

School District of Pittsville

Community Presentation



INTRODUCTIONS



SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PITTSVILLE



Jason Knott
District Administrator



Pam Tesch
Director of Business Services

Presentations and Coffee Chats

Upcoming

October

- 14 Town of Richfield, 6:30 PM
- 15 Town of City Point, 6:00 PM
- 16 Town of Hiles, 5:30 PM
- Town of Dexter, 7:00 PM
- 17 Paulie's Diner, 7:15 AM
- 22 Pittsville Library, 1:00 PM
- 23 Pittsville VFW, 7:00 PM
- 28 Pittsville Community Forum #2, 6:30 PM

September

- 16 Town of Remington
- 17 City of Pittsville
- 18 Town of Wood
- 21 Town of Sherwood
- 23 Pittsville PTO Organization
- 25 Pittsville Community Forum #1
- 26 Pittsville Historical Society
- 29 UCC Church

October

- 1 Paulie's Diner
- 2 Pittsville Lions Club Meeting
- 3 Bucks & Berries Cafe
- 6 Saint Joachim's Catholic Church
- 8 Dexter Lakeside Oasis
- Town of Cary
- Town of Hansen
- 9 Roadhouse Bar & Grill
- Pittsville Legion/Legion Auxillary
- 10 Cenex
- 12 The Rustic Buck
- 13 Crossroads Church

November 2024 Referendum

- Four-year referendum
- Non-recurring
- Annual Average of \$1.5 million
- Operational



Shall the School District of Pittsville, Wood, Jackson, Clark, and Juneau Counties, Wisconsin be authorized to exceed the revenue limit specified in Wis. Stat. § 121.91, by the following amounts in the school years specified: **\$1,100,000 in 2024-2025; \$1,400,000 in 2025-2026; \$1,700,000 in 2026-2027 and \$1,820,000 in 2027-2028, for non-recurring purposes**, such excess to be used to finance the costs of general operations, including maintaining the educational programs of the District as well as facility maintenance/non-capital items for the **2024-2025, 2025-2026, 2026-2027 and 2027-2028 school years?**

WI Referenda History

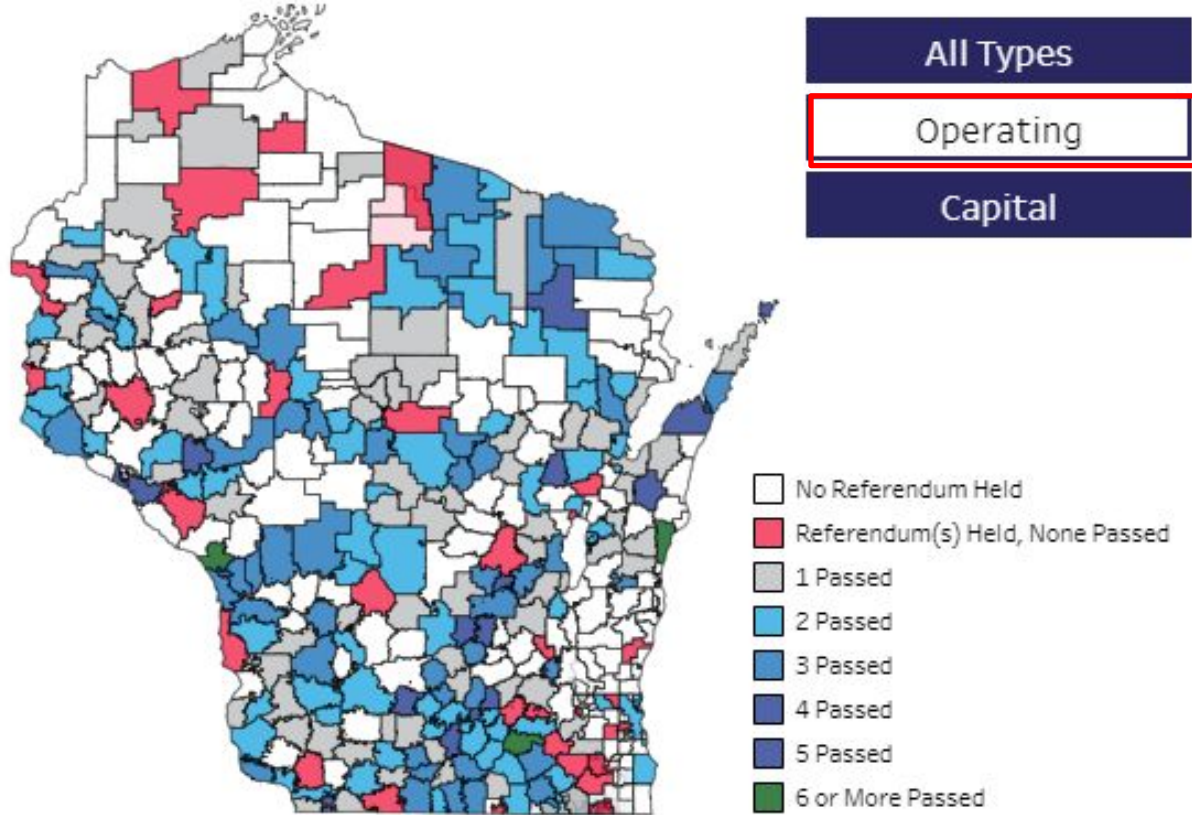
- **55+ Wisconsin Schools** with an Operational Referenda on the Fall 2024 ballot



