

**INVESTING
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FUTURE**



**VOTE
NOV. 5**

NOUSD

**NORTHERN OZAUKEE
SCHOOL DISTRICT**



**Operational Referendum
Flipbook of Key Facts**

NORTHERN OZAUKEE OPERATIONAL REFERENDUM - FALL 2024

Why is a referendum necessary?

After years of right sizing and strong fiscal management, **NOSD is facing a significant budget deficit**. All Wisconsin schools are subject to a revenue limit, which limits the amount of money they can raise through state aid and property taxes. As a result, **NOSD does not receive enough revenue to adequately fund programs and services needed for students**. This is a common challenge for school districts across our state resulting in over 300 of the 421 Districts passing an operational referendum to fund operations.

We are facing these challenges largely due to **factors out of our control**, including **decades of insufficient state funding, inflation, rising operational costs, and unfunded mandates**. This means **the district absorbs increasing costs** with limited financial support from the state.

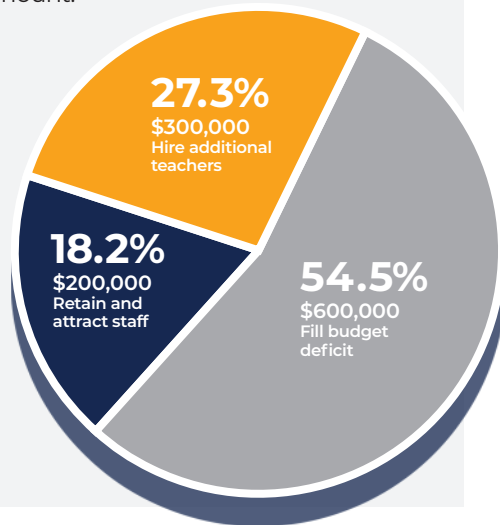


What has changed with this referendum:

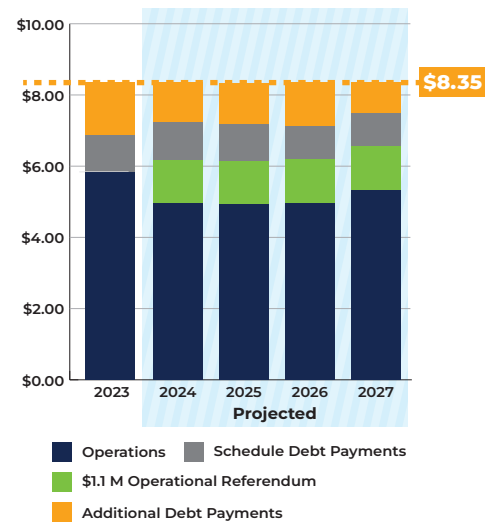
- As a result of feedback received from voters, the total amount over four years was reduced by \$2,400,000.
- Removed the cost to update the track and maintenance shed from the money requested.
- Increases in current and projected student enrollment allowed for a reduction in the requested amount.

How will the money be spent:

- Hire a total of three additional teachers to address very large class sizes at OES and OMS.
- Fill the budget deficit to maintain current staffing needed to run day-to-day operations of the school.
- Retain and attract high quality teachers and support staff.



Tax Impact:



The school board plans to **keep the school portion of the tax bills the same** over the next four years. If the referendum is approved, this will be done by reducing early debt payments and reallocating the funds for operational purposes.

HOW CAN I LEARN MORE?



Visit Our Website

www.nosd.edu/referendum-fall2024



Attend an informational meeting

- Mon., Oct. 7, 2024 @ 6:30 P.M.**
NOSD Innovation Room & Virtually through Zoom
- Wed., Oct. 16, 2024 @ 6:30 P.M.**
Facebook Live on NOSD's Facebook Page
- Wed., Oct. 23, 2024 @ 6:30 P.M.**
NOSD Innovation Room & Virtually through Zoom
- Mon., Oct. 28, 2024 @ 6:30 P.M.**
Facebook Live on NOSD's Facebook Page



Reach out directly with questions or set-up meeting:

- Dave Karrels**, Superintendent
dkarrels@nosd.edu
262-692-2489 x402
- Josh McDaniel**, CPA
Director of Business Services
jmcDaniel@nosd.edu
262-692-2489 x407



