



**Hastings
Public Schools**

Operating Referendum Board Renewal June 17, 2026

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Students are the heart



of all we do

Operating Referendum Details

Approved by Voters	Last Year of Revenue	\$/APU	Board Renewal Window	Annual Revenue
November 2017	FY27-28	\$773 + inflation	7/1/25 - 6/15/27	\$4.2 million

Why Renew the Referendum?

- Preserves approximately \$4.2 million in annual operating revenue
- Maintains funding already approved by Hastings voters in 2017
- Provides financial stability for long-range planning
- Avoids the cost and uncertainty of an election
- Allows the district to focus resources on students and programs



Statutory Authority

Minnesota Statute 126C.17, subdivision 9b permits locally elected school boards to renew existing operating levies one time under the same conditions originally approved by the voters.

The Legislature created this option in 2023 because operating referendum renewals are routinely approved by voters and renewal by board resolution reduces election costs while maintaining local control.

School Board Renewal Information

Fiscal Year Expiring	Authorities	Board Renewed	Ask Voters			In Progress
			Revoke & Replace	Additional Authority	Straight Renewal	
2023-24	13	13	0	0	0	0
2024-25	16	15	0	1	0	0
2025-26	51	48	2	1	0	0
2026-27	21	15	2	0	0	4
2027-28	38	5	0	0	0	33

What Referendum Revenue Supports



Day-to-day operations and general fund costs of the school district:

- Student Programming
- Classroom Instruction
- Academic Interventions
- Student Support Services
- Safe and Efficient Operations
- Instructional Resources

Recommendation

Renew the existing operating referendum by board resolution as permitted under Minnesota Statute 126C.17.

This action preserves approximately \$4.2 million in operating revenue, provides long-term financial stability, and continues funding previously approved by Hastings voters.



Board and community updates have occurred through work sessions, finance committee meetings, and regular board meetings

- March 11th - Discussed as part of Budget Assumptions at work session
- March 25th - Discussed as part of Financial Forecast and Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Budget Update at regular board meeting
- March 31st - Ehlers presentation and discussion at Finance Committee meeting
- April 30th - Ehlers presentation and discussion at Finance Committee meeting
- May 6th - Ehlers presentation and discussion at work session
- May 20th - Update following work session and Finance Committee meeting at regular board meeting
- May 28th - Discussion at Finance Committee meeting
- June 10th - Presentation at work session
- June 17th - Presentation at regular board meeting for discussion
- July 15th - Public testimony and vote on renewing the operating referendum under the same conditions originally approved by voters, by resolution as permitted by Minnesota State Statute 126c.17



Discussion/ Questions

