



# Viroqua Area Schools 2024 Operational Referendum Overview

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## What is an Operational Referendum?

An operational referendum allows school districts to ask voters to approve additional funding beyond state-imposed revenue limits for daily operations, including staffing, programming, transportation, and facility maintenance.

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## Why are we Seeking an Operational Referendum?

The district is facing increased operational costs due to factors like inflation, higher staffing costs, and the continued need for updated resources and technology. Current funding from state and federal sources is not enough to maintain the quality of education and services that our students and families expect and deserve.

This referendum is essential to:

- **Maintain Class Sizes**  
Ensuring individualized attention for students.
  - **Support Educational Programs**  
Continue offering robust academic and extracurricular programs.
  - **Attract and Retain Quality Staff**  
Competitive salaries and benefits to retain dedicated educators and support staff.
  - **Facility Maintenance and Minor Upgrades**  
Ensuring safe and updated learning environments.
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## Key Financial Facts

- **Total Amount Requested:** \$1.3 million annually for 3 years.
  - **Property Tax Impact:** Homeowners with an average property valued at \$249,000 would see an estimated monthly increase of \$5.67.
  - **Conservative Budgeting:** These projections are based on worst-case scenarios of 0% increase in property values and 0% increase in grant funding.
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## What Happens if the Referendum Does Not Pass?

If the referendum does not pass, the district may need to consider:

- Reducing programs and services for students.
- Increasing class sizes.
- Limiting or eliminating extracurricular activities.
- Delaying essential maintenance on district facilities.
- Reduction of additional 6-10 staff members

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## How Can You Help?

- **Vote:** The referendum will be on the ballot on November 5th.
- **Learn More:** Visit [viroquaareaschools.com](http://viroquaareaschools.com) for more information.
- **Spread the Word:** Talk to friends, family, and neighbors about the importance of supporting our schools.

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## Informational Meeting Dates - Viroqua HS/MS Library

- Monday, October 7th - 6:00 pm
- Monday, October 14th - 5:00 pm

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## Questions or Comments?

Contact me at [tburkhalter@viroquablackhawk.org](mailto:tburkhalter@viroquablackhawk.org) or visit our website for more details.