



TROJANS

North Crawford School District

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TROJANS

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Dear North Crawford School District Resident,

I hope this letter finds you well. You may have heard that the school district is in the planning stages of a referendum for November, 2022. An important step in this process is for the district to engage our residents and to get your valuable feedback as we put our plans together.

The referendum will contain two separate questions that residents will be asked to vote on. One question will be an operational referendum question, allowing the school district to exceed our revenue cap to meet ongoing operational expenses in the district. We will ask residents to approve a recurring \$900,000 operational referendum. The money will be structured as to allow the district to exceed the revenue cap by \$300,000 in Year 1, \$250,000 in Year 2, \$200,000 in Year 3, and \$150,000 in Year 4. Beginning Year 5 and forward the district will have an additional \$900,000 of revenue built into our base. The primary reasons for phasing this money in over a four year period are because we don't necessarily need all of that amount up front the first year, and it allows us to lessen the tax burden to district residents. The tax implications for this operational referendum will be an average of \$.66 per \$1,000 over those four years. In summary, an individual's taxes will increase by an average of \$66 per \$100,000 of assessed value at the end of those four years. This additional revenue will be used to meet operational expenses of the district, including staff salary and benefits, maintaining curricular programs district-wide, transportation, deferred maintenance, technology, and other operational expenses.

The second question we will ask voters to approve is a debt service to allow the district to make several critical updates to our facility and grounds. As many of you know, our school building is 30 years old, and much of the facility still has its original structure, such as the roof, parking lots, windows, and even our instructional spaces within the building. Some of these issues need to be resolved for safety reasons, energy efficiency, aesthetically, and of course operationally. The district has been working with FEH Design out of Dubuque, IA, and Kraemer Bros. Construction out of Plain, WI. Through this work, we have determined that the district will need to borrow between \$4.5 million and \$8.5 million to address these facility issues. The tax implications for the debt service will be an average of \$1.40 per \$1,000 if we borrow \$4.5 million, and would increase by \$.18 per \$1,000 for each million borrowed thereafter. In summary, if the district borrows \$4.5 million, taxes will increase by \$140 per \$100,000 of assessed value. For each million borrowed after that, we would add on an additional \$18 per \$100,000.

More information will be shared with district residents throughout the summer regarding the need for the referendum, the scope of work, and the financial impact on district residents. We would appreciate all residents of the school district complete the attached survey to help guide the school district in determining the level of support we need to ask from our communities. We hope you find this valuable and take a few minutes to complete the survey. Thank you for your assistance and cooperation.

Respectfully,

Brandon Munson, Superintendent