



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

Our district is facing a critical funding challenge that requires community-wide attention. Despite making \$7.3 million in budget reductions and eliminating 77 staff positions over the past three years, our financial situation remains unsustainable. Without additional revenue, we project further reductions in 2027, including the potential loss of 19-25 more teaching positions and even deeper reductions in future years.



WHAT WILL BE ON THE NOVEMBER 4TH BALLOT?



A 10-year operating levy that will generate \$275 per student for the first two years and \$835 per student for the following eight years to balance the budget and support day-to-day district operations, including maintaining current class sizes, programs, and services.



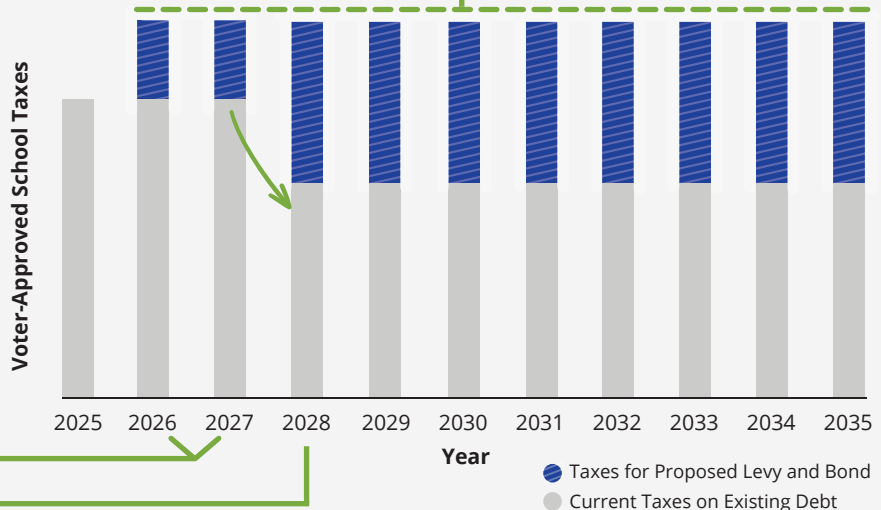
A \$21 million bond to improve safety and security, update technology, complete infrastructure updates, renovate academic spaces, and build a hands-on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) Center.

LONG-TERM TAX STABILITY

Total tax impact would be about **\$25 PER MONTH** for a \$400,000 STMA home

The proposed operating levy will provide \$2 million in 2026 and 2027 (\$275 per student), with the remaining needed operating funds coming from the district's fund balance (cash on hand). STMA residents provided feedback that the district should spend down a portion of their savings. To be fiscally responsible, the district will be able to do this for 2 years.

This phased approach maintains a stable tax impact throughout the 10-year term of the operating levy and new question 2 bond payments.



Beginning in 2028, the district's existing debt drops. The operating levy will then support the full \$6.3 million deficit (\$835 per student).

LOOKING FOR MORE INFORMATION?

Scan the QR code or visit www.stma.k12.mn.us/vote2025 to learn more about the vote.



WHY IS THERE A NEED FOR ADDITIONAL OPERATING FUNDING?

The cost to educate students continues to rise each year, but the State's per-student funding formula has not kept pace. Today, Minnesota school districts receive 19% less per student than they did in 2005, which equates to \$1,420 less per student. STMA is among the lowest-funded districts, receiving nearly \$4,000 less per student than the state average.

Because of this shortfall, most districts rely on local taxpayers to help fund operations. In fact, 72% of Minnesota school districts have a voter-approved operating referendum. STMA does not!

In recent years, the district has utilized the fund balance (cash on hand) and reduced staff to balance our budget. This practice is no longer sustainable as the district needs a cash reserve to properly fund daily operations.

WHAT IS INCLUDED IN THE BOND PROJECTS?

The proposed facility projects were identified as needs that align with the district's strategic planning pillars; Safety and Security, Technology, Maintenance, and Academics.

SAFETY + SECURITY **\$4.3 MILLION**

- Security Doors
HS
- Playgrounds: Rubber Play Surface and ADA Compliance
AP, BW, CE, FE, STME
- Phone Landlines
DISTRICT-WIDE
- Paging and Bell Systems
DISTRICT-WIDE
- Fire Panels
BW, FE, HS
- Security Cameras
DISTRICT-WIDE
- Vape Detectors
HS, MS

TECHNOLOGY **\$5.7 MILLION**

- Classroom Boards and Audio Systems
DISTRICT-WIDE
- Infrastructure
DISTRICT-WIDE
- Auditorium and Gym AV Systems
DISTRICT-WIDE
- Boardroom Recording
DISTRICT-WIDE

MAINTENANCE **\$2.8 MILLION**

- Activity Fitness Center Equipment and Flooring
HS
- Flexible Theater and Music Space
HS
- Baseball and Softball Field Upgrades
HS

ACADEMICS **\$8.2 MILLION**

- Media Center and Conference Rooms
HS
- Media Center
STME
- K-12 Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) Center
HS

VOTING IS NOW OPEN

Vote Early NOW- November 3



IN-PERSON ABSENTEE VOTING

COMBINED POLLING LOCATION FOR ALBERTVILLE, HANOVER, OTSEGO, AND ST. MICHAEL

STMA District Office, Door A
Middle School West 11343 50th St NE, Albertville
M-F 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

MONTICELLO TOWNSHIP

Wright County Government Center
3650 Braddock Ave NE, Buffalo
M-F 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

SCAN HERE TO REQUEST A MAIL-IN BALLOT TODAY!



EXERCISE YOUR RIGHT TO VOTE ON OR BEFORE ELECTION DAY, NOVEMBER 4TH!

Prepared and paid for by Independent School District No. 885 (St. Michael-Albertville Schools), 11343 50th Street NE, Albertville, MN 55301.