

Operational Referendum Passes

On April 1, the Riverdale Community voted to approve an operational referendum for the school district. The referendum passed with a 891 yes response to an 878 no response. This passage allows the district to exceed the revenue limit by \$767,500 for the next two years and \$1.155 million for the final three years ending in 2029-2030.

The funds will be used to continue funding the rising operational costs of the school district. School funding has been lagging inflation by over 2.3 million dollars over the past fifteen years. This has led to a record number of referendums in Wisconsin. Two hundred forty-one school districts went to referendum in the Fall of 2024, with another 90 school districts in the spring of 2025. Federal Funding makes up almost 10% of the school's income, or about \$780,000. That funding is still coming in 2025-2026, but it is under review by the Federal government after 2026, due to the potential elimination of the Department of Education.

The Riverdale School District is thankful for the school community's support in passing the referendum. This will allow the district to continue offering great programming daily and retain and recruit top-notch educators. This past year, Riverdale was recognized as a top 20 percent high school in the nation, is running for the top Ag program in Wisconsin and continues to be a leader in area school districts for apprenticeships, nearly producing five times the state average last year. The Department of Public Instruction has also selected the school to mentor another school district in the state on dual credit and college and career readiness programming. The elementary continues to be in the top ten of the 32 CESA school districts for reading and math achievement scores.

Continue to follow the great things happening at the Riverdale School District on the district's Facebook page, the Muscoda Progressive and the district's website. Thank you for your continued support of the Riverdale School District.

As we approach the close of another school year, I want to reflect on the many successes, milestones, and growth we've experienced together as a school community.

This year has been filled with incredible achievements—academic progress, championship performances, artistic excellence, and, most importantly, countless everyday moments where our students have shown resilience, kindness, and curiosity. Our dedicated teachers, staff, and administrators have gone above and beyond to support student learning and well-being, and I am deeply grateful for their continued commitment.

To our families, thank you for your partnership, encouragement, and trust. Your involvement plays a crucial role in our students' success, and we value the strong relationships that improve our schools daily.

As we look forward to the summer months, I encourage everyone to rest, recharge, and reflect. Whether your plans include travel, summer programs, or simply enjoying time together as a family, I hope it is a season of joy and renewal.

Congratulations to our graduating students! You leave behind a legacy of hard work and determination. We are proud of you and excited to see what you accomplish in the next chapter.

Thank you for making this school year one of growth, learning, and community. I look forward to welcoming everyone back for another great year in the fall.

Wishing you all a safe, happy, and restful summer.

Warm regards,