[Why a School Referendum?](#)

Figure 2: Most Districts Have Passed a Referendum in Last Decade

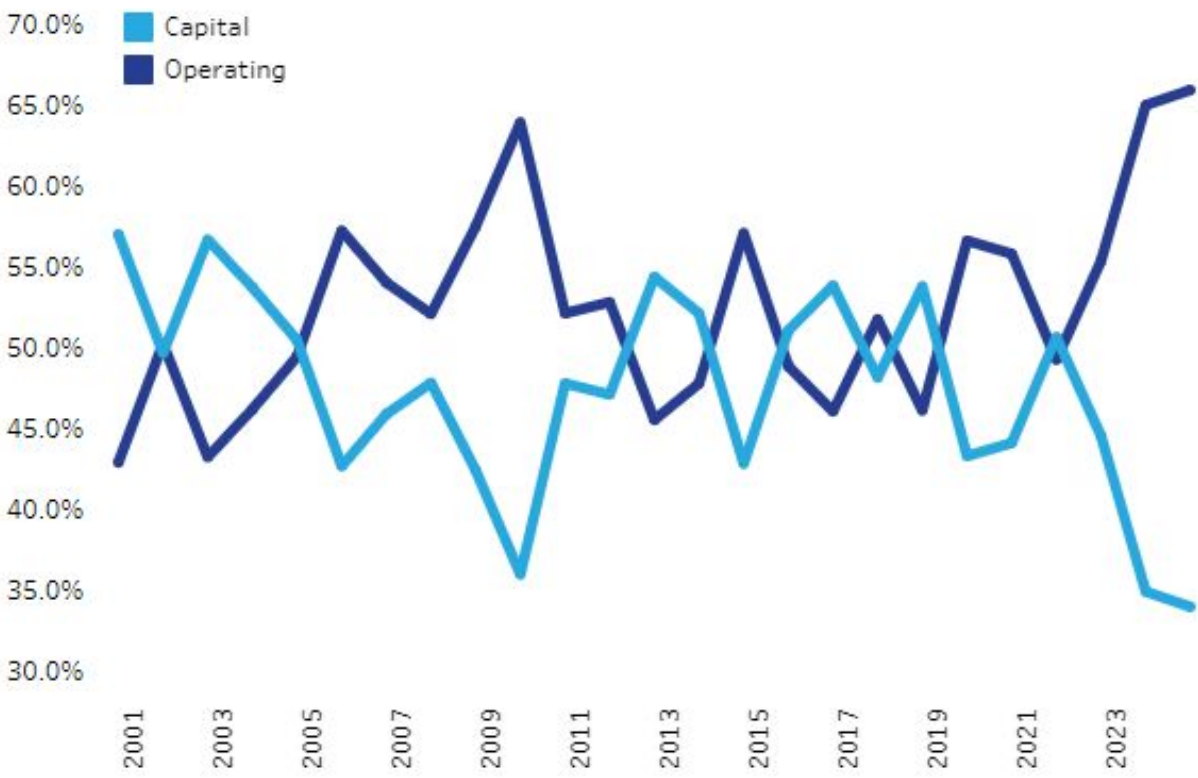
Number of referenda passed since beginning of 2014, by school district and type



