

## **Parent Cardinal Referendum Update - 4-2-25**

Dear Brodhead Parents,

We are grateful to announce that the Operational Referendum question that was on the ballot on Tuesday, April 1 has passed, allowing us to avoid substantial cuts to programs, services, and staffing across our schools. The 3-year non-recurring Operational Referendum passed by a vote of 1223 yes to 1197 no. The District appreciates the continued support of the high-quality educational programming Brodhead has put into place.

Thank you for supporting this Referendum! The successful passage of the Referendum is a testament to the strong community spirit and commitment to our students. As we stated in our Referendum listening sessions, even with the passage of this Referendum, the District's mill rate is anticipated to stay at the same \$7.24 level. This will be a \$0 tax rate increase from the previous year, and is expected to stay at that approximate rate through the 3-year duration of this Referendum.

With the Referendum's approval, the School Board will be authorized to exceed the District's State-imposed revenue limit by up to \$1.75 million annually for the next three years. While you do not directly see the impact of an Operational Referendum as you did with the improvements made with the support of the 2024 Capital Referendum, this additional funding will ensure that we can continue to provide the high-quality education our students deserve.

We sincerely appreciate the engagement we have seen from our community throughout this process. We had three public listening sessions, two "Coffee with the Superintendent" dates, and several presentations to civic organizations about the future of our schools and will continue these conversations as we move forward with our budgeting process. It is important to note that due to the State funding formula in Wisconsin, community support through Referendums continues to be necessary to maintain the quality of education our students receive. Your ongoing support is extremely important as we strive for excellence in education.

Thank you once again for your support of the School District of Brodhead and for helping us empower the futures of the students we serve!

David Novy, District Administrator  
School District of Brodhead