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Eastview Elementary kindergarten students eager for their first day of school!

Lakeville Area Schools
17630 Juniper Path, Suite A
Lakeville, Minnesota 55044

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GROWING TOGETHER

Two ballot questions included in November 7 referendum to support growing student enrollment and student needs

On Tuesday, November 7, Lakeville Area Schools district residents will vote on whether to approve funding to staff and operate the District’s new elementary school, **Highview Elementary**. The request includes a second ballot question that will ask residents for funds for K-12 mental health, behavioral and academic support, as well as the means to attract and maintain highly qualified staff.

The Lakeville Area Schools Board of Education approved the Superintendent’s recommendation to bring a request to residents at its regular meeting on June 27. The request is based on long-term planning to accommodate steadily growing student enrollment and student needs.



What will be on the ballot?

The ballot asks voters to consider **two questions**:

- Question 1** asks voters to consider increasing general education funds to staff and operate the new elementary school.
- Question 2** asks voters to consider increasing general education funds to expand K-12 mental health, behavioral and academic support, and the means to attract and retain highly qualified staff. **Question 2 can only pass if Question 1 also passes.**

Ballot Question 1: Highview Elementary STAFFING AND OPERATING NEEDS

PRINCIPAL

SUPPORT & OFFICE STAFF

CUSTODIAL & GROUNDS STAFF

SCHOOL COUNSELOR

OTHER SPECIALISTS

UTILITIES & INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPLIES

Ballot Question 2: SUPPORT NEEDS (K-12)

