# SCHOOL DISTRICT OF LODI OPERATING REFERENDUM







### WHAT IS ON THE APRIL 5 BALLOT?

The School District of Lodi's Board of Education has proposed a non-recurring referendum of \$5.98 million for each of the next five years which consists of \$3.85 million for operations and \$2.13 million for maintenance and technology upgrades.

#### WHY PROPOSE AN OPERATING REFERENDUM NOW?

The District's current \$1.7 million operating referendum will expire after the 2021-22 school year. In order to preserve the high level of achievement that our community has come to expect, the District needs to maintain our current level of instructional, career and technical education, STEAM, and extracurricular programming. The District has been challenged by the community through the strategic planning process to not only maintain our current level of staffing, but to focus on attracting and retaining staff.

The District also conducted a facility study which indicated maintenance and technology needs, which if left unaddressed would result in even higher costs in the future. The roofs at both Lodi Elementary/OSC School and Lodi High School are in need of replacement, the HVAC controls systems need to be updated at Lodi Middle School and Lodi Elementary/OSC School, and the track has come to the end of its useful life. Additional upgrades are also needed in the area of technology to support instruction across the District.

The District believes that not going to referendum to support our instructional program, staff, maintenance, and technology needs would adversely affect the community's high expectations for our schools.

#### WHAT HAVE WE DONE?

#### Over the past 10 years:

- » Required employees to pay more on their health insurance
- » Froze long-term staff retirement plans
- » Deferred facility improvements and updates
- » Engaged contracted service providers to reduce costs
- » Provided a low cost-of-living increase to employees
- » Reduced staff
- Reduced educational programming (i.e., Family & Consumer Education at the high school)

### WHAT WILL THE REFERENDUM PAY FOR?

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The additional taxpayer funds would allow the School District of Lodi to:

- Maintain our current instructional programming.
- Pay employees a fair and competitive wage in order to attract and retain high-quality staff.
- » Be responsible in terms of taking care of building maintenance and technology needs to ensure that the infrastructure in our District is viable and maintained for current and future students.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION visit lodi.k12.wi.us

# **VOTE APRIL 5**

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### WHAT IS THE ESTIMATED IMPACT TO TAXPAYERS?

If approved by voters, the estimated tax impact for the \$5.98 million revenue cap on a \$250,000 home over the next five years is as follows:

YEAR	ANNUAL IMPACT	MONTHLY IMPACT
2022-2023	-\$25.00	-\$2.08
2023-2024	-\$12.50 or no impact	-\$1.04 or no impact
2024-2025	No impact	No impact
2025-2026	No impact	No impact
2026-2027	No impact	No impact



#### NOTE:

The estimated tax impact assumes an increase in property values of 1-2% per year, additional state funding, increased labor costs of 3-5%, transportation cost increases and a projected CPI increase in other costs. The impact assumes that after the first two years, the increase in property value will outpace the increase in property taxes and that new property values will be sufficient to continue to maintain or decrease the overall tax rate.

### HISTORICAL & PROJECTED TAX RATE

Illustrating a decline in the levy rate (due in part to increasing property values) and the impact of a referendum:



## WHAT IF THE REFERENDUM DOES NOT PASS?

The following will likely occur if the operational referendum does not pass:

- » As many as 15-20 staff positions could be eliminated, including teachers, educational assistants, administrators and support staff.
- » Increased class sizes and elimination of programs and services across the district.
- » Maintenance projects and upgrades will continue to be deferred.
- » Technology upgrades will be put on hold, or remain on hold, which will result in slower devices & internet access, causing increased frustration for students and staff.
- » Retaining and attracting high quality staff will become even more difficult.



#### **INFORMATION SESSIONS**

We invite the community to learn more about the operating referendum at any of the following Referendum Information Sessions:

THURS., FEB. 17 7-7:30 P.M.

Facebook Live School District of Lodi Facebook Page **TUES., FEB. 22 6-7:30 P.M.** Lodi High School 1100 Sauk Street

**6-7:30 P.M.** Lodi High School 1100 Sauk Street

WED., MARCH 2

#### THURS., MARCH 15 6-7:30 P.M.

Lodi Primary School 1307 Sauk Street



#### **COFFEE WITH THE SUPERINTENDENT**

Have coffee with Superintendent Vince Breunig and ask him about the referendum from 9-10 am on the first and third Saturdays of February and March at Buttercream Bakery, 112 S. Main Street.

EMAIL: breunvi@lodischoolswi.org

CALL: Superintendent Breunig (608) 592-3851 x5481

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