

Lewiston-Altura Public Schools is facing significant budget challenges and facilities needs that far exceed annual funding.

1 YOU SPOKE ON ELECTION DAY.

Nov. 2023 Referendum was rejected by voters.

- \$760/pupil Operating Levy.
- \$26.6 million Bond Referendum for Infrastructure, Deferred Maintenance, Educational Adequacy, Bus Garage.
- \$12.6 million Bond Referendum for Auditorium & Replacement Gym



2 YOU SPOKE IN THE POST-REFERENDUM SURVEY & AT COMMUNITY MEETINGS

- Nov. '23 proposal was too expensive and lacked support for new performance/multipurpose space, gym & bus garage.
- District needs to build trust, increase transparency and focus on financial management.



3 WE LISTENED & CREATED A NEW PLAN.

New facilities taskforce of teachers/staff, parents, and community members proposes...

- Levy for Learning of \$760/pupil
- Bond for Basics of \$19.95 million (including bond costs)



4 QUESTION 1 - LEVY FOR LEARNING.

- Renew existing \$52/pupil operating levy.
- Increase operating levy by \$708/pupil.
- Levy for 10 years; including inflation.



5 QUESTION 2 - BOND FOR BASICS.

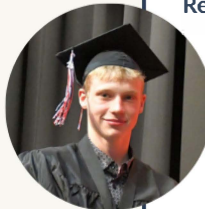
- Classroom upgrades.
- Mechanical & electrical systems upgrades.
- Safety & security improvements.



6 NEXT STEPS.

School Board is considering a 2-question Referendum for the Nov. 5 general election.

- Review & Comment submitted to MDE.
- School Board meeting July 8 proposing the referendum election.
- District Information Campaign begins to educate and inform residents (if Board votes to proceed with Nov. 5 referendum).



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

HOW IS THE DISTRICT INCREASING ENGAGEMENT & BUILDING CARDINAL PRIDE?

The district has increased the frequency and expanded the type of communications to reach all residents.

Website updates, regular Facebook posts, new Beverages with the School Board events, and L-A school board members, SILO, and St. John's leaders are meeting to forge a relationship focused on students.

WHAT ARE SOME INDICATORS OF STUDENT SUCCESS IN L-A PUBLIC SCHOOLS?

L-A Students in Grades 3-6 score above state averages in MCA Reading and Math and higher than many neighboring districts (Reading: 58% L-A / 52% State and Math: 57% L-A / 51% State). Students at L-A High School can access rigorous courses in the schools via concurrent enrollment, where they gain college-level learning – and credit (for free) - and in Post Secondary Enrollment Options (PSEO), both while enrolled in high school.

HOW DID THE SCHOOL DISTRICT REDUCE THE BUDGET FOR 2024-25?

At their June 10, 2024, meeting, the L-A School Board adopted the district's budget for fiscal year 2025 which included \$771,000 in expenditures adjustments (reductions) in staff, extra-curricular activities and bus routes and revenue increases in activity fees, booster club donations and the sale of land. These adjustments are necessary to address the district's budget deficit due to rising costs, declining enrollment, and state funding that has not kept pace with inflation.

WHAT IS THE CURRENT ENROLLMENT IN L-A PUBLIC SCHOOLS?

In 2022-23, there were 729 resident students in the school district attendance area. The school district served 443 of these resident students. L-A Public schools also gained 151 students from parents/families choosing to open enroll their students to L-A.