**SCAN
QR CODE
to LEARN
MORE!**

Table of Contents

How Schools are Funded

Page 4

History of NOSD Budget

Page 5

Long-Term Vision

Page 7

Tools for Future Budgets

Page 9

How The Money Will Be Spent

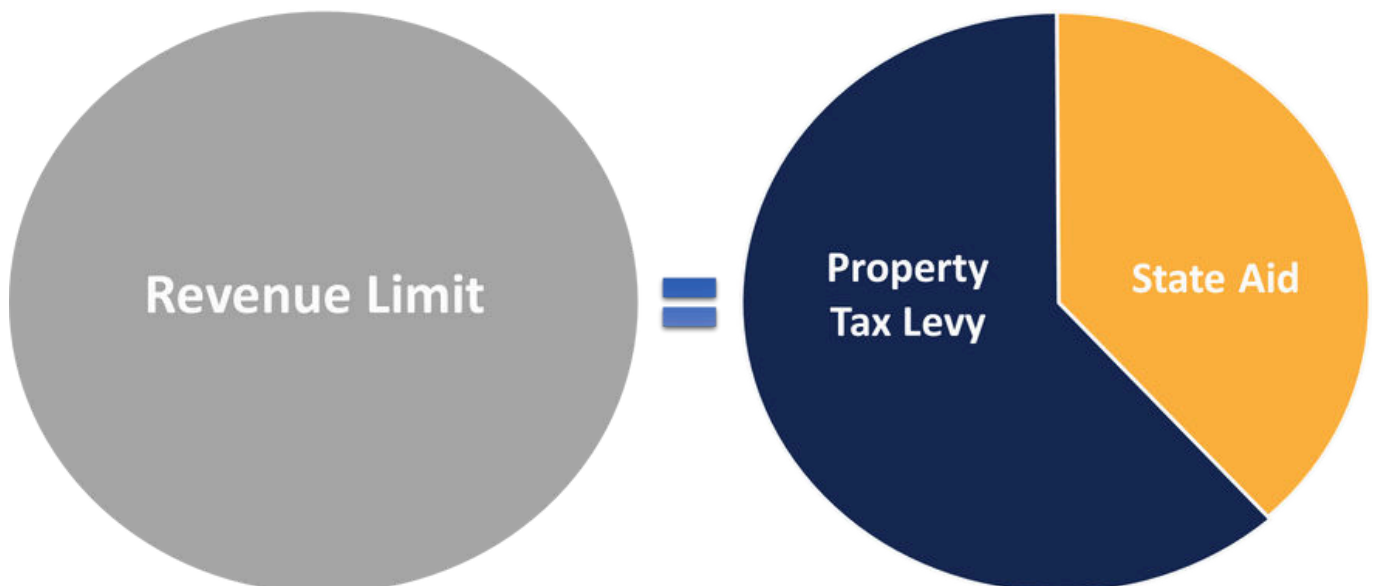
Page 11

Ballot Question & Tax Impact

Page 12

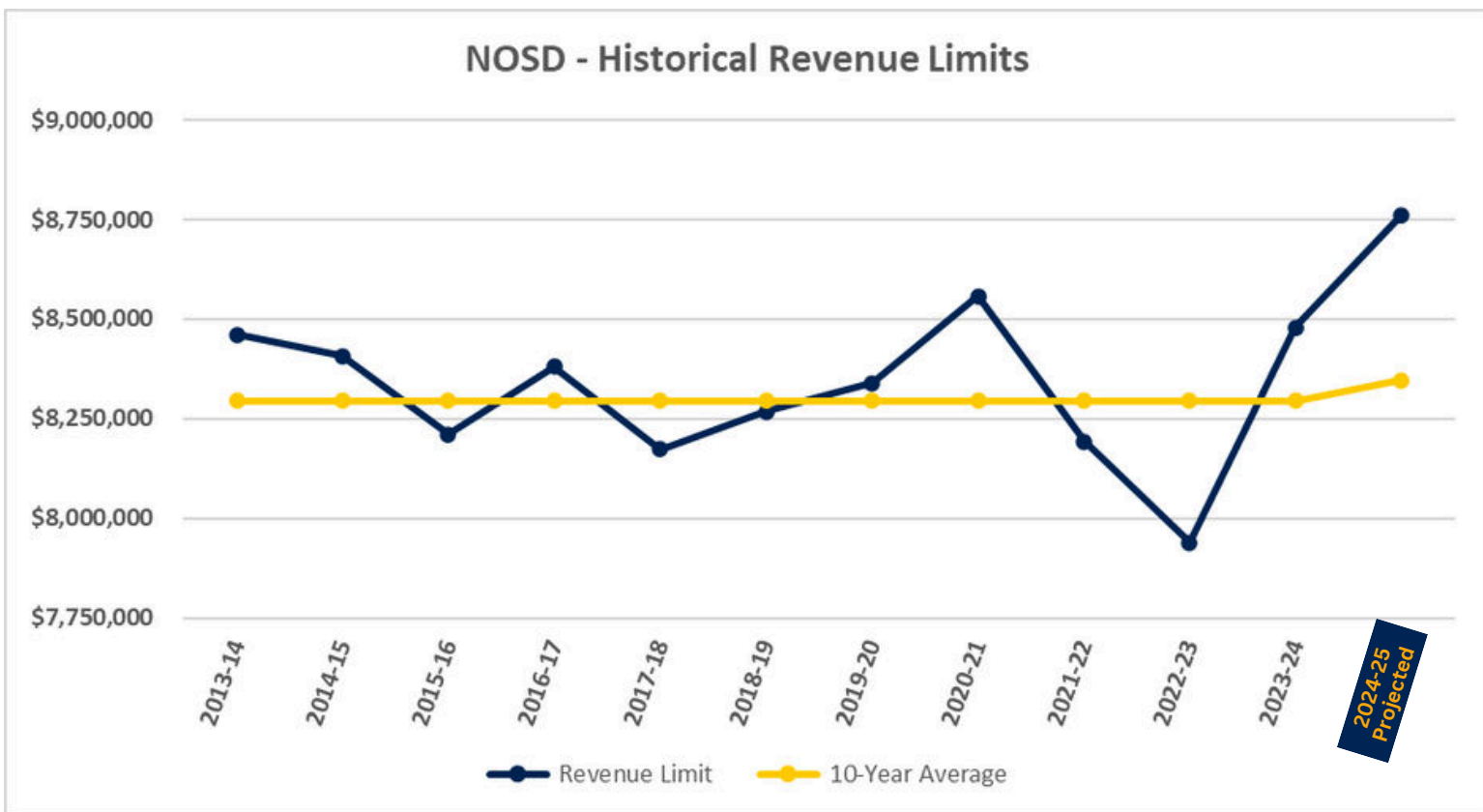
How Schools are Funded

1. Revenue Limit = The maximum amount of money as determined by the state, or cap, all districts are allowed to collect for operations.
2. Funding is provided to schools through a combination of state aid and property taxes.
3. To exceed the cap of what can be collected for operations, approval from taxpayers is required (an operational referendum).



History of NOSD Budget

- Districts across the State of Wisconsin are required to follow revenue limit calculations that were established in 1993.
- Our District has operated within the same revenue cap and expenditure level for the past 10 years.
 - Over the past 10 years, significant consolidation of staffing (teachers and administrators) and cuts have occurred, while trying to minimize negative impacts to students' education.
- Without increases to funding, NOSD will not receive enough revenue to adequately fund programs and services needed for students.

