



EDINA PUBLIC SCHOOLS
CONTINUING TO
DEFINE EXCELLENCE
2017 OPERATING LEVY

FIVE FACTS

The local operating levy approved by voters in 2007 is expiring.

- In 2007, voters approved an operating levy that provided needed resources to support the day-to-day operating expenses of the district.
- The 2007 levy will expire at the end of the school year.
- If not renewed, the District would be faced with a loss of \$13.3 million in local revenue, which is equivalent to approximately 12% of its annual revenue.

Edina Public Schools remains committed to being a good steward of the community's investment in its public schools.

- **Stewardship** - EPS has a Aaa credit rating from both Moody's and Standard & Poors, the highest credit rating available and one of only three districts in the state to receive it.
- **Transparency** - EPS has received the Excellence in Financial Reporting Award from the Minnesota Department of Education for 12 years in a row.
- **Management** - EPS routinely makes difficult budget reductions and finds innovative solutions to live within its means. In the last 10 years, it has made over \$8.5 million in adjustments, only 10% of which have come out of direct instruction.
- **Community Support** - Annual community, family, staff and student surveys consistently show high support for Edina Public Schools.
 - **94%** of residents say EPS provides a quality education
 - **91%** of residents give high quality ratings to EPS teachers
 - **92%** of residents agree that the community gets a good value from its investment in public schools

If voters renew Edina's expiring levy on November 7, schools will continue to receive levy support.

If approved, the EPS will be able to maintain the quality of programs and services expected in Edina and prevent \$13 million in cuts, allowing the district to:

- Attract and retain high quality teachers and staff
- Ensure students have skills they need to be prepared for college, career and life
- Provide personalized learning opportunities for all students
- Remain competitive nationally and internationally

If the levy is not renewed, the district will face a budget shortfall of more than \$13 million for the 2018-19 school year.

A loss of over \$13 million will result in reductions in programs and services. The district would then need to undertake a community process to identify reductions, likely resulting in:

- Reduced course offerings
- Fewer activities and program options
- Increased participation and other fees
- Fewer teachers and support staff
- Reduced professional learning opportunities, and more.

Nearly every Minnesota school district relies on a local operating levy to support daily operational expenses.

- Edina Public Schools receives 70% of its revenue from the State. EPS receives 25% of its revenue from local funding, including an operating levy that expires at the end of the school year.
- State funding has historically not kept pace with inflation, creating an ongoing funding gap, while expenses continue to increase.



For more information visit
[www.edinaschools.org/
referendum2017](http://www.edinaschools.org/referendum2017)