



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT

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### **Arrowhead Union High School District Voters Split Two Referendum Questions**

*Hartland, WI:* Voters approved one of two referendum questions posed by Arrowhead Union High School District on the November 5th ballot, passing the \$1.9 million operating referendum question, and rejecting the \$261.2 million facilities referendum question for a new high school building.

The \$1.9 million operating referendum question received 51% support, while the \$261.2M facilities referendum received only 41.5% support.

The approval of the operating referendum will enable the District to exceed the revenue cap in place for the district by \$1.9 million annually for four years beginning in 2025-26 to fund operational costs. The referendum will replace the school's current \$1.7 million operational referendum, which expires at the end of 2024-25. Operational funding will be used to attract and retain staff in this competitive market, protect educational programming, keep pace with inflationary cost increases, and fund necessary maintenance and infrastructure needs.

"We are thankful to the community for the approval of the operating referendum. It allows us to maintain our exceptional educational offerings and comprehensive extracurricular opportunities for the next four years. It is disappointing that the facilities referendum did not pass, but the referendum was successful as the community gave us great feedback and clear direction. We had amazing community engagement over the past year, especially the past few months, that would not have happened otherwise. Being able to meet so many citizens and educate people about school funding and our facilities was a rewarding and energizing experience. The need to address our aging buildings is not going away so the School Board and the Administration will continue to work with our community until we come up with a solution that a majority of residents support," stated Conrad Farner, AUHSD Superintendent.

The proposed new high school was planned as a single building on the existing AHS site and included modern academic and student collaboration spaces; appropriately sized cafeteria, competition pool, and auditorium spaces; and an indoor multi-purpose space for

academic and athletic co-curricular programming. The current school buildings are rapidly aging and lack these features.

AUHSD School Board President, Kim Schubert, stated, "We gave voters the choice to invest in their community, and they have voiced their opinion. We will continue to look at solutions for the District's needs, and keep everyone's best interests in mind moving forward."

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