

Starmont Community School District

REVENUE PURPOSE STATEMENT

Communication Plan | January/February 2020

NARRATIVE

Earlier this year, the Iowa legislature extended Secure an Advanced Vision for Education (SAVE), also known as the statewide one-cent sales tax for education. As part of the extension, school districts must ask voters to approve a Revenue Purpose Statement to continue investing SAVE funds in school infrastructure projects.

On Tuesday, March 3 residents of the Starmont Community School District will vote on a proposed Revenue Purpose Statement. Approving the statement would **have no impact on local property taxes, nor would it affect the sales tax**. It would specify where and how the Board of Education may use SAVE funds. Our last RPS was approved in 2007 and will expire in 2022.

If the Revenue Purpose Statement is approved, the school district could use funds for the following purposes:

- Information technology infrastructure
- Remodeling, reconstructing, repairing, expanding or improving school buildings
- Building and furnishing additional school buildings
- Purchasing and improving grounds
- Furnishing and equipping district facilities
- Leasing or lease-purchasing a building, equipment, technology or transportation
- Repairing transportation
- Implementing energy conservation measures
- Funding student construction projects
- Procuring or acquiring libraries
- Building or opening school buildings
- Providing funds for emergency repairs due to natural disasters
- Providing property tax relief

Over the past five years, the Starmont Community School District has used SAVE dollars, along with some PPEL funds, for the following projects:

- New building security system
- New updated camera system in buses and district wide
- Updated Science Rooms
- Gymnasium Updates
- Bathroom upgrades at Starmont Elementary
- Purchase of loader for district maintenance
- Purchase of new buses (3)
- Drainage repairs

- Updates on boilers
- Roof repairs
- Weight room updates
- Dugouts and updates on baseball and softball fields
- Resurfacing of HS Track and Football lights
- Restroom updates in the MS/HS
- High school locker room remodel
- Sidewalk updates
- Vehicle updates (vans and suburbans)

Because these projects were funded through the statewide sales tax, the district was able to move forward with no impact on local property taxpayers.

The Starmont Board of Education is committed to ensuring community members have all the information they need to make an informed decision on March 3.

STRATEGIES

The district would use the following strategies and tactics to engage parents, staff and community members about the Revenue Purpose Statement vote:

- A news release (local newspaper) announcing the question on the ballot March 3, explaining the Revenue Purpose Statement and how the district would use SAVE funds.
- Social media updates, posted to Facebook and Starmont Web-site. The posts will inform community members about the vote, the projects that would be funded and a reminder of the Election Day.
- Letter (Power School and Iowa Alerts) to parents/guardians, informing them about the vote and reminding them of Election Day.
- Letter to the editor from the school board president, informing the community of the vote, its purpose and the projects that would be funded through SAVE.
- Newsletter: A one-page fact sheet explaining SAVE and the Revenue Purpose Statement.
- A follow-up reminder about the election on March 3rd, to parents/guardians shortly before Election Day.