



# OPERATIONAL REFERENDUM

## APRIL 7, 2026

Our district is facing critical financial challenges that need to be addressed with additional revenue. Our communities will consider a \$800,000 recurring referendum.

### FAQ #4 CAN THE DISTRICT CUT ENOUGH TO MAKE UP FOR THE LACK OF FUNDING?

Staff, Faculty and Administration have been significantly cut over the last 18 years. However, a few more cuts were approved for the current and future school year. As you can see, there is not a lot of room for more cuts.

#### Cuts for the 2025-2026 School Year.

- Reduced Instrumental Music teacher from 75% to 50%.
- Reduced Shuttle Route
- Reduced Athletic Director salary by 25%
- 1 Fulltime custodian to 2-part time positions
- Reduced a ½ time physical education/health teacher.

**Total Savings: \$93,640.76**

#### Other Savings/Income Generation for 2025-2026:

- No Board members nor the superintendent attended the State Education Convention - (based on 24-25 costs) - **Saved \$7,500**
- The Board waived their salaries for the 25-26 school year - **Saved \$5,225**
- Sold Property in Gratiot - **Generated \$33,750**
- No Raises were given to any staff - (based on CPI - 2.95%) - **Saved \$82,600**

**Total Savings: \$129,075**

#### Savings for 2026-2027

- Not replacing a teacher who is retiring (Salary and Fringe - total package)
- Reducing the Spanish Teacher Position (Salary and Fringe - total package)
- Reducing the Guidance Counselor Position to 80%

**Total Savings: \$199,340.79**

(includes total package for both employees - which includes salaries, health insurance, dental insurance, life insurance, state retirement, social security, and long term disability)

The board is also discussing reduction of district administrator to a shared position between two school districts. Or a shared superintendent/principal position.

The district has made every effort they could to make cuts over the last 18 years.

#### Black Hawk School District Board Statement:

**“The Black Hawk School Board is bringing forward an \$800,000 recurring referendum to the community to help sustain the daily operations of our school. This support preserves classroom learning and essential services that provide for the varied needs of our students. The Board believes that the district is currently operating at an absolute minimum level of staffing. Further reductions jeopardize the existence of our school.”**

If you have questions please contact District Administrator, Willy Chambers at [chawil@blackhawk.k12.wi.us](mailto:chawil@blackhawk.k12.wi.us) or 608-234-1581

Black Hawk School District Staffing Trends

