

# Fact Sheet

## 2015 School District Referendum

### FRIDLEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

SPECIAL ELECTIONS - NOVEMBER 3, 2015

Our Students • Our Schools • Our Community

School districts rely on state and local funding to support and maintain their schools. On November 3, 2015 the Fridley School District residents will be asked to vote on two ballot questions to provide additional education funding for Fridley Schools.

### Question 1: Renew operating levy in the amount of \$570,000 per year for the next 10 years.

- There are no new taxes with the renewal.

#### Funds will be invested in:

- Maintaining current staffing levels and student programs and services.

#### What if Question 1 fails?

- Reduction of staff
- Reduction of student programs and services

### Question 2: Approve a \$27,500,000 bond issue

The tax impact of \$65 per year (or about \$5.50 per month) on an average priced home valued at \$140, 000.

#### Funds will be invested in:

- Upgrading safety and security systems,
- Completing deferred maintenance projects in a timely manner,
- Upgrading fire suppression system
- Updating technology in all classrooms for all students
- Addressing space issues.

#### What if Question 2 fails?

- School buildings that cannot be modernized to include current safety and security best practices.
- Inability to keep up with modern technology and maintain cutting edge programs that help our students be competitive.
- Delayed deferred maintenance projects that continue to get worse and lead to more costly repairs.
- Overcrowding due to lack of space.



Fridley Middle School (1954)



Fridley Community Center (1957)



Fridley High School (1960)



Hayes Elementary School (1965)



Stevenson Elementary (1968)

## Did you Know?

- The School District has not asked for a bond issue since 1995.
- The average age of buildings in the district is 55 years.
- Fridley Middle School was built in 1954 and is the oldest building in the district.
- Many of the district's buildings have original windows, floors, roofs, exterior walls, and infrastructure that is deteriorating and need repair or replacing.

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### Accountability to our Community

- The Fridley School District holds itself accountable to its community for careful planning and spending of tax funding.
- The district has not asked for a bond issue in 20 years.
- The district conducted a facilities study that resulted in a 10 year facilities plan.
- A community survey conducted in March 2015 helped identify priority projects that the community wants the district to focus on.
- Fridley School District is committed to providing high quality education to all its students.

### Tax Impact to Homeowners \*

Ballot Question	Annual	Monthly
Q1: Renew a \$570,000 operation levy	\$2	\$0.067
Q2: Approve a \$27,500,000 bond issue	\$65	\$5.50
<b>Total - Q1 &amp; Q2</b>	<b>\$67</b>	<b>\$5.56</b>

\*Tax impact on an average valued home of \$140,000

## VOTE ON NOV. 3, 2015

For more information, please contact:

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[www.fridley.k12.mn.us/levy2015](http://www.fridley.k12.mn.us/levy2015)



### Did you Know?

- Fridley Public Schools serves 2,965 students in grades E-12.
- The district employs 450 staff
- Fridley Public Schools provide International Baccalaureate programmes to all students in grades E-12.
- Hayes Elementary School is a 2015 Minnesota School of Excellence.
- Fridley High School is ranked #5 among Minnesota's 2015 Best High Schools.