

**For Immediate Release**

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**Ripon Area School District Referendum Results**

RIPON, Wis. — Ripon area taxpayers voted in favor of the November 8, 2022, operational referendum question. The Ripon Area School District released the following message after the announcement of the referendum results:

We offer our thanks to Ripon residents for their consideration of the solution presented to voters on November 8. The Board of Education hosted community engagement sessions and carefully considered the district's needs and analyzed the results of a community-wide survey distributed in July 2022 which showed 65.18% of survey respondents supported the referendum.

The solution presented to voters authorized the district to exceed the revenue limit specified in Section 121.91, Wisconsin Statutes, by \$850,000 for the next six years to sustain general operations. The referendum will begin in the 2022-2023 school year and end with the 2027-2028 school year. The Board asks the community to support retaining some staff positions brought in to help students recover from the learning loss and the social-emotional impact of COVID.

Superintendent Mary Whitrock shared, "I am very pleased that the Board was able to find a solution that meets the needs of the District and that the Ripon community supports. Over the course of the last year, the District spoke to many community members. I appreciate the consideration they have provided, including their questions and, ultimately, their support of the solutions the Board put forward."

School Board President David Scott commented, "The Board thanks the community members who took the time to learn about the realities of operating a high-quality school district and to share their views on how best to move our district forward. We are so grateful to the voters who put their trust in the Board's solution to meet the needs of our schools. We will continue our commitment both to the educational priorities of the district and to making the most of every single dollar invested by the taxpayers into their public schools."

With this referendum, the District's property tax rate will still decline by \$0.12 to \$8.15 and reach the lowest it has been in over 40 years.

Any comments or questions, please contact Dr. Mary Whitrock at (920) 748-4600.

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