



# Hopkins Public Schools Referendum November 2017

## Cast your vote on November 7, 2017!

Hopkins Public Schools is conducting a referendum on Tuesday, November 7, with three ballot questions — a bond to update and expand our facilities, a capital projects levy to support technology and curriculum, and an operating levy to maintain Hopkins Public Schools' programs and services.

### Question 1: Bond Build for the Future

**What we're asking for:** Authorize a \$30 million bond to fund renovations and repairs to school sites and facilities, and also refinance our existing lease levy.

#### Official Ballot Language Below:

##### SCHOOL DISTRICT QUESTION 1 APPROVAL OF SCHOOL DISTRICT BOND ISSUE

Shall the board of Independent School District No. 270 (Hopkins Public Schools) be authorized to issue its general obligation school building bonds in an amount not to exceed \$30,000,000 to provide funds for the acquisition and betterment of school sites and facilities, including the prepayment of lease-purchase agreements previously entered into to finance additions to the L.H. Tanglen and Meadowbrook Elementary School sites and facilities; the construction of an addition to and the remodeling and construction of improvements to Meadowbrook Elementary School; the remodeling and construction of learning spaces at Hopkins High School and West Junior High and North Junior High Schools; the construction of traffic and parking improvements at Glen Lake Elementary School; the construction of an addition to the high school's cafeteria and kitchen, and the remodeling of athletic and recreational facilities, storage, and offices at the high school; the construction of improvements to fields at West Junior High School; and the construction of improvements to the stadium entrance, recreational facilities and common areas at the high school?

YES  NO

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

This is the total amount of the bond that will be paid off over the next 16 years.

\$6.9 million of the bond will be used to refinance our lease levy, at a cost savings to our taxpayers.

We will add seven classrooms to Meadowbrook Elementary to meet current enrollment demands.

This will result in more places for students to study, increased access to music programs, and more hands-on STEM learning that aligns with our International Baccalaureate curriculum at the junior high.

The tax impact on a \$250,000 home is \$2 per month.

Refer to the chart on the back for more detailed information and the combined tax impact of all three proposals.

### Question 2: Capital Projects Levy Advance the Innovation

**What we're asking for:** Repeal the 2010 and 2013 capital projects levies, and combine them into one levy with a slight increase of .44 percent.

#### Official Ballot Language Below:

##### SCHOOL DISTRICT QUESTION 2 REVOKING EXISTING CAPITAL PROJECT LEVY AUTHORIZATIONS; APPROVING A NEW AUTHORIZATION

The board of Independent School District No. 270 (Hopkins Public Schools) has proposed to revoke its existing capital project levy authorization of 6.386535% times the net tax capacity of the school district as approved in 2010 and its existing capital project levy authorization of 1.882% times the net tax capacity of the school district as approved in 2013, and to replace those two authorizations with a new combined authorization of 8.7054% times the net tax capacity of the school district.

The proposed new authorization will raise approximately \$9,963,839 for taxes payable in 2018, the first year it is to be levied, and would be authorized for ten years. The estimated total cost of the projects to be funded over that time period is approximately \$99,638,390. The money raised by the proposed authorization will be used to provide funds for the acquisition, installation and maintenance of software, curriculum, instructional equipment and improved technology and technology systems in various school district facilities.

Shall the school district's two existing capital project levy authorizations be revoked and the new capital project levy authorization proposed by the board of Independent School District No. 270 be approved?

YES  NO

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

The capital projects levy is a vital resource to the technology innovation that is happening in our classrooms every day.

The District is proposing a slight increase of less than half a percent (.44%), which would generate an additional \$500,000 annually. This would fund upgrades to our technology infrastructure.

The tax impact on a \$250,000 home is \$1 per month.



Prepared and paid for by:  
Hopkins Public Schools  
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Hopkins, MN 55305

This publication is not circulated on behalf of any candidate or ballot questions.

