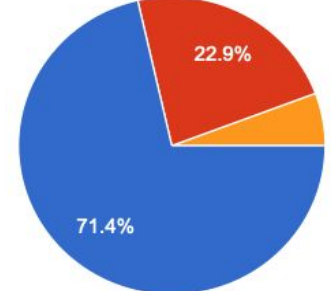
I have chances to help decide things



I know my IEP goals



Staff want me to share my ideas

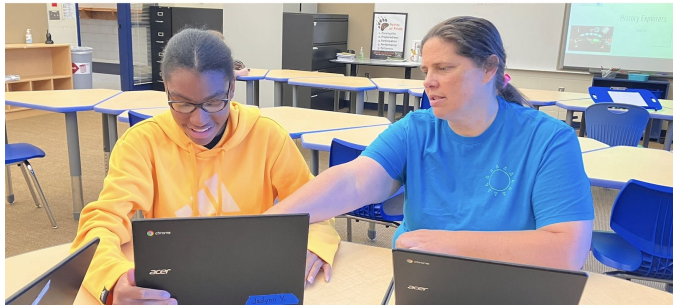


Yes
Sometimes
No

Student Climate Survey Data 2023-2024

These staff really care about me:

- 100% of TEC students identified 1 or more trusted adults at TEC



TEC Course Offering

Academic Development
Academy of Fine Arts
Advisory
American Express
Applied Academics
Bon Appetit
Clubs & Community Excursions
Community Participation
Create and Cardio
Current Events
Employment Seminar
Executive Function Skills For Life
Foundation in Entrepreneurship

Independent Living
Ingredients
Independent Study: Consumer Math
Independent Study: Reading for Life
Life Skills Literature
Independent Study: Transition to Adulthood
Mastering Math Concepts
Media & Technology
Money Management for Young Adults
Music & Lyrics
My PHD

Navigating the Workplace & Community Landscape
Navigation Education
Neighborhood Connections
Partnerships & Perspectives
Personal Finance
Personal Growth & Development
Positive Engagement
Read 180
Recreation & Leisure
Safe & Healthy You
Skills to Pay the Bills
Work-Based Learning



Project SEARCH

- This is the 8th school year of Project SEARCH
- 41 interns have completed the program
 - 7 new interns this school year
- 80-100% of interns have achieved competitive employment outcomes after graduation (*Exception: during COVID 70%*)
 - Working at least 16 hours, at minimum wage or higher, and in an integrated setting
 - 7 interns have been hired at Gillette (full time, part-time or seasonal)
 - Supply chain, Rehabilitation Therapies, Perianesthesia, Patient Engagement, Health Information Management, and Environmental Services



Department/Rotation Examples

- Environmental Services
- Patient Engagement
- Supply Chain (205 & 455)
- Lifetime Clinic
- Orthotics, Prosthetics, & Seating
- Human Resources/Education
- Surgical Services & Sterile Processing
- Perianesthesia
- Administration
- Outpatient Clinics
- Inpatient Units
- Health Information Management
- Therapeutic Recreation
- Pediatric Intensive Care Unit
- Research



Job Task Examples

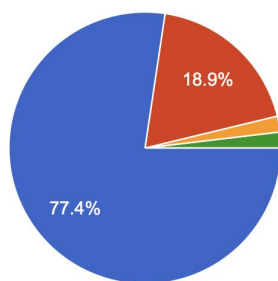
- Data entry, scanning, faxing, organizing files, printing reports, and interpreter sheets
- Collecting and filing documents throughout the hospital
- Mail and supply delivery, picking orders, stocking supply carts and closets
- Clean & sanitize equipment, stocking linens maintaining welcome areas and waiting rooms
- Measuring and cutting straps, making cast molds, trace/cut foam
- Cleaning and preparing rooms for clinic, family rooms or therapies
- Organizing and stocking surgical supplies, assembling instruments, assisting with sterilization
- Interacting with patients, families and welcoming them to our facility
- Reviewing product expiration dates
- Unboxing and labeling sterile waters
- Projects upon department request



