



2025 – 2026

Referendum Renewal Background

April 6, 2026

Excellence, Equity, Empowerment. Every Student, Every Day.



MANKATO AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

MISSION & CORE VALUES

MISSION

Excellence, Equity, Empowerment. Every Student,
Every Day.

CORE VALUES

- Courage
- Student Centered
- Integrity
- Accountable
- Inclusive Practices



Strategic Directions: Focus of Our Improvement Efforts

- A. Improving our professional practices so that each learner achieves at high levels in an inclusive educational model that is relevant and flexible
- B. Enhancing our student support structures to meet academic, social, behavioral, and mental health needs
- C. Recruiting, developing, and retaining staff to ensure positive learning experiences for students
- D. Strengthening our parent/caregiver partnerships and connections
- E. Ensuring safe, efficient and effective operations

2017 Operating Referendum Authority

November 7, 2017

SCHOOL DISTRICT QUESTION 1 (ISD #77)

Approval of School District Referendum Revenue Authorization

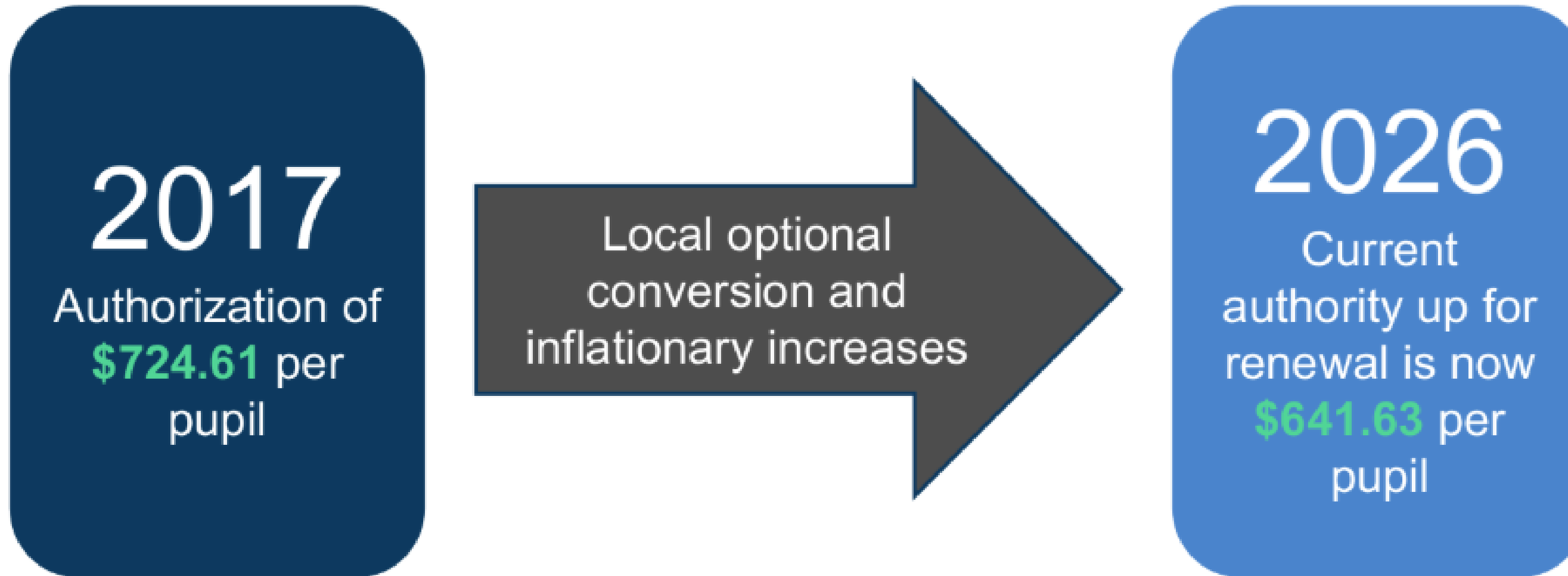
*The board of Independent School District No. 77 (Mankato Area Public Schools) has proposed to increase its referendum revenue authority to \$724.61 per pupil. This proposed authorization would include an **increase of \$365.00** per pupil and would renew the school district's existing authorization of \$359.61 per pupil which is scheduled to expire after taxes payable in 2017. The proposed referendum revenue authorization would increase each year by the rate of inflation and be applicable for ten years beginning with taxes payable in 2018, unless otherwise revoked or reduced as provided by law. Shall the increase in the revenue proposed by the board of Independent School District No. 77 be approved?*

BY VOTING "YES" ON THIS BALLOT QUESTION, YOU ARE VOTING FOR A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE

Results

- 2,878 Yes (50.25%)
- 2,849 No (49.75%)

State Law Changes to Operating Referendum



Authority was reduced due to a state law change converting a portion to local optional revenue.

