



Proposed Referendum

November 19, 2024

KENOSHA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT



What is the future issue we are facing?

- **2024-25** budget is **balanced**
 - Difficult reductions got us to this point, but they do not solve future budget issues
- **2025-26** and beyond is **not balanced**
 - Estimated \$19 million deficit if nothing changes with the state budget and inflation continues at this pace and enrollment continues to decline as is predicted.



How did we get here?

- May: Board began formal referendum discussions
- September: KUSD issued community referendum survey
- October 22: Board approved continued development of a referendum for Feb. 18, 2025, and to engage Quarles and Brady to draft resolutions for consideration
- November 12: Committee of the Whole reviewed recurring vs. non-recurring referendum options



What has been done to address this?

Since the 2021-22 fiscal year, KUSD has:

- Reduced staffing to align with declining enrollment
- Reduced support staff
- Closed 7 schools and merged two others
- Eliminated the employer-paid HSA benefit
- Modified the employee health benefit plan
- Modified the prescription drug plan
- Reduced discretionary spending
- Reduced the major maintenance budget
- Reduced the curriculum adoption budget
- Reduced the technology refresh budget
- Provided wage increases below CPI
- Shifted costs temporarily to ESSER when possible



KUSD FY 2025-26 Projected Revenues

Ref	Description	Amount
1	Revenue Limit Change (+\$325 PP, -335 3rd Friday)	\$3,770,000
2	Per Pupil Categorical Aid (PPCA) Decline	-\$246,344
	Total Revenues	\$3,523,656



KUSD FY 2025-26 Projected Expenses

Ref	Description	Amount
1	Structural Deficit Carried from FY 24-25 (range \$790K to \$2.8MM)	\$2,800,000
2	Restore ESSER Funded Tech Refresh Budget	\$1,000,000
3	Restore Major Maintenance	\$1,000,000
4	Restore ESSER Funded Summer School plus other costs	\$2,225,000
5	Health Insurance 11%	\$4,090,000
6	Salary Schedule Increases ~ 1.5%	\$2,400,000
7	Salary CPI Increases 2%	\$3,200,000
8	Curriculum Adoption	\$2,000,000
9	Transportation Contract Increase 3%	\$300,000
10	Property Insurance Increase	\$12,000
11	Liability Insurance Increase	\$30,000
12	Nursing Contract Increase	\$50,000
13	HS Prep/Professional Learning Time	\$3,417,000
14	EL Prep/Professional Learning Time	\$909,500
	Total Expenses	\$23,433,500
	Net Budget Position	-\$19,909,844



Safety incident Nov. 7, 2024

- School safety threat occurred at a school with a controlled entrance
- Following the incident:
 - Requests have been made for updates to schools without controlled entrances
 - Requests have been made for other security measures (i.e., cameras, exterior door replacements, protective film)



Safety and security items

- Controlled entrances
 - Bose Elementary
 - Curtis Strange Elementary
 - Forest Park Elementary
 - Jeffery Elementary
 - Harvey Elementary
 - Lance Middle School
 - Whittier Elementary
- DVRs (10 year old systems)
- Camera updates (i.e., enhanced resolution, exterior cameras, replace panoramic cameras)
- Exterior door replacements
- Shatter-proof film
- Card readers/buzzer entry



KUSD FY 2025-26 Projected Expenses, cont.

Ref	Description	Amount
	Deficit Starting Point with Teacher Prep/Professional Time	-\$19,909,844
15	Debt Service to Fund 7 Remaining Controlled Entrances (\$12.5 MM)	\$2,000,000
16	Security Hardware (e.g. Cameras) Annual Update Cycle	\$100,000
17	Upgraded Security DVR and Software Lease Budget	\$350,000
	Total Expenses	\$25,883,500
	Net Budget Position	-\$22,359,844



OPTION I - NON-RECURRING

- **Motion 1:** Resolution Authorizing the School District Budget to **Exceed Revenue Limit by \$23,000,000 Per Year for Five Years for Non-Recurring Purposes**
- **Motion 2:** Resolution Providing for a Referendum Election on the Question of the Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the School District Budget to Exceed Revenue Limit by \$23,000,000 Per Year for Five Years for Non-Recurring Purposes

OPTION II - RECURRING

- **Motion 1:** Resolution Authorizing the School District Budget to **Exceed Revenue Limit by \$23,000,000 for Recurring Purposes**
- **Motion 2:** Resolution Providing for a Referendum Election on the Question of the Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the School District Budget to Exceed Revenue Limit by \$23,000,000 for Recurring Purposes

THANK YOU

Follow kUSD.edu/referendum for updates.

