

STRONG SCHOOLS = STRONG COMMUNITY

**VOTE YES!** 

ON NOVEMBER 3, **VOTE YES** TO INCREASE FUNDING FOR OUR PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

## WHY IS THE REFERENDUM NEEDED?

State and local funding for Rochester Public Schools has not kept pace with the rising cost of educating our kids. The per-pupil funding that our public schools receive from local property taxes is well below the state average. Our school district has worked to keep costs under control, cutting its budget by \$28.6 million since 2001 and spending down its rainy day fund.

### WITHOUT ADDITIONAL FUNDING

- Budget cuts would be necessary every year through 2019-20 and beyond.
- Teachers and other staff would be cut -- a total of 223 full-time positions through 2019-20.
- Class sizes would increase and academic programs and classes would be cut.

## WHAT WOULD A YES VOTE MEAN?

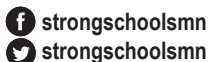
- Local per-pupil revenue for Rochester schools would be raised to the state average.
- The school district would be able to maintain current class sizes, academic programs and staffing through the 2019-20 school year.
- Taxes on a \$150,000 home would increase by about \$11.46 per month or about \$137.51 per year. For more information, go to [www.rochester.k12.mn.us/referendum](http://www.rochester.k12.mn.us/referendum)

## OUR COMMUNITY NEEDS YOUR HELP!

### DONATE OR VOLUNTEER TODAY.

**The Alliance for Strong Rochester Public Schools** is a group of citizens working to build support for this referendum. Please volunteer for the Alliance or make a donation to fund the committee's work.

Learn how at [www.strongschoolsrochester.org](http://www.strongschoolsrochester.org).



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