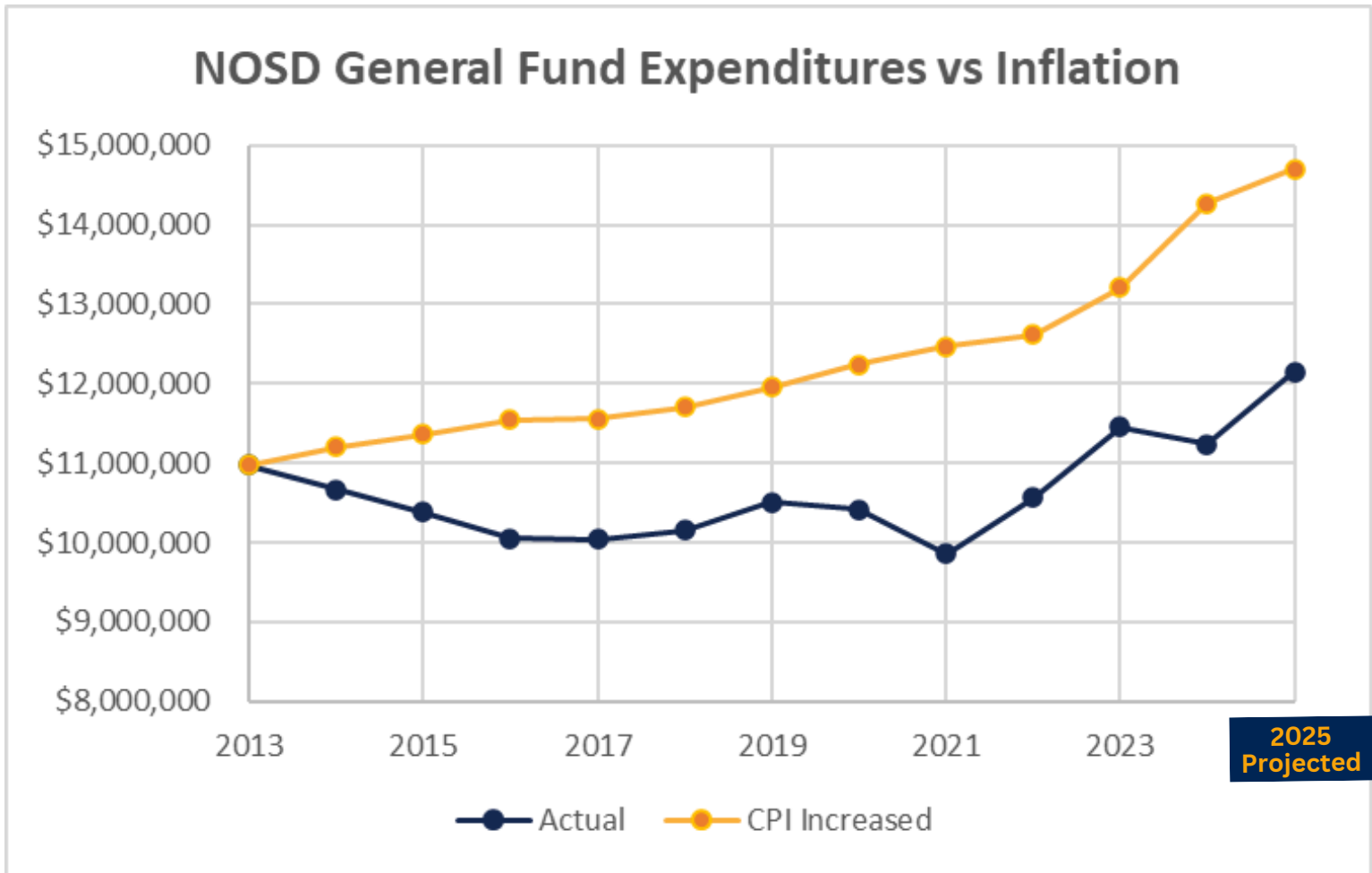


- In the historical revenue limits above are non-recurring exemptions, including voucher payments to private schools.
 - 2018-19 = \$40,000 vs. 2024-25 = \$460,000

History of NOSD Budget

NOSD Per Pupil Revenue (Set by state)						
2014-2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
\$ 9,916	\$ 10,091	\$ 10,270	\$ 10,270	\$ 10,270	\$ 11,000	\$ 11,419

- While per pupil revenue amounts have slowly increased over the years, the increases were less than annual inflationary increases.
- Since revenues have not kept pace with expenditure increases necessary to provide necessary programs and services to students, NOSD made budget reductions to balance past budgets.