**What do all of these terms mean?**



**Referendum:**  
A legal vote or election by citizens on any issue.

**Bond:**  
A bond referendum is used to raise funds to renovate or build facilities. Funds from a bond referendum can only be used for this purpose and cannot be used to pay for the general operations of a school district.

**Capital Projects Levy:**  
This levy gives school districts the authority to spread out the purchase of items such as technology infrastructure and curriculum for students over a specified number of years.

**Operating Levy:**  
A local tax that district residents approve to help support student programs, opportunities, and services in their local districts.

**Question 3: Operating Levy**  
**Continue the Excellence**

**What we're asking for:** Repeal the current operating referendum levy and replace it with a new, 10-year levy.

**Official Ballot Language Below:**

**SCHOOL DISTRICT QUESTION 3  
REVOKING EXISTING REFERENDUM REVENUE AUTHORIZATION; APPROVING A NEW AUTHORIZATION**

The board of Independent School District No. 270 (Hopkins Public Schools) has proposed to revoke the **school district's existing referendum** revenue authorization of \$2,044.53 per pupil and to replace that authorization with a new authorization of \$2,075 **per pupil**. The proposed new referendum revenue authorization would increase each year by the rate of inflation and be applicable for ten years, beginning with taxes payable in 2018, unless otherwise revoked or reduced as provided by law.

Shall the school district's existing referendum revenue authorization be revoked and the increase in the revenue proposed by the board of Independent School District No. 270 be approved?

YES       NO

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

The existing levy accounts for **\$15 million annually** of the District's \$89 million general fund, or **roughly 17 percent**.

The per-student revenue would stay the same with this new authorization. The levy would be in place for 10 years.

If approved, this would have **no additional tax impact** on homeowners.

**When and where do I vote?**



**Election Day is November 7, 2017!**

Visit the Office of the Secretary of State to find your polling location: [pollfinder.sos.state.mn.us](http://pollfinder.sos.state.mn.us).

**Vote early! Learn how at:**

[HopkinsSchools.org/referendum](http://HopkinsSchools.org/referendum)

**\$2** + **\$1** + **\$0** = **\$3**

Question One      Question Two      Question Three      Total Monthly Cost

**One Low Tax Impact**

If all three questions are approved, the tax impact would be **\$3 per month** for a \$250,000 home, the average home value in our District.

Estimated Property Value	Question 1 Bond	Question 2 Capital Projects Levy	Question 3 Operating Levy	Tax Impact for All Three Questions
\$150,000	\$1.08	\$0.42	\$0	\$1.50
\$250,000	\$2.08	\$0.83	\$0	\$2.91
\$350,000	\$3.00	\$1.25	\$0	\$4.25
\$500,000	\$4.42	\$1.83	\$0	\$6.25
\$600,000	\$5.50	\$2.33	\$0	\$7.83



**HOPKINS**  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
1001 Highway 7  
Hopkins, MN 55305  
[www.HopkinsSchools.org](http://www.HopkinsSchools.org)  
Time Value

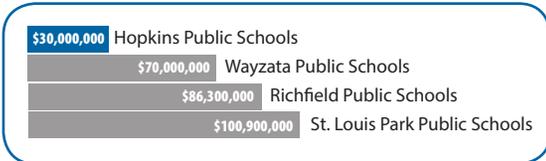
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**Referendum at a Glance**

**How Does Our Bond Compare?**

This graph compares the bond amount Hopkins Public Schools is asking for with three of our neighboring school districts.



**What Is the Capital Projects Levy?**

The capital projects levy is a vital resource to the technology innovation that is happening in our classrooms every day. Projects supported through this levy allow Hopkins Public Schools to create robust digital learning environments from preschool through high school.

**Why Do we Need an Operating Levy?**

The existing operating levy accounts for \$15 million annually of the District's \$89 million general fund budget. These dollars are used to maintain or enhance the quality of existing instructional programs and services.

**Questions?**



**Email:** [Communications@HopkinsSchools.org](mailto:Communications@HopkinsSchools.org)  
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**More details available on our website:**  
[HopkinsSchools.org/referendum](http://HopkinsSchools.org/referendum)