Current Operating Referendum (Pay 2026 / FY 2027)

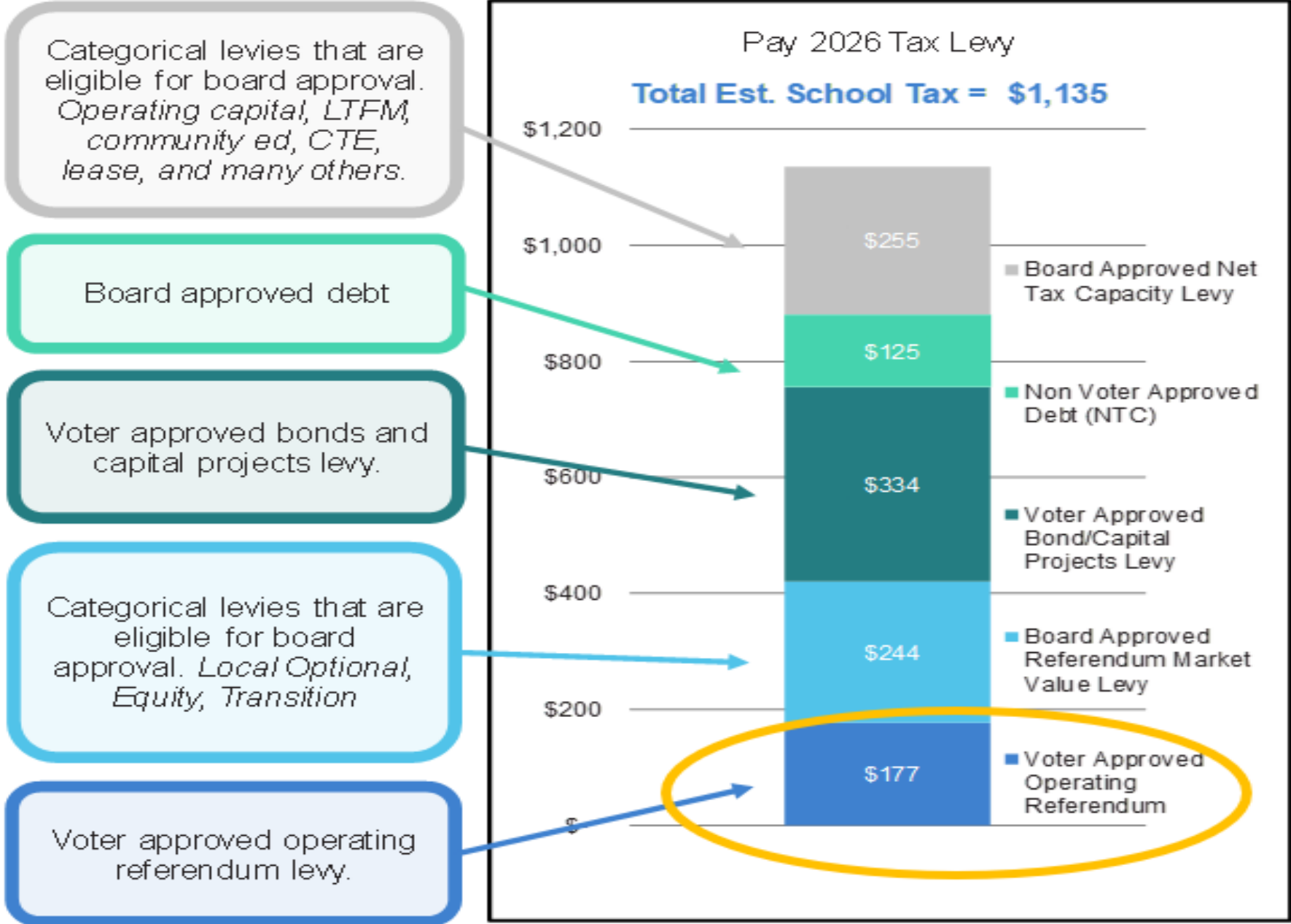
$$\begin{array}{r} \$641.63 \text{ per Pupil} \\ \times \\ 8,523.20 \text{ Adjusted Pupil Units} \\ = \\ \$5,468,740.82 \end{array}$$

Current Referendum Revenue prior to adjustments for taxes payable in 2026 for Fiscal Year 2027



Current Total School Taxes

Mankato Public School District
 Estimated Pay 2026 Total School Taxes for Residential Homestead
 Home Value = \$300,000