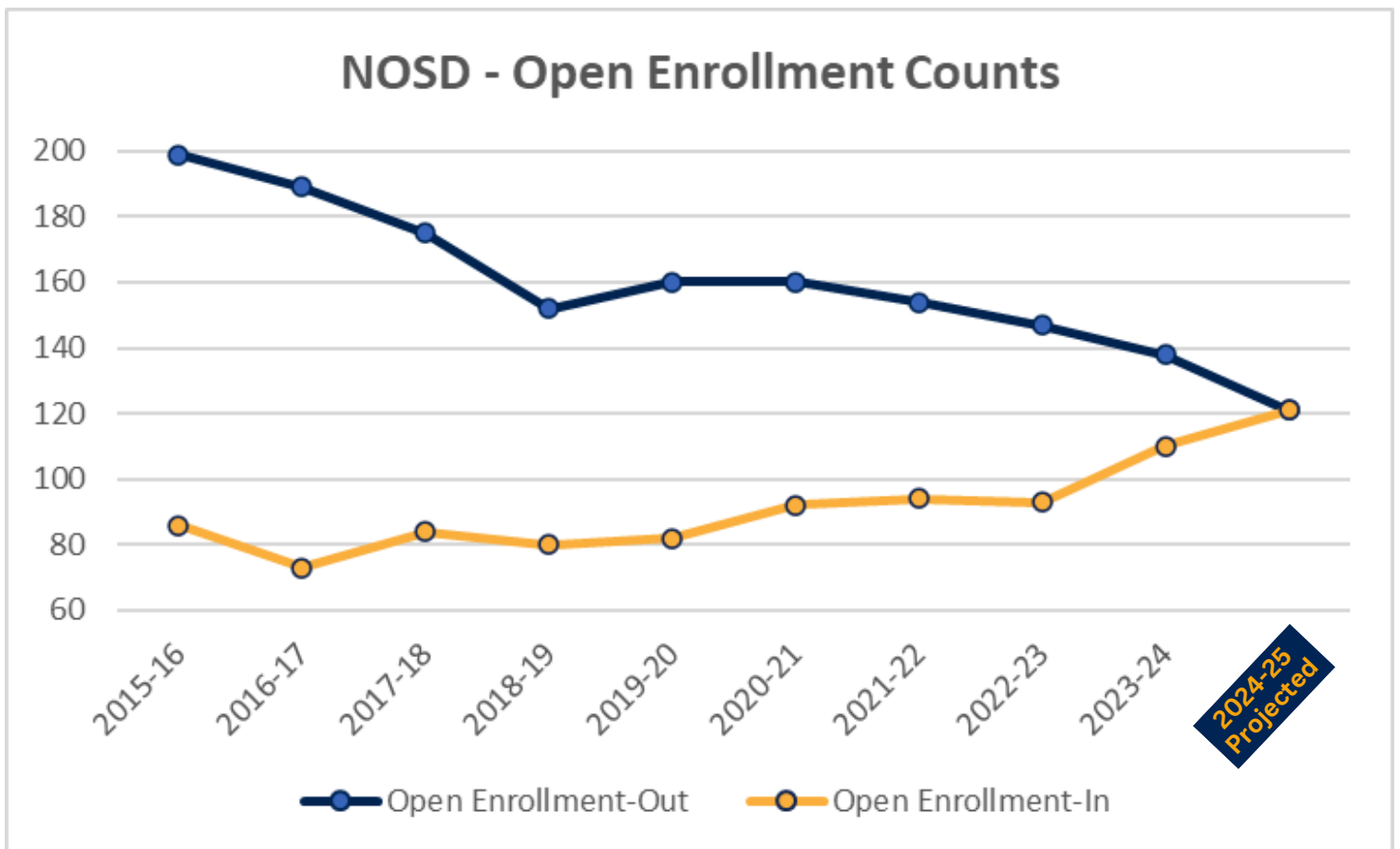


- CPI = Consumer Price Index (a measure of inflation)
- As a result of the state imposed revenue limit, NOSD has cut costs annually to live within an allowable budget.

Long-Term Vision

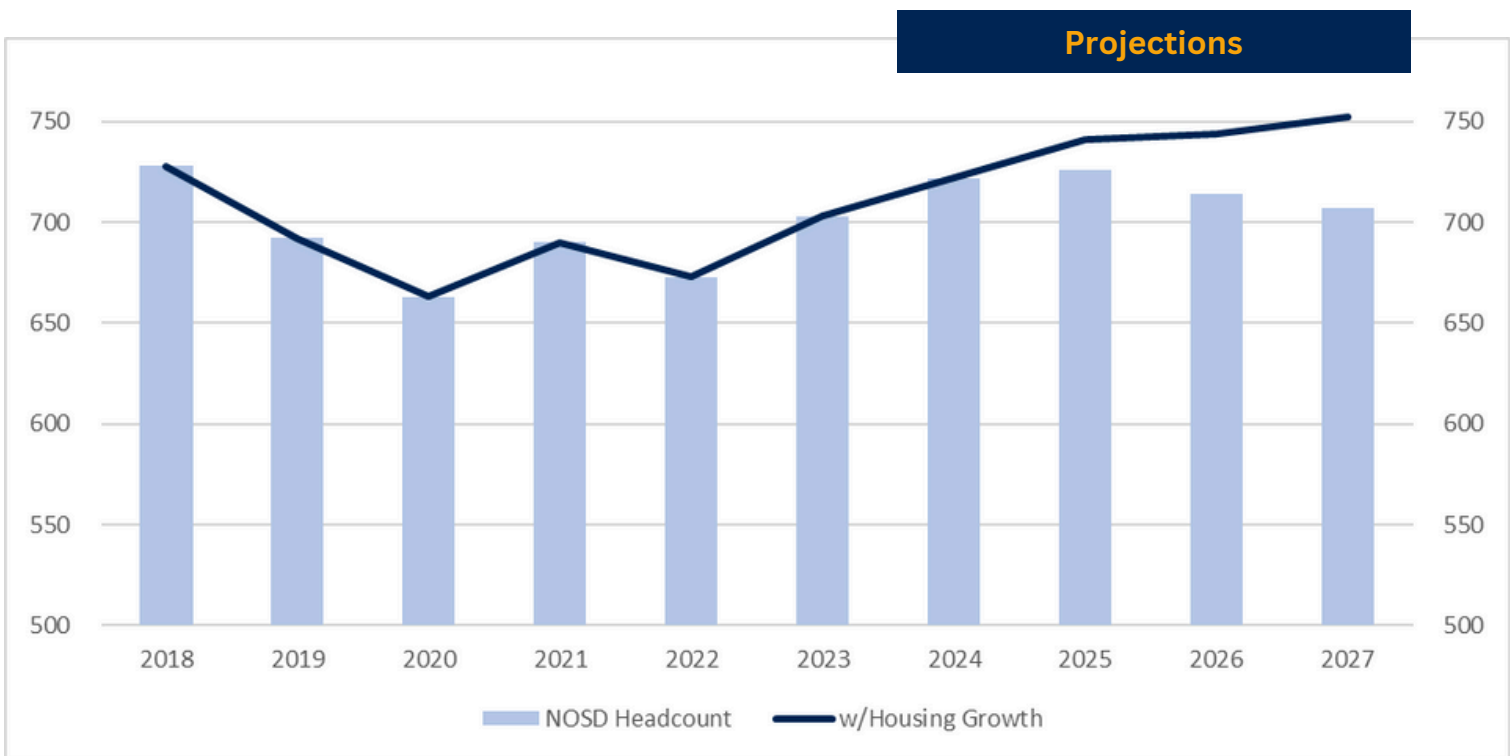
- NOSD’s long-term vision is for the community to grow.
- Continue to enhance the reputation of NOSD.
- Student enrollment has grown over the past two years.
 - Student enrollment currently projected at 720 for the 2024-25 school year, the highest since 2018.
 - Our District is closing the gap of student open enrolling-in vs. open enrolling-out.

