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Community Provides Input on Plans to Address North Lake School District's Budgetary Needs

NORTH LAKE, WI — North Lake School District residents recently provided their input on the district's financial needs through a survey aimed at addressing urgent budget challenges.

Conducted in September and October, the survey informed residents about specific budget constraints and provided an opportunity to offer feedback on potential solutions.

Survey results indicated that the majority of residents believe the district's most urgent financial needs must be met immediately. To meet these needs, nearly 73% of residents expressed support for adding a referendum question to the April 2024 ballot. In the survey, residents offered feedback on two potential plans that would increase district revenue over a four-year period.

One referendum question, which garnered support from 62.9% of surveyed residents, aims to increase the district's revenue by \$3.4 million. This proposal involves an annual increase to the district's revenue limit by \$850,000. If approved, taxpayers would experience incremental increases of \$110.28 in the first year, \$103.32 in the second year, \$96.80 in the third year, and \$90.69 in the fourth year, per \$100,000 of assessed property value.

A second plan, intended to augment revenue by \$3.9 million, was supported by 57.9% of those surveyed. Under this plan, the district's revenue could increase by a maximum of \$975,000 annually. If implemented, this proposal would result in a projected property tax increase of \$126.50 in the first year, \$118.51 in the second year, \$111.04 in the third year, and \$104.03 in the fourth year for each \$100,000 of assessed property value.

"As a board, we are heartened by the strong community response to these proposed referendum measures. The collective awareness of our financial constraints is essential, and we are grateful for the community's support in exploring responsible and sustainable solutions," said Sue Schultz, Board President. "The valuable insights our community provided will play a pivotal role in guiding our decision-making process as we work together to shape the best path forward for the district and our community."

To view the full survey report, visit <https://bit.ly/nlsdsurveyreport2023>.

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