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT

BEHAVIORAL SUPPORT

ACADEMIC SUPPORT

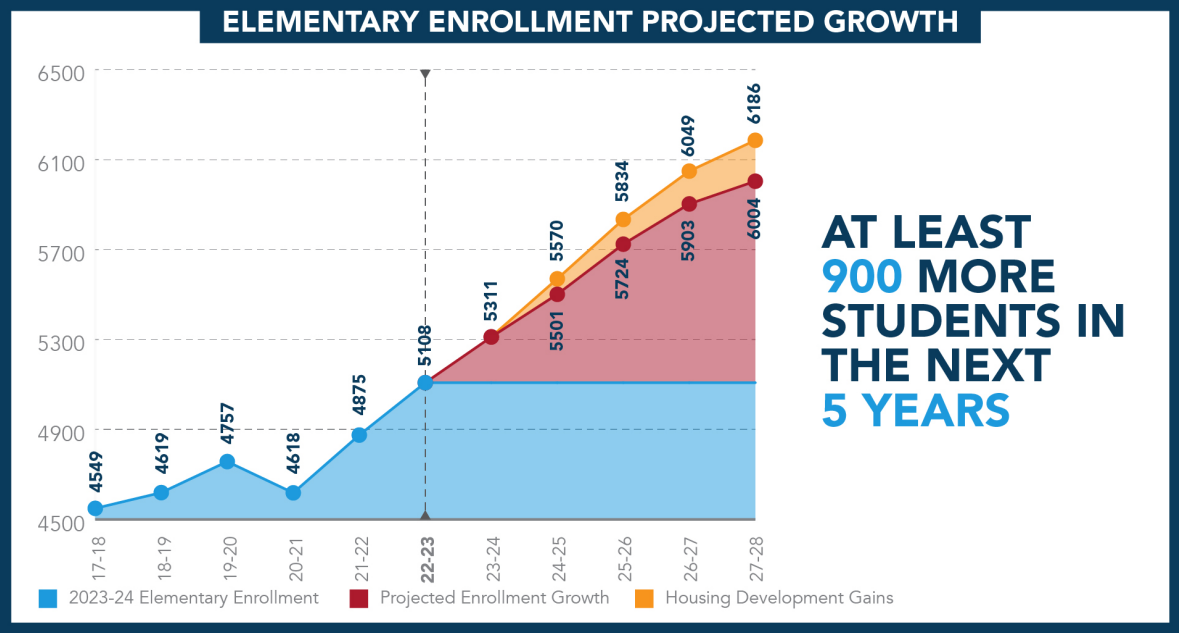
MEANS TO ATTRACT & RETAIN STAFF

LAKEVILLE AREA SCHOOLS

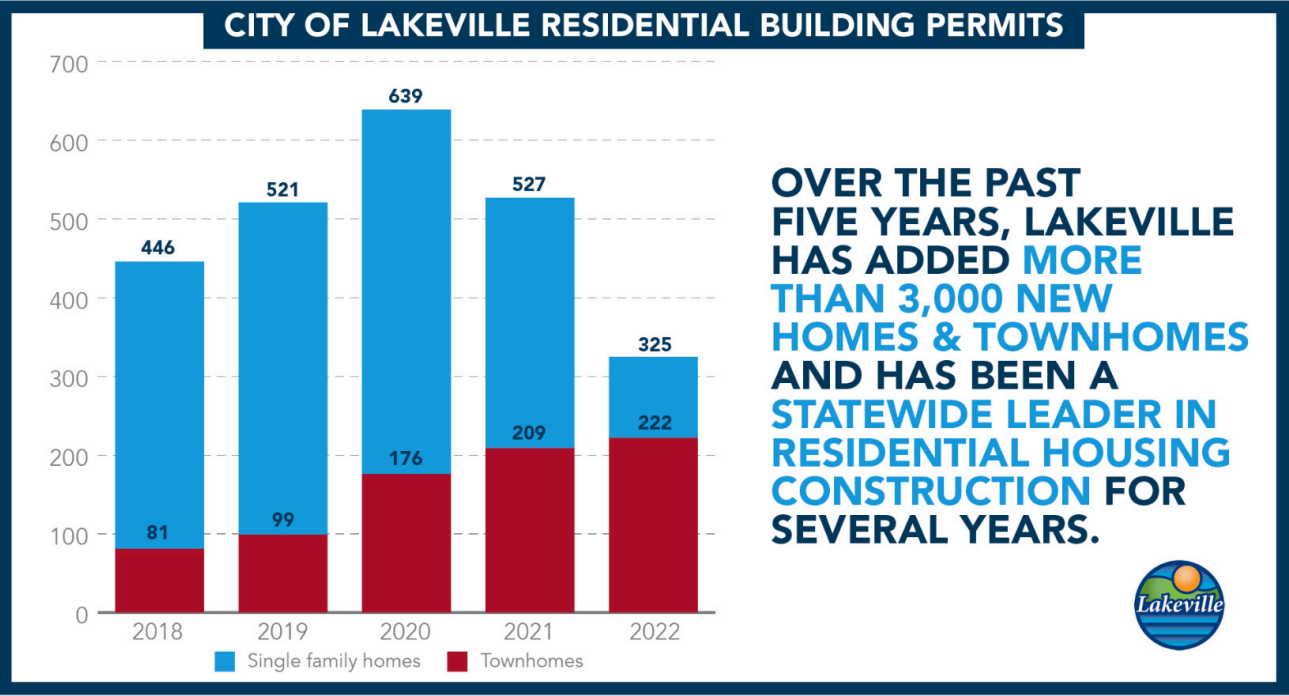
'Growing Together' continued from page 1

We are a growing district in a growing community

The Lakeville area is popular, in large part due to the quality of our schools. Our total student enrollment is conservatively projected to grow **30 percent** in the **next decade**, and our elementary enrollment alone is conservatively projected to grow **17 percent** in the **next five years**! That's approximately **900 more elementary students by 2028**.



Over the **past 5 years**, Lakeville has added more than **3,000 single family homes and townhomes**, and has been a statewide leader in residential housing construction for several years.



LAKEVILLE AREA SCHOOLS

'Growing Together' continued from page 2

What happens if the referendum passes?

If voters approve the referendum, the new 750-student elementary school will open in Fall 2024 to accommodate our growing elementary student enrollment in a thoughtful and planful way.

- We'll be able to address crucial staffing and operating components necessary to operate Highview Elementary, including hiring a school **principal**, **support** and **office staff**, **custodial** and **grounds staff**, a **school counselor**, and other **specialists**. It would also cover the costs of utilities and instructional supplies.

Student **mental health**, **behavioral** and **academic support** will be expanded to support our **growing K-12 students** to help them excel in school, and we'll have the means to **attract and maintain highly qualified staff** to support them.

What happens if the referendum fails?

If voters do not approve the referendum our **urgent needs** would persist due to enrollment growth and student needs.

Without funding:

- Our elementary school **class sizes will increase**, limiting personalized attention for students, and causing **overcrowding**. Temporary **attendance area adjustments** may be necessary to ease overcrowding where possible, which may cause potentially significant disruptions to students, staff and families.
- Essential **K-12 mental health**, **behavioral** and **academic support services** would be **limited further**, hindering the growth and success of students.
- Worker shortages and rising costs will continue to impact our **ability to hire and keep good teachers and staff**. This impacts how things run and our students in the end.

What is the tax impact?

If approved by voters, the total estimated tax impact for the average homeowner (\$465,000 home value) would be **\$15 per month**.

Thriving schools build thriving communities

Strengthening our schools strengthens our community because schools directly benefit a community's vitality and home resale values. Research shows that the more attractive a community is, the more likely people are to live, work, play and shop there. To be conservative, respectful and financially responsible, **we only ask our community for what we need, when our students need it.**

IF APPROVED



TAX IMPACT

ABOUT \$15/MONTH

*Based on a \$465,000 home/property

VOTING INFORMATION

Polls will be open 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Tues., Nov. 7, 2023.

Early voting begins **Fri., Sept. 22**. All school district residents can vote early at the school district office, 17630 Juniper Path, Suite A, Lakeville.

Learn more about voting options on our referendum website:

isd194.org/GrowingTogether.

LEARN MORE

- **Visit** isd194.org/GrowingTogether
- **Email** GrowingTogether@isd194.org
- **Call** 952-232-2096

Lakeville Area Schools will continue to share information regarding the fall referendum via print materials, a website and in-person events leading up to the Nov. 7 vote.