Source: Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

Figure 3: A High Share of Operating Referenda

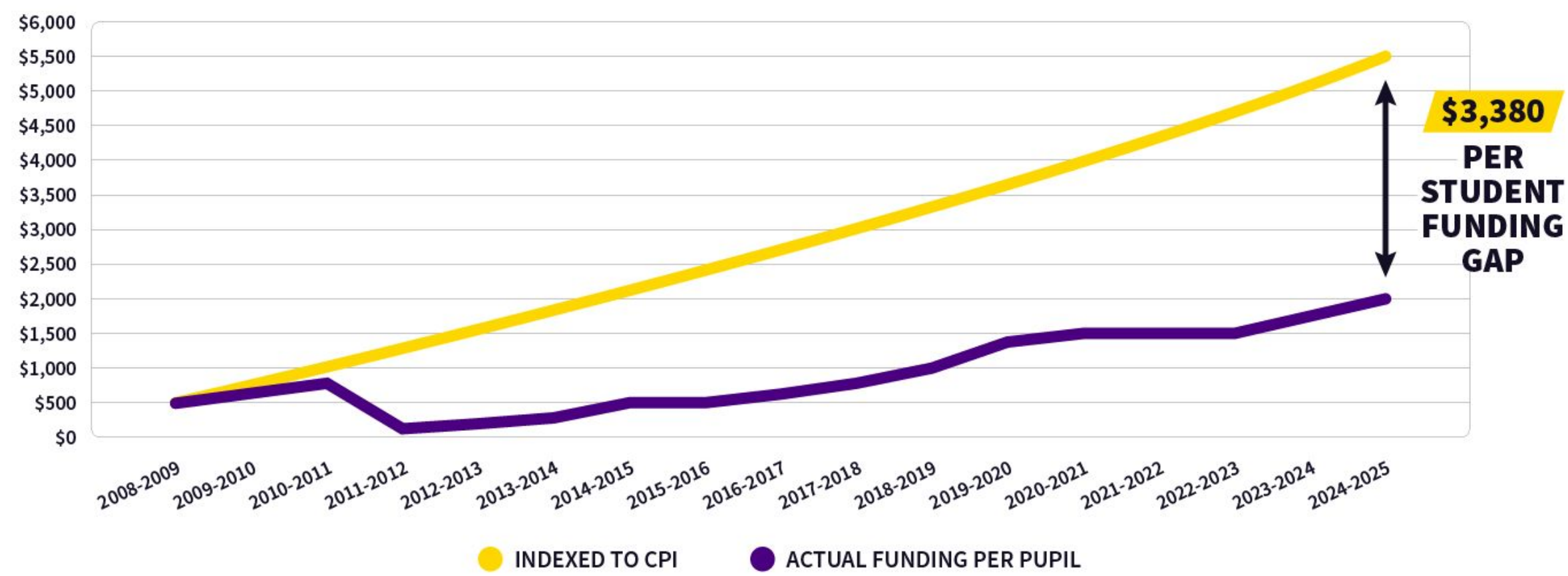
Makeup of school district referendum questions by type, 2000-2024



Sources: Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction and Wisconsin Policy Forum analysis of statewide county clerk data. *Pending results from November 2024 elections.

DISTRICT FUNDING

GENERAL SCHOOL DISTRICT REVENUES PER STUDENT LAG INFLATION BY MORE THAN \$3,300 SINCE 2009



SOURCE: KAVA, RUSS (JANUARY 9, 2023) LEGISLATIVE FISCAL BUREAU MEMO RE: REVENUE LIMIT PER PUPIL ADJUSTMENT INDEXED TO INFLATION; WASBO CALCULATIONS

