

WARROAD PUBLIC SCHOOLS # 690



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Greetings!

Thank you for taking a few moments to educate yourself on the upcoming Warroad ISD #690 Operating Levy. We are pleased to provide you with the enclosed fact sheet that strives to answer some of your questions. We have resource pages on our school website that can help to answer your questions as well.

The first and most important thing that I would like you to know is that this is a vote to allow us to provide valuable resources for students. The cost of what we do has gone up significantly over the past decade during which we have not had any additional operating funds. In order to provide a variety of educational resources and opportunities for our students, we must have additional funding to continue to offer some of the courses and programming that have drawn students and kept our enrollment steady.

We are asking for \$460/pupil to maximize the State Equalization Aid. The State of Minnesota funds schools based on their existing tax base. By not having any additional funding here in Warroad, your tax dollars are being shifted to support other schools throughout the state. By paying \$250/pupil, the State will provide the additional \$210/pupil through Equalization Aid, essentially keeping your tax dollars at work here in the community.

Operating levies are different from the Bond referendum that passed in 2016-17. While those funds provided brick and mortar in the form of building upgrades, the monies being requested will go directly to providing staff and programming and allow us to operate without increasing class sizes and eliminating more opportunities from kids.

Businesses have the ability to increase the price of their product when costs go up. As a school district, the only way we receive additional funds is through appeal to our constituents. It will be on the ballot November 8, and a simple majority will either pass or fail the request.

If there are still unanswered questions for you after reading through the materials provided, I would encourage you to check out our website at warroad.k12.mn.us. We have a bevy of resources there including a tax calculator where you can type your specific parcel and see the exact impact this will have on your property. If you still have unanswered questions, please contact the District Office and we will happily meet or set up a call so that you can make an informed decision at the ballot box on November 8. Thank you!

Dr. Shawn W. Yates, Superintendent

Bryan Hontvet, Chairperson

Cindy Drost-Sandy, Vice Chairperson

Laurie Thompson, Treasurer

Brad Woodward, Clerk

Tim Fast, Director

Matt Schreiner, Director

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