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Board Renewal of Referendums

- Legislative change in 2023 allows a school board to renew existing operating referendums
- One time at same length and amount as original request
- Includes inflationary increases if in existing authority
- School Board must allow for public testimony on the proposed renewal prior to taking action

Board Renewal of Referendums

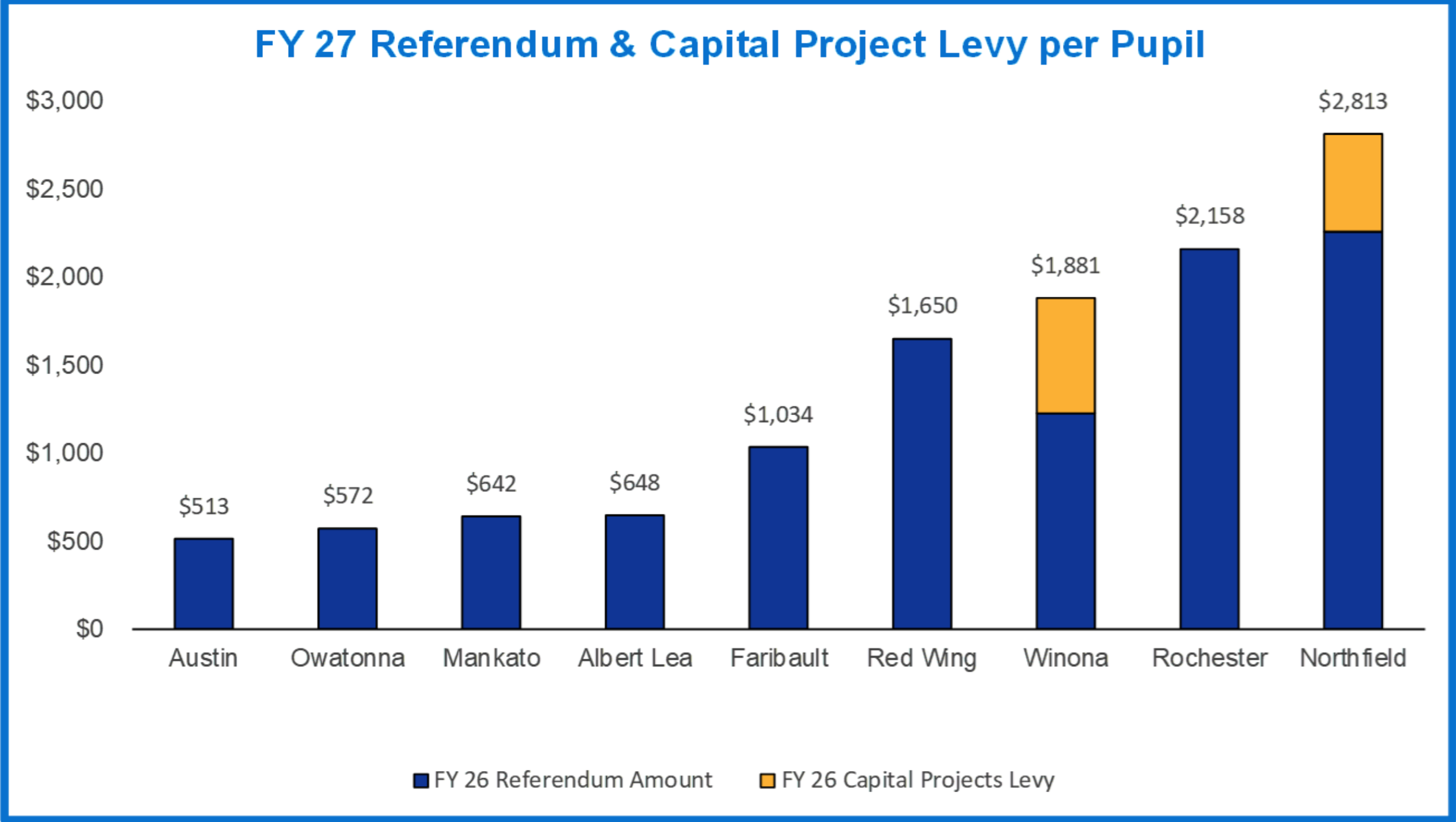
- ISD 77 referendum expires after taxes payable in 2027 (FY 2028)
- Board can renew referendum anytime between July 1, 2025 and June 15, 2027
- New 10 years of renewed referendum begins FY 2029 through FY 2038