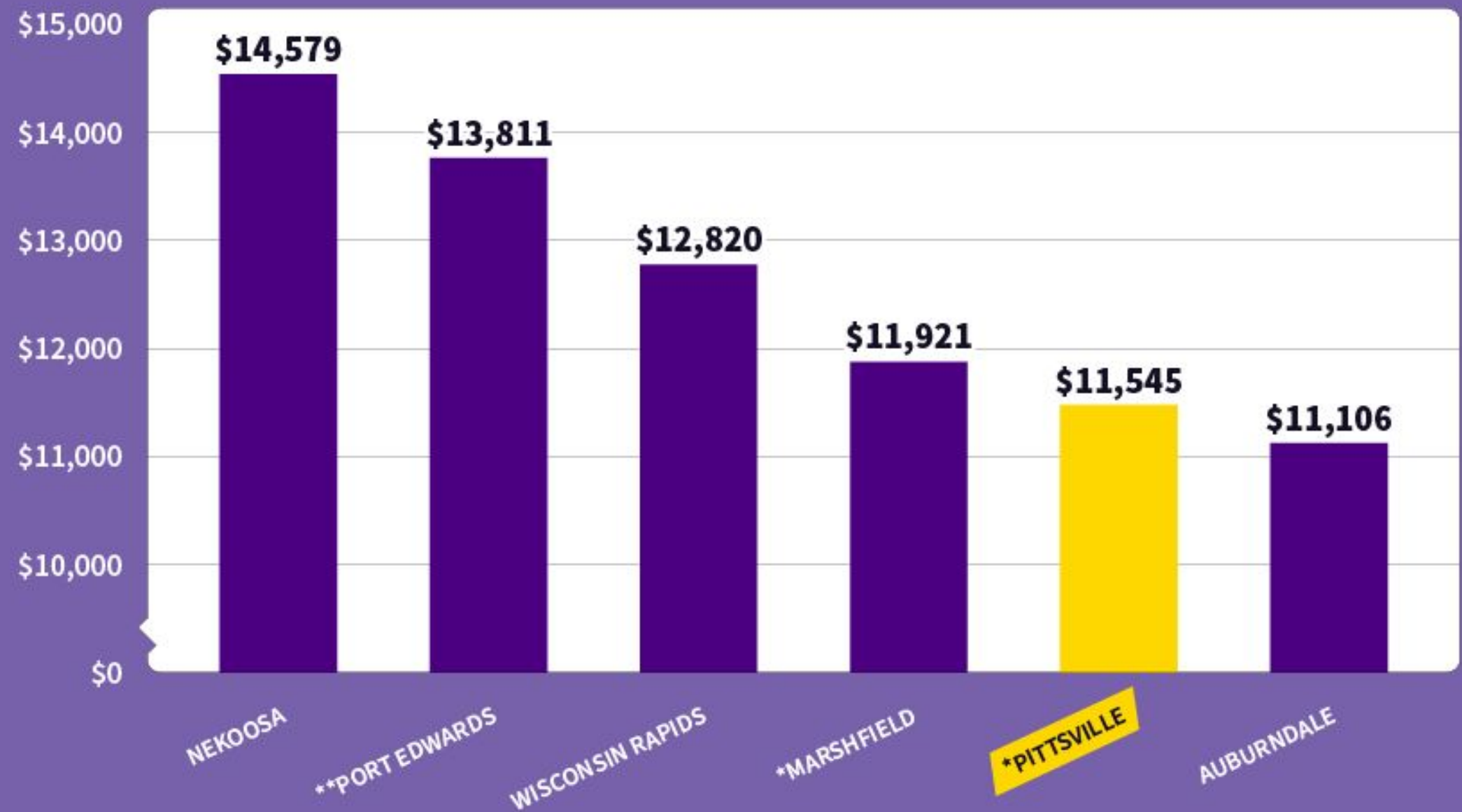
REVENUE LIMITS

In 2023-24, PSD's allowable per-student revenue limit ranked #316 out of the 421 total school districts in the State.

As a Result, PSD FALLS IN THE BOTTOM

25%

2023-2024 PER-STUDENT REVENUE LIMIT WITH EXEMPTIONS COMPARISON



*OPERATIONAL REFERENDUM ON NOVEMBER 2024 BALLOT, **PASSED SPRING 2024 OPERATIONAL AND CAPITAL REFERENDA

REVENUE LIMITS

2023-2024 **REVENUE LIMIT** COMPARISON

SCHOOL DISTRICT	PER STUDENT TOTAL (WITH REVENUE LIMIT OVERRIDE)	DIFFERENCE PER STUDENT (TO PSD)	NET BUDGET DIFFERENCE (PROJECTED ENROLLMENT OF 548)
Nekoosa	\$14,579	\$3,034	\$1,662,632
Port Edwards*	\$13,811	\$2,266	\$1,241,768
Wisconsin Rapids	\$12,820	\$1,275	\$698,700
Marshfield**	\$11,921	\$376	\$206,048
Pittsville**	\$11,545		
Auburndale	\$11,106	-\$439	-\$240,572

*PASSED AN OPERATIONAL AND CAPITAL REFERENDUM APRIL 2024, **OPERATIONAL REFERENDUM ON NOVEMBER 2024 BALLOT

Why Now?

- Limited referenda history (last operational in 2008)
- Need to address deferred maintenance
- Depleting fund balance
- Looming operational interruptions
- Desire to maintain high-quality education
Internal efforts such as staff cuts and larger class sizes have been exhausted. Additionally, District salaries and wages are significantly lower than surrounding districts.



