

# OUR STUDENTS - OUR SCHOOLS



School District of  
**BELOIT**

**2025**  
Referendum

# WE THRIVE TOGETHER

Public schools rely on local property taxes, state aid, and federal aid. Since 2009, funding has not kept pace with inflation, and revenue limits have created budgetary challenges. These funding gaps often lead to reductions in staff, services, and resources for students. Many districts have turned to referendums to address these shortfalls. In 2024, a record 241 referendums took place statewide, and over 90 districts—including Beloit—will have referendums in April 2025.

There is no November 2025 election opportunity to propose another referendum. Without additional revenue, further cuts may be necessary, and the Beloit School District projects an \$8.9 million shortfall by April 2026.

## Referendum Priorities

On April 1, 2025, you will have the opportunity to vote on a referendum to exceed state-imposed revenue limits by **\$40.25 million over three years**.

Staff  
Compensation  
& Retention  
(\$12.24M)



Behavioral  
Support  
(\$2.84M)



Academic  
Success  
(\$1.68M)



District Stability  
& Operations  
(\$23.49M)



## \$23.49M is Critical for Stability

This \$23.49M portion of the referendum is not extra spending—it is **necessary to fill the gap** created when our current funding does not keep pace with rising operational costs related to:

- Employee Benefits
- Instructional Costs
- Facilities & Maintenance
- Student Transportation
- Technology & Communication
- Extracurricular Activities
- Special Education Services
- Administrative & District Services

## Beloit's Funding Challenge

Beloit's school-related property tax rate is among the lowest in Wisconsin at \$1.92 per \$1,000 of assessed value, limiting school revenue. This constraint recently led to over \$11 million in spending cuts, which have created significant operational challenges for staff and students.

Our District must secure sustainable funding so that educators and students receive consistent support, rather than having to operate with fewer resources. If a referendum is approved, the mill rate for the 2025–2026 school year could rise to \$7.53—still below historical levels.

**SCAN for Referendum Information.**

**Disponible también en español.**



[www.sdb.k12.wi.us/2025referendum](http://www.sdb.k12.wi.us/2025referendum)

# Referendum Ballot Question

Shall the School District of Beloit, Rock County, Wisconsin be authorized to exceed the revenue limit specified in Section 121.91, Wisconsin Statutes, by \$9,170,000 for the 2025-2026 school year, by \$14,120,000 for the 2026-2027 school year and by \$16,950,000 for the 2027-2028 school year, for non-recurring purposes consisting of operational and maintenance expenses, including teacher and staff compensation, and academic and student behavioral resources?

## Projected Impact

On April 1, 2025, you will have the opportunity to vote on a referendum to exceed state-imposed revenue limits by \$40.25 million over three years. Based on current projections, if the referendum does not pass, the District may experience a revenue shortfall that could impact teaching and learning resources.

Referendum Passes	Unsuccessful Referendum
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Staff compensation to help <b>attract and retain</b> educators</li><li>• <b>Academic resources</b>, particularly in reading and math</li><li>• <b>Behavioral support and additional staffing</b>, such as assistant principals, deans of students, and paraprofessionals</li><li>• <b>Operational needs</b> like utilities, facility maintenance, technology, and transportation</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Adjustments</b> to staff compensation</li><li>• <b>Reduced</b> building-level support, including student services</li><li>• <b>Modifications</b> to contracted services (technology, legal, cleaning, etc.)</li><li>• Additional central office <b>staffing cuts</b></li><li>• <b>Increases</b> in insurance costs</li><li>• Programs and courses not aligned with graduation requirements will be <b>reviewed for continuation</b> (arts, athletics, extracurriculars, and other essential offerings specific to SDB)</li></ul>

*These potential measures are part of various options being evaluated to manage the projected budget impact.*



## APRIL 1, 2025

REGISTER TO VOTE in person at the City Clerk's Office, at [myvote.wi.gov](https://myvote.wi.gov), or your polling place on Election Day.

### REMEMBER

- ✓ Bring a photo ID to the polls.
- ✓ Update your registration if you've moved.
- ✓ Find your polling location at [myvote.wi.gov](https://myvote.wi.gov) or call (608) 364-6680.

### VOTER ID

U.S. citizens can visit [elections.wi.gov/photoid](https://elections.wi.gov/photoid) to request an ID to vote (authorized by Wis. Stat. 343.165(8)).

Stay connected as we continue working toward a strong future for our schools.

