



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 7, 2017

South St Paul School District voters approve two school funding requests

(11.7.17) – *South St Paul, MN:* South St Paul voters approved both school district funding requests on the November 7 ballot:

- Question 1: 66.24% (1842) yes, 33.76% (939) no. This approval will increase South St Paul Public Schools operating levy and provide an additional \$1.3 million per year for school operations. This funding will help the district retain quality teaching staff, fund programs to help students who struggle academically, operate the schools and minimize future budget cuts.
- Question 2: 71.40% (1980) yes, 28.60% (793) no. This approval will renew South St Paul Public Schools technology levy to help fund technology for teaching and learning by keeping computers up-to-date, giving students exposure and access to technology tools and providing teachers with technology training.

“We are so grateful to our community for their yes votes in support of our students, our staff and our educational programs,” said Superintendent Dave Webb. “This community investment in our schools will strengthen our schools and help us prepare each and every student for their next step.”

The voter-approved funding will help the school district:

- Maintain support for struggling learners
- Help maintain class sizes
- Maintain student programs/services, activities, athletics and arts programs
- Minimize (but not eliminate) future cuts
- Continue support for classroom technology including: technology support staff, personal computer devices for student learning, computer purchases for teachers and staff, infrastructure and wireless networks

The funding requests were in response to State funding that has not kept up with inflation or increasing educational costs over the past 15 years. This will be the district’s first levy increase since 2009. Even with the operating levy increase, South St Paul’s levy remains below the Dakota County average.

More information: www.sspps.org/referendum.

**Results are unofficial until canvassed by school board on November 13.*

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