AWARE Data 2023-2024

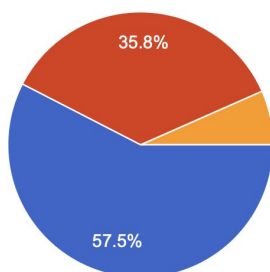
Number of Referrals

- 1st Referral to AWARE
- 2nd Referral to AWARE

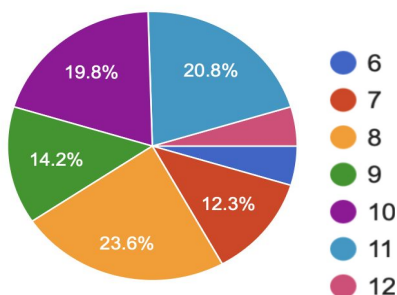


Gender

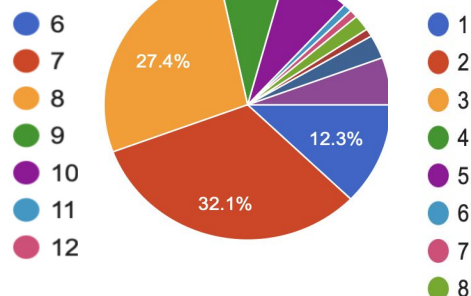
- Male
- Female
- Non-Binary/Other



Grade



Number of Days Referred



TEC Building Goals

Increase the attendance rate for students in the Transition and Post-Secondary and Preparation Program (TAPP)

- Identify and problem-solve barriers, flexible scheduling, mental health support

TEC students identified as “needs instruction” on the DESSA Pre-Assessment questionnaire will receive instruction in their targeted need areas to enhance their social-emotional wellness

- Large group, small group and individual supports, guest speakers, co-located mental health & outside providers invited into TEC

Students in the Transition Plus program, along with their families, will participate in school-sponsored event(s) aimed to increase social opportunities for young adults with disabilities and to provide families with resources that support their preparation for life after graduation

- Open House (67 students/families in attendance)
- Family Engagement Nights (Host 3)
 - September 19th (50 students/families in attendance)



POWER GO EXCEL GO EXPLORE GO GRADUATE GO TONITE



POWER GO EXCEL GO EXPLORE GO GRADUATE GO TONITE



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Questions

Sara Derby

Assistant Director of Student Support Services

sara.derby@isd624.org

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C. OPERATIONAL ITEMS

AGENDA ITEM: **Certification for 2024 Payable 2025 Preliminary Property Tax Levy**

MEETING DATE: **September 23, 2024**

SUGGESTED DISPOSITION: **Operational Item**

CONTACT PERSON(S): **Tim Wald, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations;**
Andi Johnson, Director of Finance

BACKGROUND:

The School Board is required to certify to the auditors of Anoka, Ramsey, and Washington Counties the School District's preliminary 2024 Payable 2025 Preliminary Property Tax Levy by September 30, 2024. The most recent levy estimate will be provided at the School Board meeting.

The administration recommends that the School Board certify the maximum levy as provided by state law; certifying the preliminary levy in this manner allows for changes prior to the final levy certification in December. Changes could be made for a variety of reasons, such as changes to state aid and levy calculations made by the MDE, or changes made by the District such as previously unanticipated Long-Term Facilities Maintenance (LTFM) projects.

School districts are required to discuss the payable 2025 levy and the current year's budget (fiscal year 2024-25) at a regularly scheduled board meeting and allow the public to speak. This will occur at the December 9, 2024 School Board meeting at 6:00 p.m. The final levy certification will be approved at that meeting.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Approve the maximum for the 2024 Payable 2025 Proposed Preliminary Property Tax Levy.

