

**NEWS RELEASE:  
L-A Public Schools to Ask Voters to  
Consider Operating Budget & Facilities  
Needs in Nov. 5 General Election**



July 15, 2024

Lewiston, Minnesota – The Lewiston-Altura (L-A) school board unanimously approved a resolution on Monday, July 8, to move forward with a special election on November 5, 2024, to approve a new operating referendum authorization of \$760/pupil and a bond referendum question to support construction projects to improve school facilities in the amount of \$19.95 million.

“On behalf of the L-A School Board, we would like to thank the school community members for the valuable feedback we received from the post-referendum survey and the community engagement meetings. We heard you, and with the help of the Taskforce, created a new plan that we believe meets the needs of our students, staff, families and community,” stated Superintendent Gwen Carman.

With the approval of the two questions for the general election ballot, L-A Public Schools will move forward with communications to educate and inform voters about the operating budget and facilities needs and importance of voting in the November 5th election.

It has been 27 years since voters supported facility updates through a bond referendum. Both the elementary and high school are aging and have critical infrastructure and renovation needs that cannot be addressed by annual maintenance funding. The proposed improvements will create a safer learning environment and reduce annual maintenance and operating costs. The cost savings will be redirected to student learning.

The district will soon launch a website designed to provide details regarding each ballot question, the specific items to be addressed with funding and the proposed financial impacts on area households should the referendum options pass.

The district will also host and attend meetings throughout the community to ensure clear, accurate information about each referendum option is shared with voters. If you are part of a group and would like to ask questions or would like to host a neighborhood coffee to learn more about the referendum, please contact Gwen Carman, L-A Superintendent at 507-523-2191 or [gcarman@lewalt.k12.mn.us](mailto:gcarman@lewalt.k12.mn.us).

Printed information will be mailed to households in September and October. Regular updates will be shared on the district’s [Facebook account](#). Follow [@LewistonAlturaSchoolDistrict](#) to stay informed.

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