



District Voters Approve Building Repairs and Operating Levy for Badger Community School

The approved funding will address critical facilities needs at the school and help stabilize the district's budget.

BADGER, MINN. — Voters in the Badger Public School District approved Questions One and Two of a three-question referendum on Tuesday, securing \$5.44 million in new funding for facilities needs and \$100,000 annually over the next decade to stabilize the district's budget.

Question One passed by a margin of 210 (63.83%) to 119 (36.17%), authorizing a \$5.34 million investment in overdue building repairs and accessibility improvements at the school. Question Two passed by a margin of 179 (54.91%) to 147 (45.09%), approving a \$100,000 operating levy to help stabilize the district's budget and protect staffing levels, classroom programs, and student support services. Question Three, which proposed an \$11.24 million investment to expand and improve learning spaces, did not pass.

"I'm deeply grateful to our community for supporting our students and school," said Superintendent Dan Carpenter. "These approvals mean we can fix serious building issues and protect the staff, programs, and services our students rely on."

The funding from Question One will address the school's aging infrastructure, including a failing HVAC system, outdated boilers that recently broke down, and restroom accessibility. The operating levy funding from Question Two will help restore financial stability and fund day-to-day school needs such as classroom supplies, staff salaries, utilities, and routine maintenance.

Because Question Three did not pass, the district will not move forward with plans to improve and expand learning spaces for special education, music, career and technical education programs, and physical education.

"This is a big step forward for our school," added Carpenter. "Thank you to everyone who took the time to learn about the referendum, ask questions, and make their voice heard."

For more information about the referendum, visit BetterForBadger.org.