On November 5, the Milaca Public School District is asking taxpayers for funds to foster student growth and retain quality staff, as well as responsibly manage facilities and operations districtwide. The following funding is being proposed:

**Q1  Levy to REINVEST**

The first question is for a revenue authorization in the amount of $250.95 per pupil, which is commonly called an operating levy.

**Levy is for Learning**

If approved, this would cover instructional programs and costs like textbooks and materials, teachers and staff, as well as other costs for daily operation of the district.

This levy increase of $250.95 per pupil would generate $474,296 for our District, of which the state will pay 42%. This means:

- $104.86 per pupil—or $198,173—comes from the State.
- $146.09 per pupil—or $276,123—comes from District Taxpayers. (Voters must approve the increase to get the state portion.)

The additional revenue from this levy:

- Allows us to maintain current programs & prevent students from open enrolling to other districts for more educational opportunities.
- Minimize future teaching and staff reductions.
- Reduce the need for larger class sizes.
- Keep our classroom technology current.

In each of the past three years we have been forced to cut $211,000, $525,450 and $1,200,000, respectively. These reductions have had a negative impact on class size and opportunities for students—and will likely continue without this operational levy.

**Q2  Bond to REPAIR & REPLACE**

The second question is for a school building bond in the amount of $5.1 million and is called a bond issue.

**Bond is for Buildings**

If approved, this would cover construction costs for safety and security improvements, building maintenance and classroom updates.

This bond issue would allow the District to:

- Improve career and technical education spaces to provide more opportunities for students.
- Replace 25 year-old roofs that are leaking.
- Replace the original windows in the elementary building that are drafty and waste energy.
- Repair the pool deck and tile, as well as address accessibility issues.
- Improve the security and safety of our buildings.

Approving this bond means the District would not have to take money from teaching and learning budgets to make the required repairs, ensuring as much of our operating budget as possible is spent on educational programs and opportunities for students.

The Minnesota Legislature passed an update to the Ag2School Credit that steps up the State’s share of qualifying agricultural land tax from 40% to 70% over the next four years. This significantly reduces the tax burden of our school bond for our agricultural land owners. If this Bond is approved, the impact on Ag Land will be $2.42 less per acre by 2023.

Note to Farming Businesses: go to milaca.k12.mn.us to accurately estimate the impact of both the bond and operational levy for your land.

**LEVY Tax Impact**

$3.25/month on $100,000 home

**BOND Tax Impact**

$1.17/month on $100,000 home