



Investing In Our District's Future



Howard-Winneshiek Community School District Voted Physical Plant & Equipment Levy

What? The Voted Physical Plant and Equipment Levy (VPPEL) currently provides our district \$0.67 per thousand dollars of assessed valuation. The voters may authorize a voted Physical Plant and Equipment Levy (VPPEL) for a period not exceeding ten years and in an amount not exceeding \$1.34 per thousand dollars of assessed valuation. Howard-Winneshiek last approved this in 2021 for \$0.67, and this is good until 2031.

When? To meet the growing needs of our students, the Howard-Winneshiek Board of Education is calling for a special election to amend the levy for the voter approved Physical Plant and Equipment property tax to be held on November 7, 2023. This amendment will **NOT** raise the overall tax rate. Those dollars will simply be reallocated from the Management Fund to the Physical Plant and Equipment Levy. This reallocation will allow the school district to use those funds for improving our facilities, specifically safety and security needs.

Why? The school board finds and determines that it is necessary and in the best interest of the School District to expand the level of funding of the voter approved Physical Plant and Equipment tax in order to meet the needs of our district and to provide adequate facilities, equipment, and grounds. Two main areas of focus include safety and security and improvement of facilities.

Identified needs but not limited to only these:

1. *New high school entry and offices to update safety and security need*
2. *New elementary & middle school entry and offices to update safety and security need*
3. *Expanding classrooms specifically for special education, ELL, and general classroom need*
4. *New or remodeled auditorium*
5. *Update high school vocal and instrumental classrooms*
6. *New or remodeled high school art room*
7. *Update science classrooms*
8. *Address courtyards in the high school*
9. *Refurbishing the high school parking lot*
10. *Maintaining the exterior of the elementary/middle school building*



Quality schools stimulate growth in local businesses and contribute to employment, population growth, and economic sustainability.

Impact on School Tax Levy? The overall tax rate for the 2023-2024 school year is \$12.20 per \$1,000 taxable valuation, which is almost exactly what it was last year. This amendment will **NOT** raise the overall tax rate.

What Can You Do? Encourage others to learn more about the VPPEL and to vote. If you have questions, please contact Superintendent Kris Einck at keinck@howard-winn.k12.ia.us or call 563-547-2762. You can find more information on the school website at <https://www.howard-winn.k12.ia.us/> or click on the QR code above.