Why is MPS pursuing a referendum?
Since 2020, MPS has made significant investments in students, resulting in smaller class sizes and expanded art, music, libraries, and physical education. MPS wants to maintain these investments. Due to the State of Wisconsin's underfunding of schools, however, MPS is facing a $200 million budget shortfall in the 2024–25 school year.

In 2021 and 2022, the State of Wisconsin froze per-pupil funding for public schools for two years in a row for the first time ever. That freeze, coupled with the highest inflation since 1981, accelerated the decline in support for our children. The last time that per-pupil funding matched inflation was 2009.

How would the referendum impact me?

**IMPACT ON STUDENTS**
The only way to continue programming at current levels is to raise additional revenue. Without adequate funding, many programs, including advanced education classes and mental health supports, are at risk of being cut.

**IMPACT ON TAXES**
MPS’ plan would secure as many resources as possible for students while being mindful of taxpayers. A $100,000 home would see an estimated tax impact of $216 in the first year to unlock $252 million for students over four years. After year one, the tax rate, in relation to the referendum, would stay steady.

DID YOU KNOW?
MPS’ tax rate has been on a downward trend since 2011, even after voters approved a referendum in 2020.

How much will the proposed referendum impact property taxes?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property Value</th>
<th>Tax Impact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$100,000</td>
<td>59¢ PER DAY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$150,000</td>
<td>89¢ PER DAY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$200,000</td>
<td>$1.18 PER DAY</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Based on estimated calculated tax impact of $216 per $100,000 of assessed property value. The tax rate (mill rate) will remain steady or slightly decrease over time.

For more information, visit mpsmke.com/referendum or email feedback25@milwaukee.k12.wi.us.
What would the referendum do?
The referendum will allow MPS to:

1. Maintain smaller class sizes.
2. Retain programming in art, music, libraries, and physical education.

How has MPS expanded programming?
Since 2020, MPS has increased investments in early childhood education, advanced academics, art, music, libraries, physical education, and mental health by $87 million annually. These efforts are allowing the district to provide students with programming that is more in line with surrounding communities. Students benefit from:

- Expanded art offerings for thousands of students at 56 schools
- Enhanced music programs at 90 schools, reaching 27,000 more students
- New musical instruments and equipment in 90 schools, including two new piano labs
- Increased access to school libraries due to 48 new staff positions
- Greater access to sports, gym class, and wellness activities in 57 schools through 32 new physical education teacher positions
- Early childhood education enhanced by updates to classrooms and additional teachers at 62 schools
- Supports for student health and well-being through the addition of 18 school counselors, 15 school nurses, 12 school psychologists, 15 school social workers, and six restorative practices coaches

Learn more about these investments in our students.

Election Day TUESDAY, APRIL 2, 2024

For more information, visit mpsmke.com/referendum or email feedback25@milwaukee.k12.wi.us.

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