White Bear Lake School District No. 624

September 20, 2024

Property Tax Levy and Rate Summary, Taxes Payable in 2024 and 2025

	Certified Levy Payable in 2024		Proposed Levy Payable in 2025	Change
Tax Levy Information				
1. Total Certified Levy Spread on RMV	20,952,611		22,159,707	1,207,096
2. General Fund Levy Spread on NTC	14,033,282		11,744,049	-2,289,233
3. Community Service Fund Levy	1,106,414		1,359,138	252,724
4. General Debt Service Levy	30,610,106		35,215,005	4,604,900
5. OPEB Debt Service Levy	0		0	0
6. Total Certified Levy	66,702,413	5.7%	70,477,900	3,775,487
Fiscal Disparities Adjustment to Levy				
7. RMV-Based Levies	1,854,102		1,854,102	0
8. General Debt Service	2,306,131		2,306,131	0
9. Other NTC-Based Levies	1,140,610		1,140,610	0
10. Total Fiscal Disparities Adjustment	5,300,843		5,300,843	0
Summary of Adjusted Levies				
11. RMV-Based Levies	19,098,509		20,305,605	1,207,096
12. General Debt Service	28,303,975		32,908,874	4,604,900
13. Other NTC-Based Levies	13,999,086		11,962,577	-2,036,509
14. Total Adjusted Levies	61,401,570		65,177,057	3,775,487
Property Value Information				
15. RMV Used to Calculate Rate	11,661,514,775	3.5%	12,071,322,030	409,807,255
16. NTC Used to Calculate Rate	124,398,904	1.0%	125,643,475	1,244,571
Actual and Estimated Tax Rates				
17. RMV Rate (#11/#15)	0.16377%		0.16821%	0.00444%
18. NTC Debt Rate (#12/#16)	22.753%		26.192%	3.440%
19. NTC Other Rate (#13/#16)	11.253%		9.521%	-1.732%

Key Assumptions:

Preliminary Pay 2025 RMV is estimated to change by 3.51% and NTC by 1.00% as compared to taxes payable 2024.

White Bear Lake School District No. 624

September 20, 2024

Property Taxes - Actual for Payable 2024 and Estimates for Payable 2025

	Actual Taxes Payable in 2024	Preliminary Estimate of Taxes Payable in 2025	Estimated Change in Annual Taxes	Estimated % Change
RMV-Based Levies	\$19,098,509	\$20,305,605	\$1,207,096	6.32%
NTC-Debt Service	\$28,303,975	\$32,908,874	\$4,604,900	16.27%
Other NTC-Based Levies	\$13,999,086	\$11,962,577	-\$2,036,509	-14.55%
Totals	\$61,401,570	\$65,177,057	\$3,775,487	6.15%

Type of Property	Estimated Market Value	Estimated Annual School District Property Taxes *			
Residential Homestead	\$100,000	\$408	\$391	-\$17	-4.2%
	150,000	675	670	-5	-0.7%
	200,000	942	949	7	0.7%
	250,000	1,209	1,227	18	1.5%
	300,000	1,477	1,506	29	2.0%
	350,000	1,744	1,785	41	2.4%
	400,000	2,011	2,064	53	2.6%
	450,000	2,267	2,342	75	3.3%
	500,000	2,519	2,621	102	4.0%
	600,000	3,108	3,241	133	4.3%
	700,000	3,697	3,856	159	4.3%
Commercial/Industrial **	\$100,000	\$503	\$524	\$21	4.2%
	250,000	1,371	1,430	59	4.3%
	500,000	2,911	3,038	127	4.4%
	750,000	4,451	4,646	195	4.4%
	1,000,000	5,991	6,254	263	4.4%
Apartments	\$200,000	\$1,178	\$1,229	\$51	4.3%
	500,000	2,944	3,073	129	4.4%
	1,000,000	5,888	6,146	258	4.4%
	2,000,000	11,777	12,293	516	4.4%

Key Assumptions:

1. Preliminary Pay 2025 RMV is estimated to change by 3.51% and NTC by 1.00% as compared to taxes payable 2024.
 2. Assumes no change in the value of individual parcels of property from 2024 to 2025 taxes. If the value of a parcel changed, the change in taxes will be different than shown above.
 3. Taxes payable in 2025 are based on latest estimates of proposed levy, as of the date above.
- * The Homestead Market Value Exclusion was modified starting with 2024 assessments (taxes payable in 2025) during Minnesota's 2023 legislative session. The change provides additional property tax relief for residential homestead properties with a value greater than \$76,000 and less than \$517,200.
- ** For commercial-industrial property, the estimates above are for property in the City of White Bear Lake. The tax impact for commercial industrial property in other municipalities in the school district may be slightly different due to the varying impact of the Twin Cities Fiscal Disparity program.