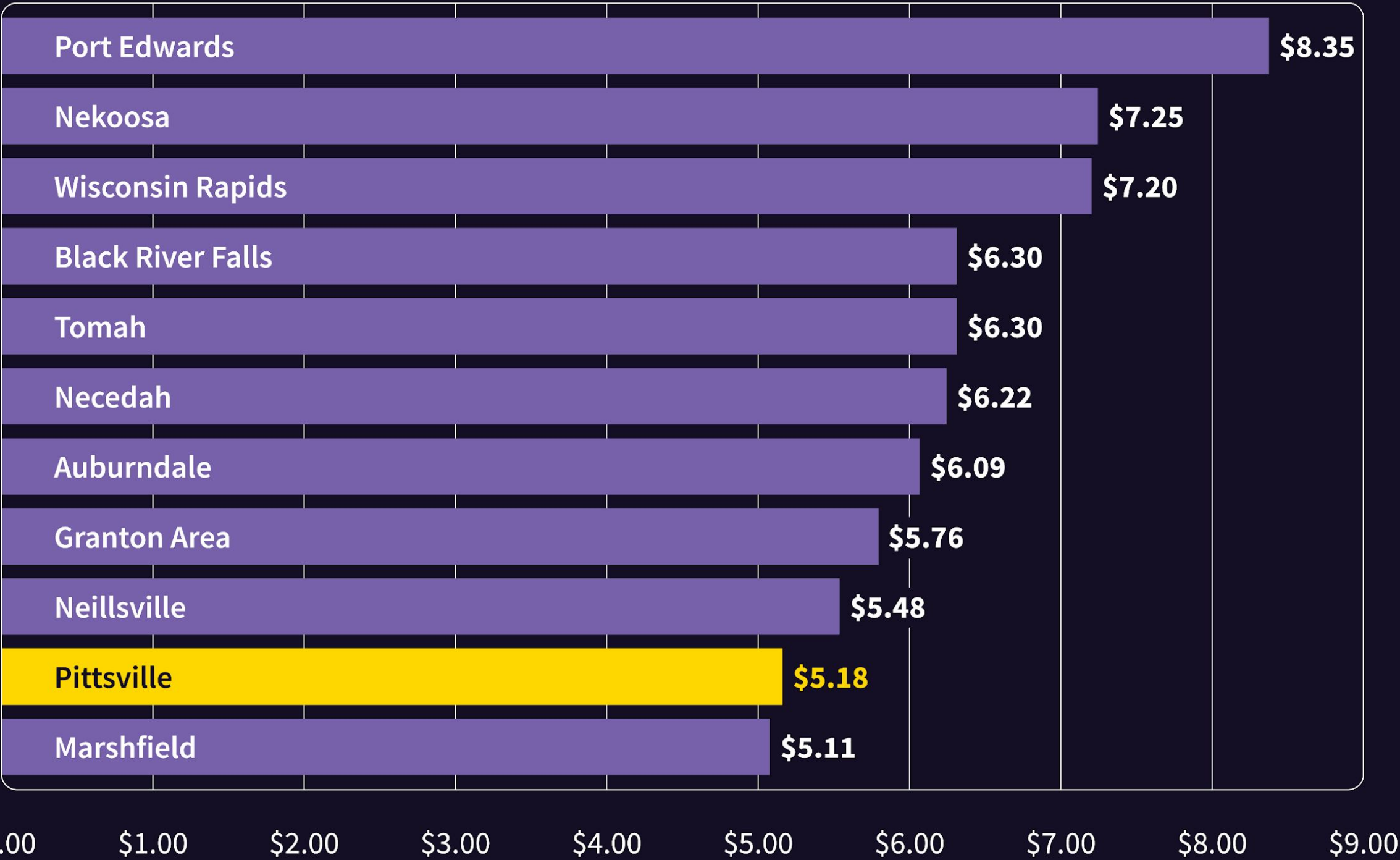
Financial Insights

In 2024, PSD's Mill Rate ranked #358 out of the 421 total school districts in the State.



