



## **District Voters Approve Operating Levy for Win-E-Mac Schools**

*The funding will directly support the district's day-to-day operating budget*

ERSKINE, MN – Win-E-Mac district voters approved an operating levy referendum on Tuesday that will generate approximately \$378,000 each year (\$800 per student) for 10 years. Funding from the levy will directly support the school district's day-to-day operations, including teacher and staff salaries, classroom supplies, utilities, and building maintenance.

Unofficial vote totals stood at 273 (58%) in favor and 200 (42%) against.

"We are grateful for our community's support of our schools," said Superintendent Aaron Cook. "This funding will ensure Win-E-Mac students continue receiving the high-quality education and opportunities they deserve."

Win-E-Mac Schools, like many districts across Minnesota, continues to grapple with mounting financial pressures. The district faced a \$300,000 budget deficit last year and a \$350,000 shortfall this year. These deficits stem from a 20-year gap in adequate state funding that has left rural schools struggling to maintain essential services.

The approved funding will help stabilize the district's budget, support classroom education, and build on the legacy of excellence at Win-E-Mac Schools.

"This referendum will provide much-needed support for our students, staff, and programs and keep us on a path to success," said Win-E-Mac School Board Chair Tyler Brekken. "Thank you to everyone who voted."

To learn more about how the approved funding will support Win-E-Mac Schools, residents are encouraged to visit [ThePatriotPlan.org](http://ThePatriotPlan.org). Questions can be directed to Superintendent Aaron Cook at [acook@win-e-mac.k12.mn.us](mailto:acook@win-e-mac.k12.mn.us).