



Hopkins Public Schools

# Referendum 2017

## ? What do all 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. These dollars are used to maintain or enhance the quality of existing educational and instructional programs and services.

## ✓ 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).

**Learn how you can vote early on our website.**

## Questions?

**Email:** [Communications@HopkinsSchools.org](mailto:Communications@HopkinsSchools.org)  
**Hotline:** 952-988-4099

**More details available on the website:** [HopkinsSchools.org/referendum](http://HopkinsSchools.org/referendum)

## Community to Vote on Three Questions on November 7

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.

Ballot Question

1

### **Bond: Build for the Future**

Voters will be asked to authorize a **\$30 million bond** to fund renovations and repairs to school sites and facilities. Approximately \$6.9 million will be used to refinance our lease levy at a lower interest rate, at a cost savings to our taxpayers.

Ballot Question

2

### **Capital Projects Levy: Advance the Innovation**

Voters will also be asked to repeal the existing 2010 and 2013 **capital projects levies**, and combine them into one levy. These two levies currently generate \$9.4 million annually for curriculum and technology. The District is proposing a slight increase of less than half a percent (.44%), which would generate an additional \$500,000 annually.

Ballot Question

3

### **Operating Levy: Continue the Excellence**

Voters will also be asked to repeal the current **operating referendum levy** and replace it with a new, 10-year levy that keeps the per-student revenue amount the same. This investment will continue to generate \$15 million annually. If approved, this would have no additional tax impact on homeowners.

## 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 Project Levy	Question 3 Operating Levy	Tax Impact w 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

## Stats about Hopkins Public Schools

- When asked what they like most about Hopkins Public Schools, people said **"Good Teachers"** and **"Quality of Education."**
- 89% of District residents rated the quality of education as **Excellent** or **Good**.
- In 2017, Hopkins High School was named one of **"America's Best High Schools That Challenge Their Students to Excellence"** by the Washington Post.
- According to Niche.com, Hopkins Public Schools is ranked the **sixth Best School District in Minnesota**.
- Hopkins Public Schools is endorsed by the **Minnesota High Tech Association** for its leading efforts with STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math).
- For the fourth year in a row, Hopkins High School was named a **Silver Medalist School** by U.S. News and World Report.





## Question 1: Build for the Future

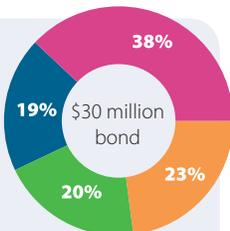
Authorize a \$30 million bond to fund renovations and repairs to school sites and facilities.

### Bond Projects:



#### Expansions: 38%

- Add seven classrooms to Meadowbrook Elementary to meet current enrollment demands.
- Add 5,900 square feet to the high school cafeteria to allow for a single location for students to eat.
- Reconfigure the high school kitchen to eliminate over-crowding in the food service line.



#### Refinance: 23%

- Refinance our \$6.9 million lease levy at a lower interest rate, and at a cost savings to our taxpayers.



#### Increase Learning Spaces: 20%

- Junior high learning labs for hands-on STEM activities that meet the requirements of our International Baccalaureate Middle Years program.
- Multi-purpose room at the high school for expanded music opportunities for students.

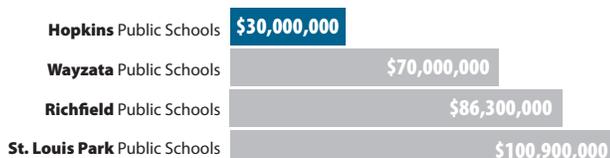


#### Basic Repairs, Upgrades, and Maintenance: 19%

- Reconfigure the Glen Lake Elementary parking lot to increase safety.
- Improve the athletic fields at West Junior High.
- Upgrade the locker rooms, stadium, and the concession stands at the high school.
- Additional storage for arts, athletics, and activities programs.

### How does our bond compare?

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



### How much will all of this cost per month?

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 \$2 & + & \$1 & + & \$0 & = & \$3 \\
 \text{Question One} & & \text{Question Two} & & \text{Question Three} & & \text{Total Monthly Cost}
 \end{array}$$

Assumes a home value of \$250,000

## Question 2: Advance the Innovation

Combine our 2010 and 2013 capital projects levies into one with a slight increase (.44%).

### What is funded by the Capital Projects Levy?

The capital projects levy is a vital resource to the 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.

The capital projects levy allows us to:

- ✓ Purchase curriculum materials, instructional materials, and textbooks.
- ✓ Implement and maintain 1:1 digital device programs.
- ✓ Upgrade and replace technology equipment and infrastructure.
- ✓ Support teachers with the tools, materials, and expertise required for high-quality teaching.
- ✓ Enhance electronic communication systems for families.

### Our Community Supports Technology



**100 percent** of parents surveyed gave Hopkins Public Schools an **Excellent** or **Good** rating for its use of technology.



**83 percent** of parents agreed with the statement **"a personal computing device helps students achieve more."**



**39 percent** of parents said technology in the classroom was absolutely essential. **46 percent** said it was very important.

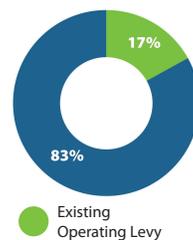
According to a spring 2016 survey

## Question 3: Continue the Excellence

Repeal the current operating levy and replace it with a new, 10-year levy that keeps the per-student revenue amount the same. This investment will continue to annually generate \$15 million of the District's \$89 million budget, or roughly 17 percent of the general fund.

If passed, the new operating levy will allow Hopkins Public Schools to continue to offer proven student programming and services throughout the District.

### General Fund Budget



### Information or questions:

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