2023-2024

COMPARABLE SURROUNDING SCHOOL DISTRICTS MILL RATES

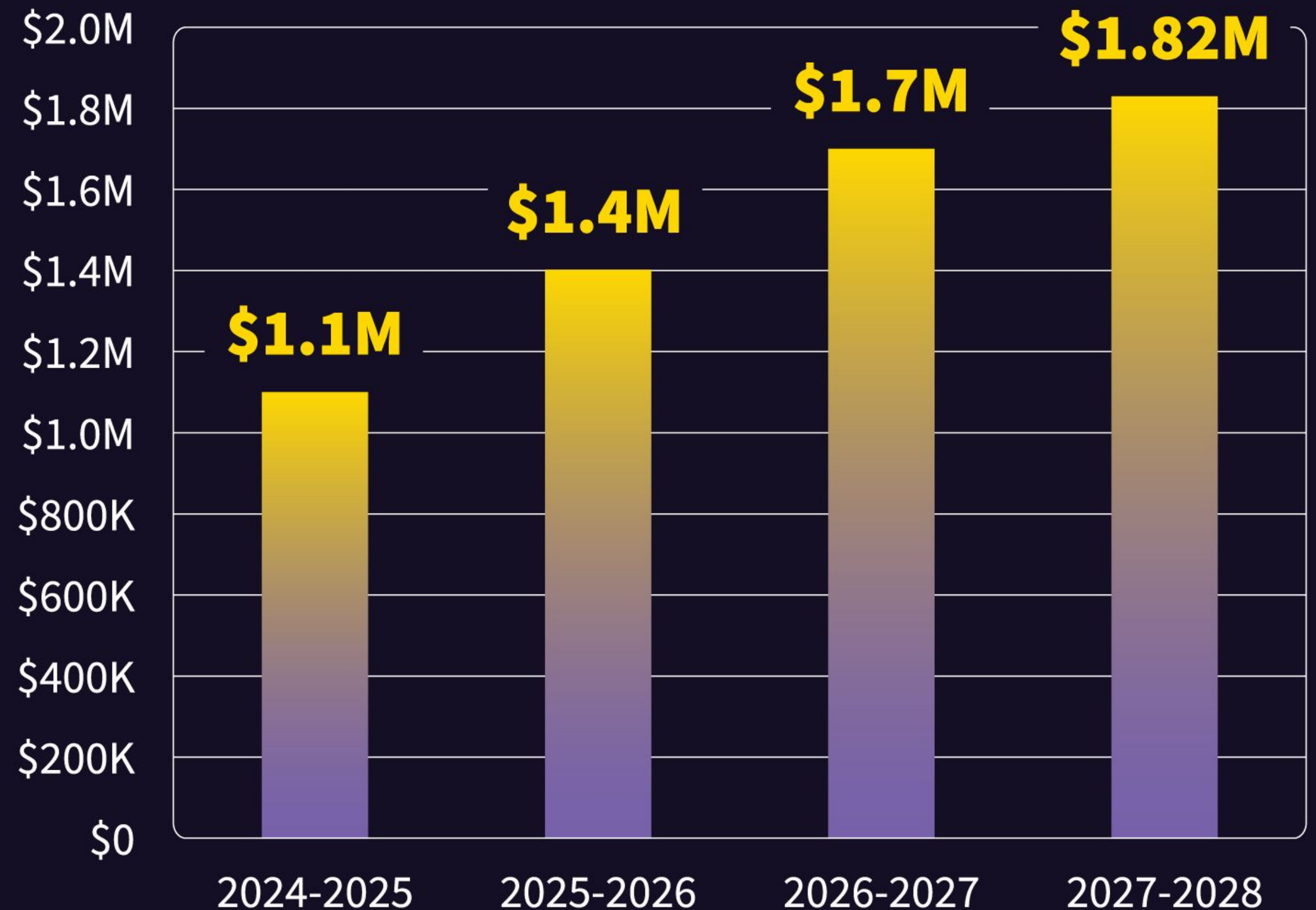


What's the ask?