NOSD Total Headcount						
2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
728	692	663	690	673	703	720



Long-Term Vision

- Smart growth is needed in our communities.
 - Our District is working with local municipalities to develop long-term housing needs.
- The graph below reflects no new housing growth in communities.
 - With modest housing growth resulting in 15 additional students each year, the District could experience long-term growth (see dark line).
 - The Village of Fredonia will have 20+ lots available for construction in the near future.



Tools for Future Budgets

- An operational referendum provides authority for a school district to exceed the revenue limit for operational purposes.
- Types of school referendum questions:
 - Capital = Debt for capital projects, can't be used for operations
 - Operational = No debt, cash for current year operations
 - Recurring Operational = Additional funds for forever
 - Non-Recurring Operational = Additional funds for __ years

A Recurring Operational Referendum

Quarles



A Non-Recurring Operational Referendum

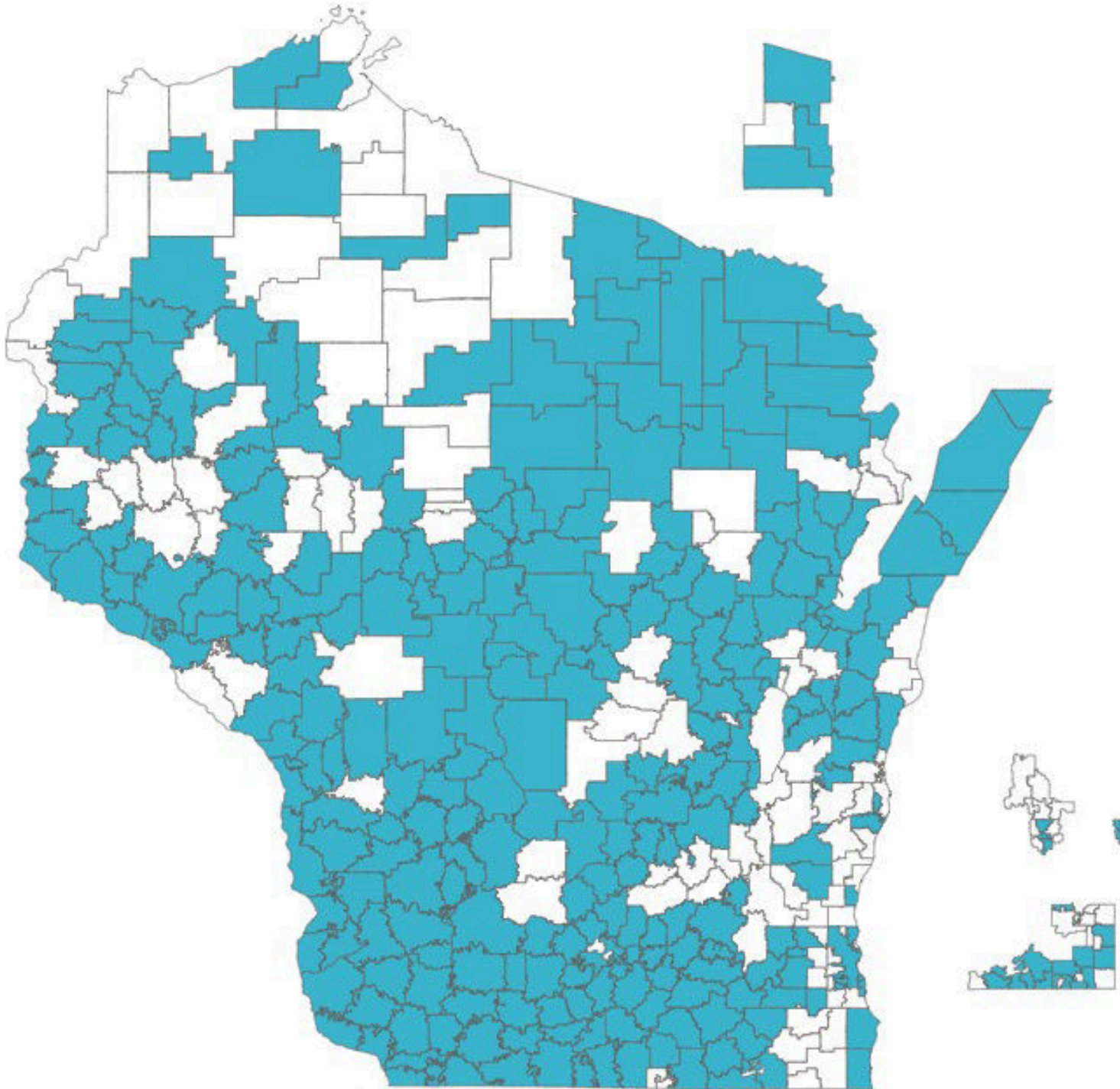
Quarles



Tools for Future Budgets

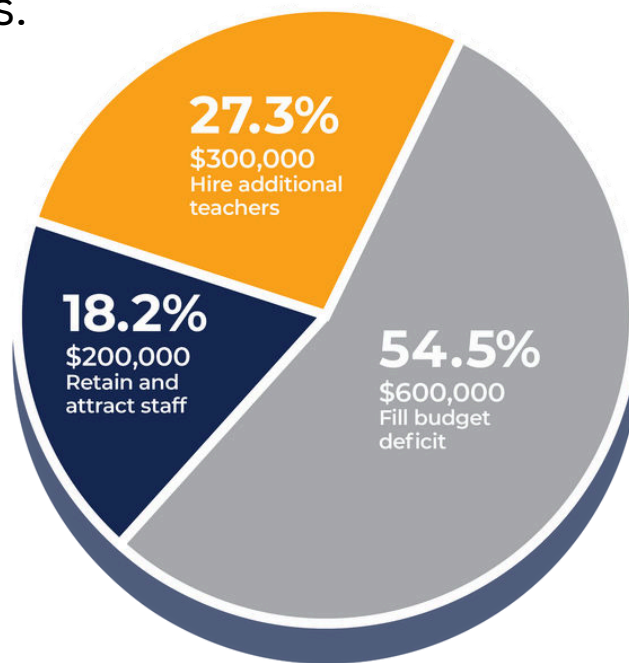
301 out of 421 school districts have passed an operational referendum question since 1992.

NOSD has never passed an operational referendum.



How The Money Will Be Spent

- The District plans to hire a total of three additional teachers to address very large class sizes at OES and OMS.
- The District will use funds to fill a budget deficit needed to run day-to-day operations of the school.
- The District plans to utilize funds, to retain and attract high quality teachers.



WHAT HAS CHANGED WITH THIS REFERENDUM:

- As a result of feedback from voters, the District reduced the total referendum amount over four years by \$2,400,000.
- The District removed the cost to upgrade the track and maintenance shed from the money requested.
- Increases in current and projected student enrollment allowed for a reduction in the requested amount.

Ballot Question

Referendum

School District

Northern Ozaukee School District

Shall the Northern Ozaukee School District, Ozaukee County, Wisconsin be authorized to exceed the revenue limit specified in Section 121.91, Wisconsin Statutes, by \$1,100,000 per year for four years, beginning with the 2024-2025 school year and ending with the 2027-2028 school year, for non-recurring purposes consisting of operational and maintenance expenses, including to maintain current educational programs?

