

# **Referendum Fact Sheet**

An ongoing budget deficit **threatens** programs, staffing, and the effective operation of our school.

#### **Please Cast an Informed Vote**

## April 5, 2022

Trevor-Wilmot Consolidated Grade School District 26325 Wilmot Rd. | Trevor, WI 53179 | 262.862.2356

www.trevorwilmotschool.net



#### TWC is at a Critical Point. Please Cast an Informed Vote April 5, 2022



#### What Is the Problem?

All Wisconsin school districts operate within revenue limits which cap the amount of revenue each district can receive each year. Enrollment, property values and state aid all determine each District's revenue limit (which funds the District's operations).

#### The District has seen a significant historical decrease in the revenue limit which is projected to continue into the future.

In response, the Board of Education has controlled costs, made budget reductions, and has drained reserve funds to sustain educational programs and maintain buildings and grounds. Now they've come to a critical point. An ongoing budget deficit threatens programs, staffing, and the effective operation of our school.

#### Budget Deficit Threatens Our School

The District is at a critical point and has run out of ways to maintain current school programs and services. Without a successful referendum, programs and opportunities will be cut. This likely would happen year after year. Sadly, this solution cuts at the core of what we are as a school district.

Without approval of this operational referendum, the District will make reductions to balance the budget:

- X Increase Class Sizes
- X Reduce Academic Offerings
- Limit Encore Classes (i.e. Art, Music, Phy Ed, Spanish)
- X Limit **Services** That Support Student Learning
- X Defer Facility Maintenance and Repairs
- X Reduce **Technology** Replacement Cycles

Without voter approval of this referendum, the District faces *reductions in educational programs, services and staff.* 



The Board of Education has run out of options to maintain current programs and services without an approved referendum.

#### What is the District Seeking?

The Trevor-Wilmot Consolidated Grade School District seeks voter approval to authorize the District to exceed the revenue limit by \$800,000 per year over five years for the purposes of maintaining current class sizes, educational programs and services, and meeting current district expenses. This is a non-recurring referendum, meaning if approved, it would begin with the 2022-23 school year and end with the 2026-27 school year.

#### District Efforts to Remain Fiscally Responsible

**Controlled expenses** accross the board for several years;

**Made budget reductions** for several years including reducing teaching, administrative, and support staff;

Decreased health insurance costs;

**Prepaid debt** on the 2009 building addition, saving interest costs.

#### What Will It Cost?

The Board of Education made efforts to keep the proposed mill rate increase low and still save educational programs and services.

The proposal under consideration gives the Board authority to levy approximately \$.15 per \$1000 of property value (tax) or state differently, \$15/year for a \$100,000 home value.

This additional revenue will maintain programs and services for students. Because it is limited to five years, it is called a "non-recurring" operational referendum.

	Estimated Tax Mill Rate Increase (\$0.15 per \$1,000 of equalized property value)
PROPERTY VALUE	
\$100,000	\$15 / year
\$200,000	\$30 / year
\$300,000	\$45 / year

\*Mill rate refers to the property tax rate per \$1,000 of property value.

An approved referendum will avoid budget deficits while we continue to control expenses to maintain educational programs for students.



#### Every Vote Matters! April 5, 2022

## **Cast An Informed Vote**

#### Community Information Meetings

Please make an informed decision. To receive additional information about this operational referendum, all District residents are invited to attend a Community Information Meeting at our school.

#### THURSDAY, February 24 6:00 P.M.

TWC Grade School 26325 Wilmot Rd.

#### TUESDAY, March 29 6:00 P.M. TWC Grade School

26325 Wilmot Rd.

#### www.trevorwilmotschool.net/referendum

## **How to Cast Your Vote:**

#### **1** Vote In Person on April 5

All eligible school district voters can vote on this issue at their regular polling place on April 5, 2022.

**Bring Your ID to the Polls** - Voters are required to provide photo identification at polling locations prior to voting.

## **2** Or Vote Absentee by Mail

Registered Wisconsin voters may request an absentee ballot and vote absentee by mail. Learn about your options, get step-by-step instructions, and track your ballot to ensure your vote counts.

**Early Voting** - You don't need a reason to be an absentee voter. Every Registered Wisconsin voter has the ability to request an absentee ballot. Don't wait until the deadline to request your absentee ballot.

### Learn More: myvote.wi.gov



/here to Vote



Vote Absentee by Mail



Track Your Absentee Ballot



Register to Vote



Learn What's On Your Ballot