



# NORTH LAKE SCHOOL DISTRICT

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## Message to Families on Operational Referendum

Dear North Lake School Families,

At its Wednesday meeting, the North Lake School Board approved an operational referendum question that voters will consider **Tuesday, April 2, 2024**. If the referendum passes, the district will be able to exceed its revenue limit by \$850,000 per year for the next four years.

Voters will see the following question on the ballot:

*Shall the North Lake School District, Waukesha County, Wisconsin be authorized to exceed the revenue limit specified in Section 121.91, Wisconsin Statutes, by \$850,000 per year for four years, beginning with the 2024-2025 school year and ending with the 2027-2028 school year, for non-recurring purposes to sustain operational costs?*

These funds would cover ongoing costs for the day-to-day operation of the district. They will also address the increased costs for items like transportation, utilities, and special education, as well as the district's reduction in state aid. Most importantly, the district will be able to avoid significant cuts in staffing and student programs over the next few years.

An approved referendum would have an estimated property tax impact of \$1.06 in year one, \$1.00 in year two, \$0.93 in year three, and \$0.88 in year four for every \$1000 of assessed property value. A homeowner with a house assessed at \$400,000 would see a property tax increase of about \$424 in year one, \$400 in year two, \$372 in year three, and \$353 in year four.

This referendum is necessary due to the way the state of Wisconsin funds public schools, inadequate per-pupil funding increases from the state level in recent years, and rapidly increasing costs due to inflation and other factors. Our district does not receive enough revenue to adequately fund programs and services, and we do not control the amount of aid that we receive from the state.

This challenge is one we share with many school districts across Wisconsin. Over the last decade, more than half of Wisconsin districts have received similar approval from voters via successful operational referendums to exceed their own revenue limits.

To learn more about our needs and the proposed solution, along with answers to frequently asked questions, please visit [www.northlakeschool.org/referenda](http://www.northlakeschool.org/referenda).

As always, thank you for your support of the North Lake School District and the students we serve.

Sincerely,

Dr. Liesl R. Ackley  
Superintendent

[northlakeschool.org](http://northlakeschool.org)

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