



ST. MICHAEL-ALBERTVILLE SCHOOLS OPERATING LEVY AND BOND VOTE 2025

SAMPLE BALLOT

School District Question 1 Approval of School District Referendum Revenue Authorization

The school board of Independent School District No. 885 (St. Michael-Albertville Schools) has proposed to increase its referendum revenue authorization by the following amounts for the taxes payable in the years specified below:

- \$275 per pupil for taxes payable in 2026 through 2027; and
- \$835 per pupil for taxes payable 2028 through 2035.

The proposed referendum revenue authorization would be applicable during the ten-year period specified, unless otherwise revoked or reduced as provided by law.

Shall the increase in the revenue proposed by the school board of Independent School District No. 885 for the years specified be approved?

YES NO

BY VOTING "YES" ON THIS BALLOT QUESTION,
YOU ARE VOTING FOR A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE.

School District Question 2 Approval of School District Bond Issue

If School District Question 1 is approved, shall the school board of Independent School District No. 885 (St. Michael-Albertville Schools) also be authorized to issue its general obligation school building bonds in an amount not to exceed \$21,000,000 to provide funds for the acquisition and betterment of school sites and facilities, including, enhancing safety and security systems at school buildings; updating learning technology and related infrastructure; completing maintenance and facility improvements; constructing and equipping a K-12 science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) addition; and upgrades to media centers?

YES NO

BY VOTING "YES" ON THIS BALLOT QUESTION,
YOU ARE VOTING FOR A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE.

The district is requesting an operating levy to prevent further cuts to programs and services, maintain class sizes and quality staff.

72% of Minnesota school districts rely on a local voter-approved operating referendum to fund essential services, averaging \$1,147 per student [source: MDE]. STMA does not have an operating referendum.

Many of the projects included in this plan have been postponed for years due to ongoing funding challenges. They are essential needs that directly impact learning environments, safety, and long-term infrastructure. Using general fund dollars would only pull resources away from classroom instruction.

The total tax impact would be about \$25 per month for a \$400,000 STMA home.

Calculate your tax impact by scanning the QR code.



The phased approach uses district funds and smaller short-term levy increases, then gradually raises the voter-approved levy as other levy components decrease. This structure helps keep taxes more stable for residents while also helping the district avoid long-term budget cuts to programs and services.

If Question 1 does not pass, the district anticipates cutting approximately 19–25 teaching positions for the 2026–2027 school year, with additional cuts likely in the following years. This would lead to larger class sizes and reduced individual support for students.

The district is requesting bond funds to address district-wide building needs. Question 2 can only pass if question 1 is approved.

If Question 2 does not pass, critical facility needs will have to be funded by reallocating money from the general fund, the same fund that supports teachers, staff, and classroom resources. This shift could directly impact the quality of education and increase class sizes.

Prepared and paid for by Independent School District No. 885 (St. Michael-Albertville), 11343 50th Street NE, Albertville, MN 55301.
This publication is not circulated on behalf of any candidate or ballot questions.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT STMA.K12.MN.US/VOTE2025.
HAVE QUESTIONS? EMAIL VOTE2025@MYSTMA.ORG OR CALL 763-497-3180.