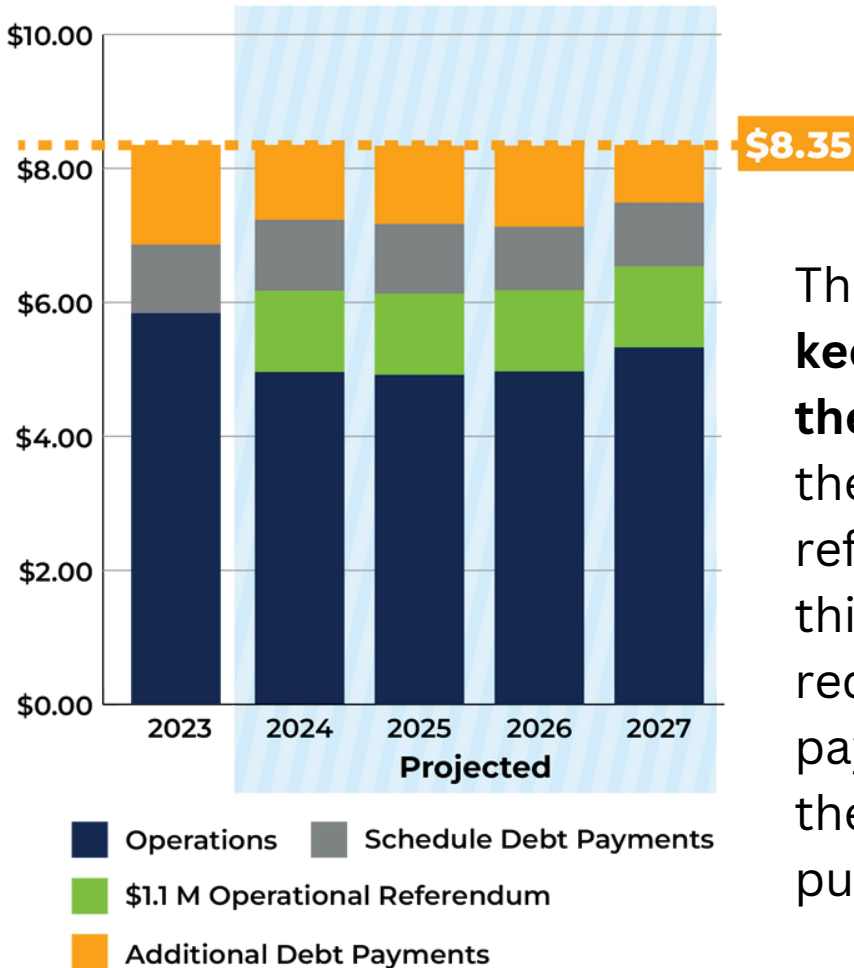
Yes

No

- The District is asking for \$1,100,000 on a non-recurring basis for four years.
 - $\$1,100,000 \times 4 \text{ years} = \$4,400,000$ total referendum
- Board plans to levy up to \$1,100,000 annually - only levying what is truly needed.
- If additional funds are needed beyond 4 years, the District will need to come back to ask the taxpayers for permission again.

Tax Impact to You

Tax Impact:



The school board plans to **keep the school portion of the tax bills the same** over the next four years. If the referendum is approved, this will be done by reducing early debt payments and reallocating the funds for operational purposes.

- Why pay debt early?

- The District can't wait 20 years to address additional projects.
 - The District has cut out over 7 years of debt payments.
- The District has avoided \$2.5 million of total interest payments as a result of early debt payments.
 - This reduction in interest payments will be seen by taxpayers over the life of the capital referendum debt, reducing the total tax levy needed to payoff the debt.

Tax Impact to You

- Example Tax Bill - 2023

- The school tax levy is proportionately spread across all equalized value (fair market value) of municipalities within the school district.
- If the total school tax levy is to stay the same, the school portion of tax bill should stay relatively the same.
- Any approved referendum information is provided at the bottom of the tax bill. (Included in the net tax amount)

ASSESSED VALUE LAND 112,100	ASSESSED VALUE IMPROVEMENTS 154,200	TOTAL ASSESSED VALUE 266,300	AVERAGE ASSMT. RATIO 0.648236980	NET ASSESSED VALUE RATE 0.01721726 <small>(Does NOT reflect credits)</small>	NET PROPERTY TAX 4230.26		
ESTIMATED FAIR MARKET VALUE LAND 172,900	ESTIMATED FAIR MARKET VALUE IMPROVEMENTS 237,900	TOTAL ESTIMATED FAIR MARKET VALUE 410,800	<input type="checkbox"/> A star in this box means unpaid prior year taxes.	School taxes also reduced by school levy tax credit 703.21			
TAXING JURISDICTION	2022 EST. STATE AIDS ALLOCATED TAX DIST.	2023 EST. STATE AIDS ALLOCATED TAX DIST.	2022 NET TAX	2023 NET TAX	% TAX CHANGE		
OZAUKEE COUNTY	67,947	92,269	611.39	623.39	2.0%		
TOWN OF FREDONIA	177,174	241,720	873.16	802.65	-9.3%		
SCHOOL #1945	932,277	776,089	2,972.66	2,725.19	-8.3%		
TECH SCHOOL	121,457	125,985	355.05	345.72	-2.8%		
TOTAL	1,298,855	1,234,041	4,791.24	4,584.95	-4.3%		
FIRST DOLLAR CREDIT			-79.99	-75.11	-6.1%		
LOTTERY AND GAMING CREDIT			-262.56	-279.58	6.5%		
NET PROPERTY TAX			4,448.69	4,230.26	-4.9%		
TOTAL DUE: \$4,230.26							
FOR FULL PAYMENT PAY BY: JANUARY 31, 2024							
Warning: If not paid by due dates, installment option is lost and total tax is delinquent subject to interest and, if applicable, penalty. Failure to pay on time. See reverse.							
FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY							
Taxing Jurisdiction	Total Additional Taxes	Total Additional Taxes Applied to Property	Year Increase Ends	Voter Approved Temporary Tax Increases			
SCHOOL #1945	393,253	988.19	2033	Taxing Jurisdiction	Total Additional Taxes	Total Additional Taxes Applied to Property	Year Increase Ends

- Reassessment of Municipalities

- An increase in assessed value does not equate to an increase in property taxes from a school district.
- The Town of Saukville went through a reassessment in 2023
 - See effects to tax bills at [Ozaukee County - Tax Data](#).
 - Example 2023 - Town of Saukville - A property showed a 49% increase in assessed value, while actual total school taxes only increased 1.1%. (net taxes decreased by 4.4%)

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