Annual average of
\$1.5 million

Accounts for inflation
and rebuilding fund
balance to a healthy
amount

PROPOSED OPERATIONAL REFERENDUM FUNDING



Estimated Tax Impact

PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX **INCREASE** PER \$100,000 OF EQUALIZED PROPERTY VALUE

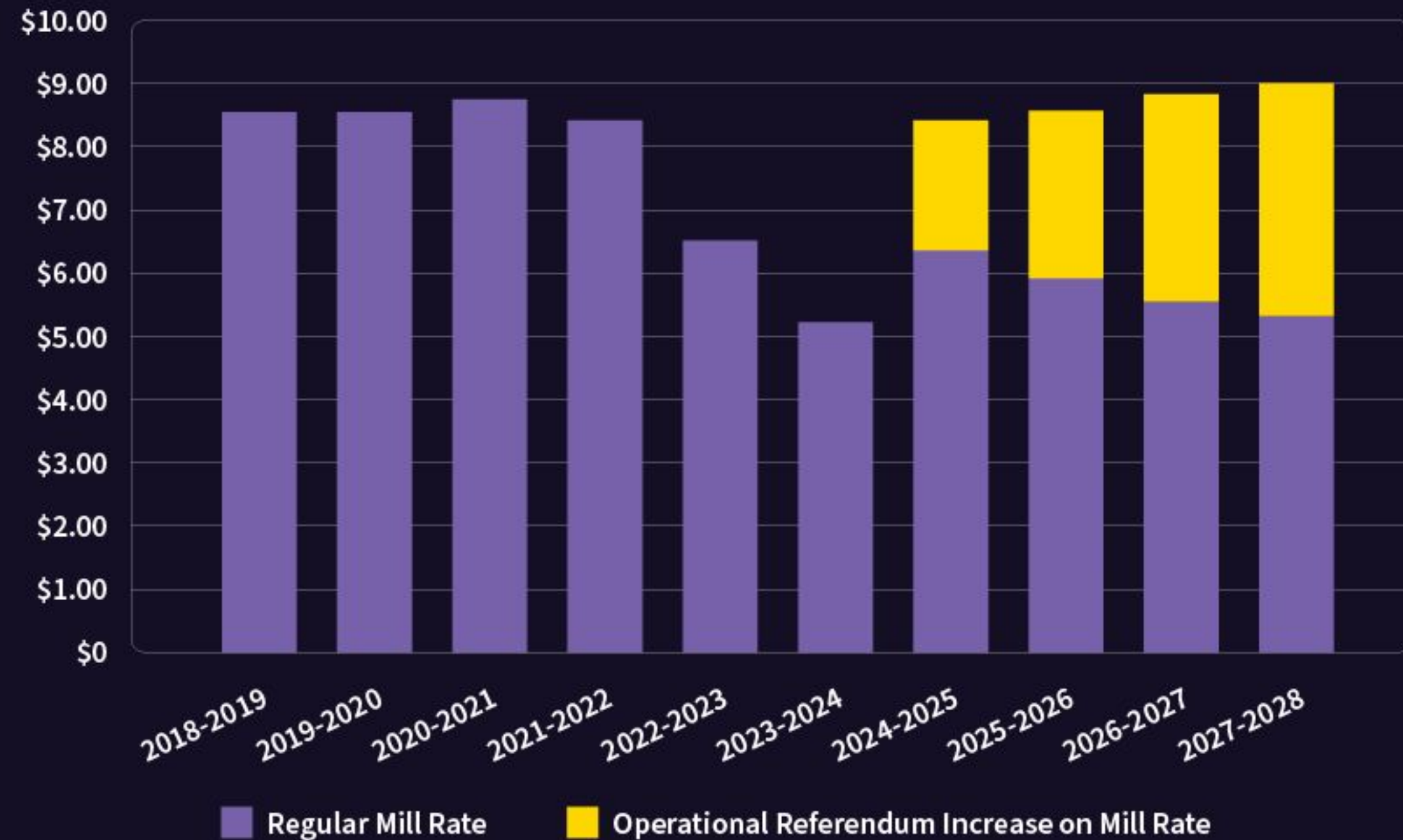
REFERENDUM YEAR	MONTHLY	ANNUAL
YEAR 1	\$16.92	\$203
YEAR 2	\$1.17	\$14
YEAR 3	\$2.75	\$33
YEAR 4	\$1.42	\$17

**YEARLY INCREASE IS IN ADDITION TO THE PREVIOUS YEAR*

***CHANGES IN EQUALIZED PROPERTY VALUE, STATE AID, FTE (FULL TIME EQUIVALENCY) AND OTHER VARIABLES CAN RESULT IN MILL RATE AND PROPERTY TAX CHANGES.*