Statewide Operating Referendum

FY 2027

- 329 public school districts
 - 73% with voter approved referendum
 - 27% without voter approved referendum
- State Median Referendum = \$635
- Metro Median Referendum = \$1,893
 - Only 4 districts out of 57 in seven county metro do not have an operating referendum

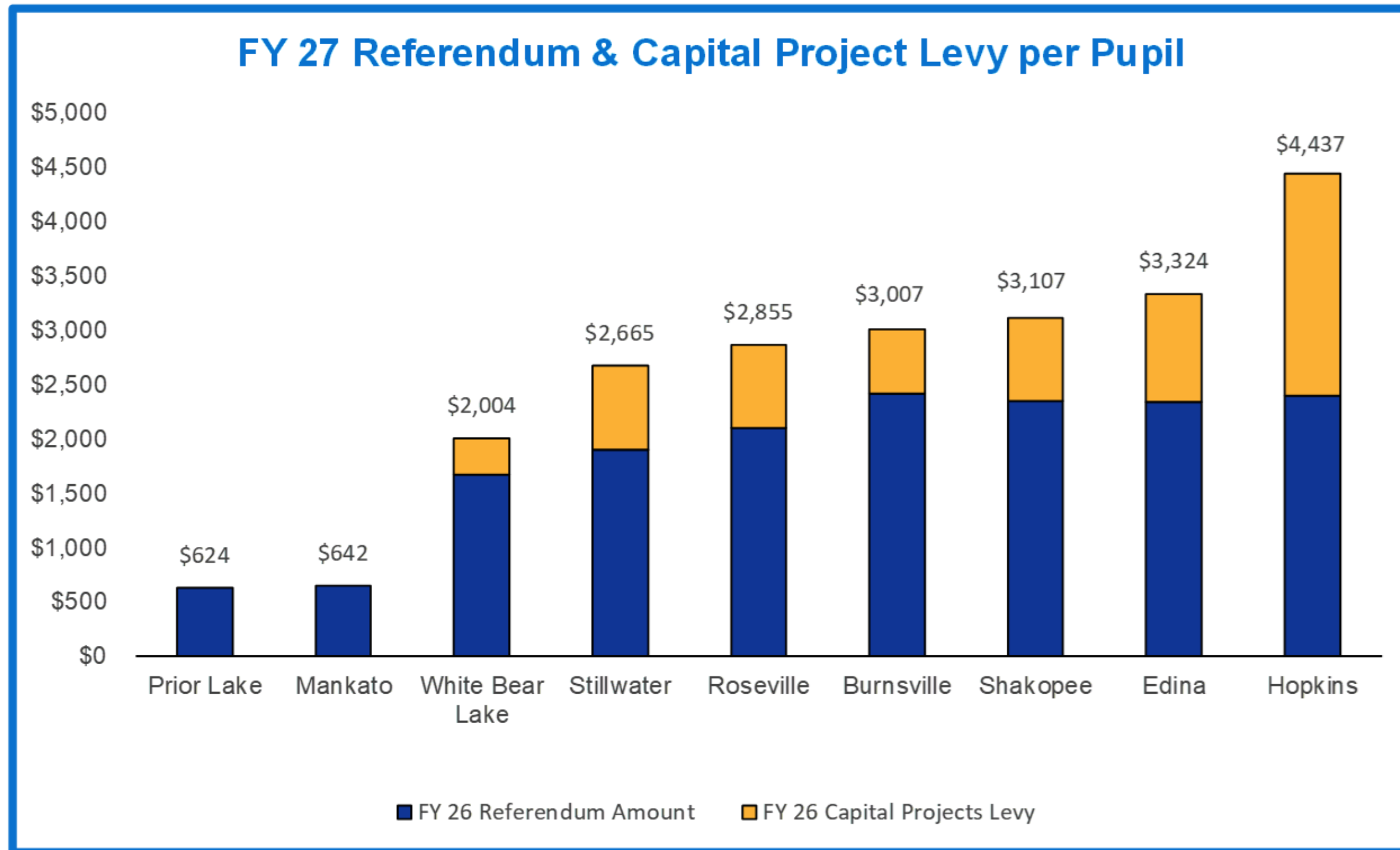
Operating Referendum & Capital Projects Levy Comparison FY 2027



Data sourced from Minnesota Department of Education



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Data sourced from Minnesota Department of Education

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Other Factors for Consideration

- Avoids election expenses
- Near unanimous support of referendum renewals across the state in the years leading up to law change
- Renewal authority has been widely used since it was granted by legislature

5 Year Budget Forecasts

5 Year Forecast Without Market Share Gain

5 Year Forecast with No Levy in FY 2029



**THANK
YOU!**

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