

Thursday, July 7, 2016

622 Levy News

School District 622 approves official resolution to place levy increase request on November 8 ballot

The School District 622 (North St. Paul-Maplewood-Oakdale) School Board unanimously approved the official legal resolution placing an operating levy increase request on the November 8, 2016 ballot. The ballot request is for a \$630/student increase in the District's operating levy for ten years, adjusted annually for inflation.



The vote followed a presentation at the June 28 board meeting by Superintendent Christine Osorio outlining the district's financial situation, the rationale for the levy increase and what levy funds would be used for. Nearly all Minnesota school districts rely on voter-approved operating levies for school funding.

"Every day we ask all district staff to do their best for every one of our students," said Superintendent Osorio. "We must do our part and provide the resources needed to help students at all levels. Our current levy is at the bottom of the 20 largest metro area school districts, and we simply need more funding to provide what our students deserve."

Highlights of the superintendent's levy presentation:

- State funding has not kept pace with inflation, nor with increasing educational needs
- District 622 has not increased its operating levy since 2002
- The District has cut nearly \$34 million since 2005-06 and is projecting \$3.5 million in cuts annually starting 2017-18
- Since last November's levy defeat, the District listened to the community and:
 - surveyed the community
 - simplified the request (*one question not two*)
 - reduced the levy amount (*cut levy increase by one-third*)
- If approved, the levy increase would fund three areas:
 - support for struggling learners
 - improve student and school safety
 - expand accelerated learning opportunities
- The tax impact on the average homeowner (\$190,000 value home) would be less than \$16 per month if levy is approved

"Our finance staff have worked hard to squeeze as much as possible out of every dollar we receive," said School Board Chair Amy Coborn. "They've negotiated savings on many contracts, saved taxpayer dollars through bond refunding and been recognized for exemplary financial practices. The data shows we need more money to do what we are charged with doing."

District staff will now begin developing materials to help inform voters about the levy request – including a website, mailings, presentations, a video and fact sheets. Residents can learn more by: visiting www.isd622.org/levy2016, calling the levy hotline at 651-748-7629 or emailing levy@isd622.org.

The actual ballot language, which is prescribed by law, reads as follows:

School District Question 1: Approval of School District Referendum Revenue Authorization

The board of Independent School District No. 622 (North St. Paul-Maplewood-Oakdale) has proposed to increase its general education revenue by \$630 per pupil. The proposed referendum revenue authorization would increase each year by the rate of inflation and be applicable for ten years unless otherwise revoked or reduced as provided by law. Shall the increase in the revenue proposed by the board of Independent School District No. 622 be approved?

Upcoming Events

New Beaver Lake playground will be dedicated next Thursday, July 14

Dedication of the new Beaver Lake Education Center playground has been rescheduled for Thursday, July 14 from 12:00 – 12:30 pm. The new playground will be accessible to all children and includes outdoor classroom space with comfortable seating areas for families with young children. Beaver Lake Education Center is located at 1060 Sterling Street North, Maplewood.

Points of Pride

Tartan and North baseball players represent 622 in State All-Star Series

On June 24-25, Tartan's Connor Brass and North's Louie Varland represented District 622 in the MN All-Star Series baseball tournament held in Chaska and Chanhausen. Their Metro East team lost to the Metro North team in the championship game. Connor Brass was also received Individual Academic All-State honors.

In the News

District 622 tries again to increase levy

<http://www.lillienews.com/articles/2016/07/06/district-622-tries-again-increase-levy>

Work for 622!

Follow Careers@ISD622 on Twitter. To see a list of positions available with ISD #622, visit www.isd622.org/employment

Follow 622 on Social Media



Community Partners

Find out about activities offered by community organizations

Many community non-profit organizations offer meaningful enrichment activities and events to students and families within ISD 622. Visit www.isd622.org/e-flyers often to see which activities might be of interest to your family. The flyers are posted in a PDF format and available any time from any device.

e-flyers

New to the site: **Summer sports clinics and camps and more!**

Scene around 622



1) Participants in the Theater for Kids camp at North High strike a pose for their families and friends at the conclusion of their performance. 2) Current North students and recent graduates volunteer to help teach the songs and dances all week. 3) Participants perform one of the numbers learned during the week.

Community Education News



Aquatics (For everyone, infant - adult)

There are still openings in our summer daytime classes. Classes start for the next session on **Monday, July 11** and are held Monday through Thursday for two weeks.

Register [online](#), [view our current flyer](#) or visit our [website](#).

Youth Enrichment & Development

Still looking for something awesome for your kids to do this summer? Visit us [online](#) to browse the courses and register today! *Limited scholarship funds may be available for a fee reduction. Please contact us at [\(651\)748-7442](tel:6517487442) for more information. [Summer Registration](#)

Adventure Connection Before & After School Age Care

Get more information and register for fall at <http://www.isd622.org/ac>.

GED and English as a Second Language Classes

Classes are held at Harmony Learning Center, 1961 County Road C East Maplewood (3 blocks south of Maplewood Mall on the corner of County Rd C and White Bear Avenue). Learn more at www.isd622.org/abe or call [651-748-6208](tel:6517486208).

Adult Programs

Adult Enrichment Classes and Activities

New classes went live on July 1! We are online at www.isd622.org/adultenrichment. To register, go online to www.isd622.thatscommunityed.com There is also a secure registration hotline at 651-748-7254.

Step up and share your skills with a class! Instructors are paid a stipend to lead classes and activities. Contact Cheryl at 651-748-7252.

[Gladstone 55+ Center](#)

Receive the quarterly newsletter for the Gladstone 55+ center, *The Dateline* at your home by [subscribing today](#).

Volunteer opportunity - [Meals on Wheels](#)

[Community Bridge](#) - Adults with Developmental Cognitive Disabilities

ECFE & Preschool

District 622 Preschool

For information on how to register, visit www.isd622.org/preschool or call 651-748-7280.

Registration Open for Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE) 2016-2017

Please call 651-748-7280 for a copy of the Early Childhood and Family Programs Early Registration Pages or register online at <https://isd622.thatscommunityed.com/courses/ecfe/ecfe-classes>



Please direct your questions or comments to feedback@isd622.org
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School District 622

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