



**Green Bay Area  
Public School District**  
*Engagement. Equity. Excellence.*



**Vote  
April 4**

Operational

# REFERENDUM

Fact Sheet

The Green Bay Area Public School District is seeking \$16.5M in revenue above its current revenue limit through a 10-year non-recurring operational referendum.

**\$16.5M = No Tax Rate Increase**

## What is an operational referendum?

An operational referendum is an opportunity for residents to vote on whether the District can levy additional dollars than what is currently allowed under state imposed revenue caps.

## What is a non-recurring operational referendum?

A non-recurring operational referendum has a sunset date. The District is seeking a non-recurring operational referendum for \$16.5M for ten years. After the ten years, the District would need to seek voter permission to continue to levy above the revenue limit.

## What happens if the operational referendum fails?

Over the last two years, the District has delayed and deferred more than \$21M in expenses. If the operational referendum does not pass, the District will have an \$18M deficit and will need to reduce educational programming, services and course offerings, increase class size and reduce approximately 150 staff across all employee groups.



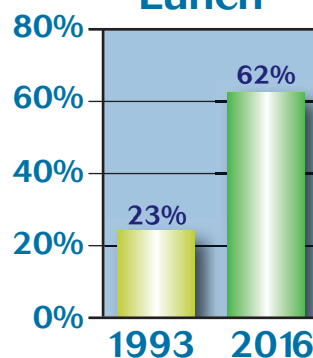
#BelieveInUs

## Why is an operational referendum needed?

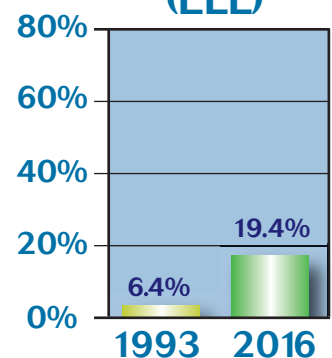
In 1993, revenue limits were enacted which require school districts to seek voter approval for bonding for facility improvements/construction or to increase revenue for operational purposes. When revenue limits were set, the Green Bay Area Public School District was a fiscally conservative, low-spending district.

Today, the District remains a conservative spending school district, with a revenue limit that is less than the state average. The current funding system does not recognize changing student needs and results in expenditures rising faster than revenues.

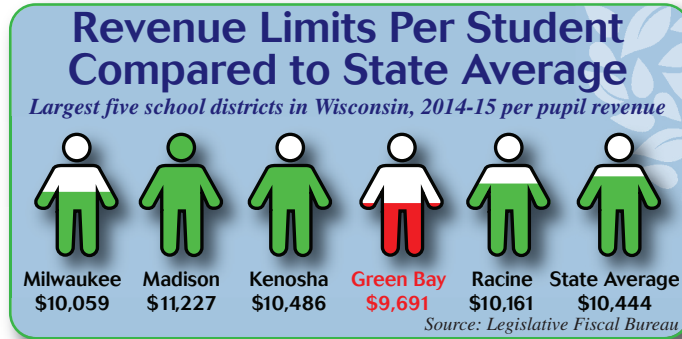
### Free & Reduced Lunch



### English Language Learners (ELL)

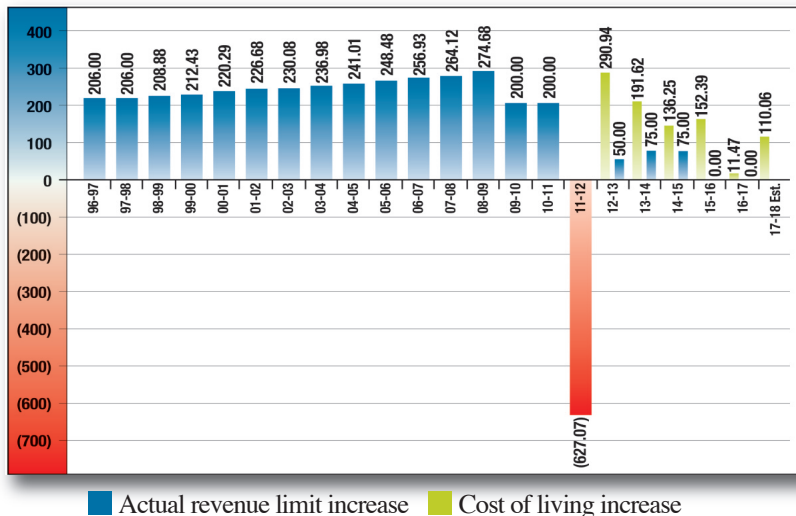


The District's base revenue limit is 7.5% or a total of \$16.5M per year below the per pupil state average identified by the Legislative Fiscal Bureau. The \$16.5M operational referendum would increase the District's revenue limit to the state average.



Since 2011, revenue limit increases have not kept up with the rate of inflation. Over the last few years, the state has chosen to provide one-time payments, which create uncertainty for future budgets.

### Revenue Limit Adjustments 1996-2017



The Green Bay Area Public School District has **historically and intentionally structured its debt** to allow for opportunities through referendum to address significant facilities' needs, with minimal impact to taxpayers. Due to retiring debt, the District is able to consider a \$16.5M operational referendum and a \$68.25M facilities referendum without increasing the taxation rate.

**\$16.5M = No Tax Rate Increase**

## District Moving in the Right Direction

The District has been working to transform education in our public schools. An \$18M deficit threatens the progress the District has made to ensure all students are college, career and community ready.

**90%**

of last year's graduates that attended the UW-System were prepared for the academic rigor of college

**95%**

4-year graduation cohort rate - 2% increase

**Award-Winning**

personalized pathways developed with community partners

**13,000**

technology devices deployed for student use

**100+**

ways for students to earn college credit

**88**

Golden Apple Award recipients

### Learn More:

**Call:** 920-448-2101

**Visit:** [www.gbaps.org/referendum](http://www.gbaps.org/referendum)

**Email:** [communications@gbaps.org](mailto:communications@gbaps.org)

**Attend:** Community Information Sessions

**March 14,** 6:30 p.m., Jackson Elementary School, 1306 S. Ridge Rd.

**March 16,** 6:30 p.m., Martin Elementary School, 626 Pinehurst Dr.



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**VOTE on Tuesday, April 4!**