

PERMANENT SCHOOL FUND

MINNESOTA'S 2026 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

ON THE BALLOT
NOVEMBER 3, 2026

OFFICIAL BALLOT QUESTION

"Shall the Minnesota Constitution be amended to increase the funding going to all school districts from the permanent school fund, which is a fund that supports school districts without raising individual income or property taxes, effective July 1, 2027?"

WHY IS THIS ON THE BALLOT?

The Permanent School Fund was created nearly 170 years ago. The fund has grown substantially, but its constitutional distribution rules have not kept pace with modern investment practices. The proposed amendment would allow a market-value-based formula intended to provide more stable support for students today while preserving the fund's purchasing power for future generations.

TEN QUICK FACTS TO KNOW

1 THE FUND HAS EXISTED SINCE 1858

It was created when Minnesota became a state to provide long-term support for public education.

2 THE FUND ALREADY BENEFITS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Every public school district, charter school, and tribal school currently receives funding from the fund.

3 THE FUND HAS GROWN SIGNIFICANTLY

It grew from about \$675 million in 2010 to \$2.3 billion in fiscal year 2025. Distributions have not kept pace under the current constitutional limits.

4 THE FORMULA WOULD CHANGE - TAXES WOULD NOT

If approved, state law would use 4.5% of the fund's three-year average market value instead of limiting distributions to interest and dividends. It does not raise property, income, sales, or other taxes.

5 THE PURPOSE OF THE FUND REMAINS THE SAME

The Permanent School Fund would remain dedicated to supporting Minnesota public education.

6 EVERY DISTRICT WOULD CONTINUE TO BENEFIT

Funding would continue to be distributed statewide to public school districts, charter schools, and tribal schools.

7 THE PROPOSAL RECEIVED STRONG BIPARTISAN SUPPORT

A nine-member legislative task force unanimously endorsed the recommendations. The Legislature then placed the amendment on the ballot with strong bipartisan support.

8 VOTER APPROVAL IS REQUIRED

Because the current distribution language is in the Minnesota Constitution, voters must approve the proposed changes.

9 A BLANK VOTE COUNTS AS A NO VOTE

Under Minnesota law, skipping a constitutional amendment question has the same effect as voting no.

10 THE GOAL INCLUDES CURRENT AND FUTURE STUDENTS

The proposal is intended to increase support for today's students while maintaining the fund as a long-term resource.



LEARN MORE
www.mnpsfamendment.org

SOURCES: Minnesota Secretary of State; 2026 Laws of Minnesota, Chapter 114; Permanent School Fund Task Force Report; mnpsfamendment.org.

Barnesville Public Schools - educational information only; this handout does not advocate a yes or no vote.