



998 Education Tax Levies

I. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to define the authority of the school district, through its School Board, to raise funds for the operation and maintenance of its schools, and the authority to manage and expend such funds under Minnesota state statute.

II. General Statement of Policy

The School Board must provide, by levy of tax, necessary funds for the conduct of schools, the payment of indebtedness, and all proper expenses of the district. In accordance with state statute, the district must annually notify the commissioner of education of proposed levies and final levies certified.

III. Definitions

A. Levies include but are not limited to:

1. Bond Levies can be used for the construction of or the addition to school district buildings and can not be used for operating expenses as described under the operating levies.
2. Operating Levies can be used to pay for any operational expense of the district including: teacher salaries, classroom supplies, utilities and transportation.
3. Capital Project Levies can be used for specific capital projects such as technology equipment.

B. “School Board” means the governing body of the school district.

III. Funds for which taxes may be levied include:

- A. General Fund
- B. Community Service
- C. Debt Redemption
- D. Other general and specifically defined purposes in accordance with state statutes

IV Responsibility

- A. The director of finance will work with the superintendent in establishing levy rates and in recommending such rates to the School Board.
- B. The state legislature establishes levy limitations for Minnesota school districts.
- C. Referendums may be called by the School Board.
- D. Referendums may be called by the School Board upon petition of the electorate in accordance with state statutes.
- E. The School Board directs the superintendent or a designee to keep the board informed of the current levying rates in accordance with Minnesota statutes.

Legal References: Minn. Stat. § 123B.02 Subd 8 (General Powers of Independent School Districts)
Minn. Stat. § 126C.48 (Levy Procedure)
Minn. Stat. § 126C.63 (Definitions)

School Board Action:
Adopted June 17, 2008