



FACT SHEET: Capital Projects Technology Levy Renewal

The Capital Projects Technology Levy that was approved by voters in 2014 expires this year. Thanks to the generosity of the community, the technology levy provided \$6.6 million in funding for technology last year (2023-24), which has allowed Robbinsdale Area Schools to remain competitive with other public schools.

Technology for learning, safety and support

Voters now have the opportunity to renew the technology levy in a referendum this November. The Capital Projects Technology Levy Renewal will provide:

- **Technology for Learning** – Keeps Robbinsdale’s students competitive in a digital world.
- **Technology for Safer Schools** – Combining technology with site improvements increases the safety and security of school environments and enhances learning.
- **Technology to Support Staff** – Provides staff with effective and reliable technology and teaching tools.

Strong Commitment for Schools – Renewing the technology levy will not increase anyone’s tax rate, and is supported by the community.

Renewal = TAX RATE REMAINS THE SAME

What is the plan?

Robbinsdale Area Schools will hold a Nov. 5, 2024, referendum to extend the levy another 10 years

- **The tax rate of 4.207 percent will not increase** - the rate will remain the same as the rate approved by voters in 2014
- The renewed levy will provide \$7 million in funds beginning with the 2025-26 school year
- Revenue would be dedicated to maintaining **technology** and improving **safety and security** at schools



SURVEY SAYS

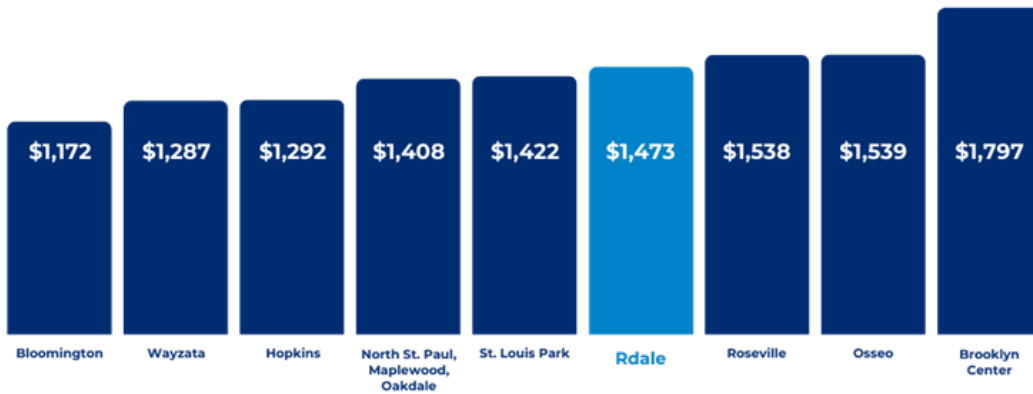
70% of parents and district staff prioritize secure building entrances and security infrastructure

83% of residents support renewal of the capital projects levy



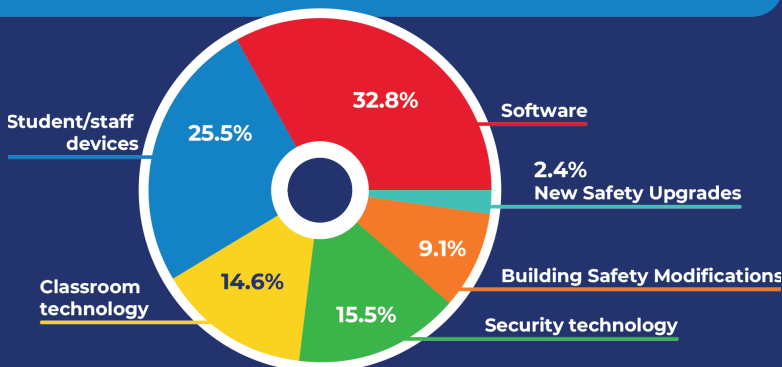
Robbinsdale's school taxes are competitive with similar school districts.

TOTAL SCHOOL TAXES COMPARISON FOR RESIDENTIAL HOMES (2024-25)



Based on average residential home valued at \$322,600 for each district

Planned Uses of Referendum Revenue



Student/staff devices: Annual replacement of a third of all Chromebooks or iPads

Software: Subscriptions for instructional and non-instructional software (Google Workspace, Microsoft Services, Schoology), cybersecurity

Classroom technology: Data projectors, digital panels, data centers, wireless access

Security technology: Cameras, card readers, monitoring, mass notification systems

Building safety modifications: 4,000 square feet of remodeled entryways

New safety upgrades: 4,000 square feet of entryway additions

What if the referendum is not approved?

- If the Capital Projects Technology Levy Renewal isn't approved by voters, it will require shifting \$7 million of current technology expenses to the general fund.
- Moving the district's technology budget to the general fund will reduce funding for programs and staff, which impacts our students' educational needs and supports.
- Those reductions would be in addition to the \$17.4 million that was reduced this school year.

According to a National Alliance of Business report, "The second most often cited reason for a business selecting a particular location is the quality of the schools."

Good schools are also shown to attract and retain families. A community that attracts families and businesses tends to have a stronger tax base, higher home values, and a tax burden that is spread more widely.

Strong Schools Strong Communities



Voting information

Vote early beginning Sept. 20, by mail or in person.
Vote on Election Day, Nov. 5, between 7am and 8pm

For more information

Web: rdale.org/LevyRenewal2024

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/RobbinsdaleAreaSchools>

Email: Referendum@rdale.org

Find out about
community
meetings on
our website!



ROBBINSDALE
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