MILL RATE HISTORY

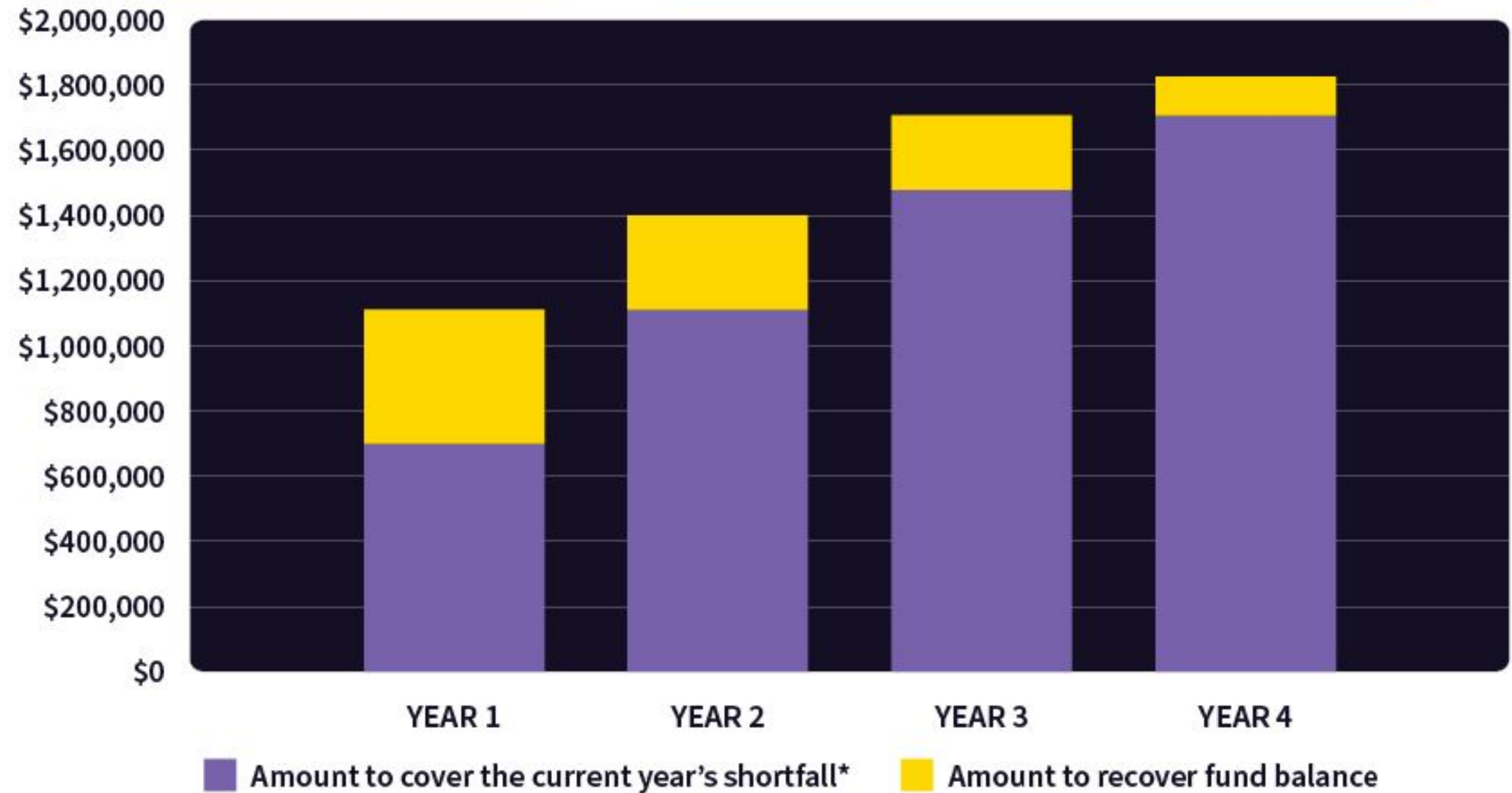
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PITTSVILLE **MILL RATES**



*CHANGES IN EQUALIZED PROPERTY VALUE, STATE AID, FTE (FULL TIME EQUIVALENCY) AND OTHER VARIABLES CAN RESULT IN MILL RATE AND PROPERTY TAX CHANGES.

REFERENDUM FUNDING

REFERENDUM FUNDING SHORTFALLS AND FUND BALANCE RECOVERY



*CHANGES IN EQUALIZED PROPERTY VALUE, STATE AID, FTE (FULL TIME EQUIVALENCY) AND OTHER VARIABLES CAN RESULT IN MILL RATE AND PROPERTY TAX CHANGES.

Proposed Referendum Funding

Year 1:

- Replenish 10% Supplies Cut
- Technology upgrades for classrooms and students
- Restoration of professional development funds for non-grant-funded staff
- Rebuild fund balance

Years 2-4:

- Adjustment to salaries and wages to align with neighboring districts
- Annual curriculum updates
- Additional non-capital purchases
- Increases for repairs and maintenance
- Inflation adjustments and anticipated health insurance premium increases
- Rebuild fund balance to, at minimum, meet policy requirements

Alternative Impacts

If the operational referendum does **NOT** pass the district will need to take the following steps:

- Freeze employee wages and benefit share reductions
- Reduce staffing through attrition, resulting in significantly increased class sizes
- Further reduce maintenance and IT supplies and updates
- Propose an operational referendum in April 2025



Alternative Impacts

If the vote is **not** successful this year, our District would be left with no choice but to draw approximately **\$700,000** from our fund balance/savings account for the 2025-2026 school year, which would leave us with a **zero balance**.

This outcome would negatively impact the PDS's ability to offer **competitive student programming** and **retention of qualified staff**, which are two of the pillars of our Strategic Plan and the foundation of our District.



Questions?

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Scan the QR code to visit our District's referendum webpage which serves as a home to all referendum materials and information.

