

GENEVA JT. 4 SCHOOL DISTRICT (WOODS SCHOOL)

INFORMATION REGARDING THE OPERATIONAL REFERENDUM

Voters in the Town of Geneva and Town of Linn will consider a non-recurring operational referendum for the Geneva Jt. 4 School District (Woods School).

Wisconsin school funding restrictions cap the amount of revenue our district can receive through state aid and local property taxes. Fixed operational costs continue to rise, while state funding formulas do not keep pace. Passing an operational referendum allows local communities to decide whether to exceed state caps to support their local school.

- **What the Referendum Asks:**
The ballot measure asks for authorization to exceed state revenue limits by \$750,000 in 2027-28, \$1,000,000 in 2028-29, \$1,250,000 in 2029-30, and \$1,500,000 in 2030-31 to fund ongoing operating expenses.
- **Outcome of an Approved Referendum:**
Approval provides the district with a predictable, stable revenue stream to responsibly plan for ongoing operating costs. It maintains Woods School operations at their current level, ensuring our small-class environment, staffing, and student opportunities remain intact—with no projected increase to the current school mill rate.

- Outcome if the Referendum Fails:

If the referendum fails, the district will experience a major revenue shortfall. To balance the operating budget, Geneva Jt.

4 would be forced to make immediate, significant cuts to staffing, academic offerings, and extracurricular programs.

Continued structural deficits under state funding limits would threaten the long-term financial viability of Woods School, potentially leading to school dissolution or consolidation with a neighboring school district.