



MELROSE-MINDORO

K.I.D.S. Come First

Knowledge + Integrity + Determination = Success

Referendum 2026

SERVING 680 Students In Our Community!

ACADEMIC OPPORTUNITIES

HIGH ACADEMIC STANDARDS:

We follow the Wisconsin State Standards. Our Elementary School Exceeds Expectations, and our Junior/Senior High School Meets Expectations on the State Report Card.

ELECTIVE OPTIONS:

Agriculture, Art, Business, Family & Consumer Ed, Music, Career & Technical Ed, and a variety of online courses.

COLLEGE CREDITS:

On and Off Campus College Credit Opportunities and Advanced Placement Courses

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

86 %

Students Participate in 2 or More Extra-Curricular Activities

38 %

Earn Career and Technical Credits and/or Complete Workplace Learning Experience

31 %

Earn Dual Credit or Complete an AP Course

ATHLETIC PROGRAMS

- Football
- Basketball
- Volleyball
- Wrestling
- Soccer
- Baseball
- Softball
- Track & Field
- Cross Country
- Hockey

EXTRA-CURRICULAR PROGRAMS

- FFA
- Band
- Choir
- DECA
- Decathlon
- Drama
- ESports
- Mock Trial
- Forensics
- And Many More!

MELROSE-MINDORO SCHOOL DISTRICT

Is The HEART Of Our COMMUNITY!

Our Students Are Our Neighbors, Our Grandchildren, And Our Community's Future!

A Place to Gather.

A Place to Grow.

A Place to Learn.

Our Financial History

1996
Operational
Referendum
\$125,000

2000
Operational
Referendum
\$940,000

2011
Operational
Referendum
\$1,275,000

HUGE INVESTMENT

2016
Capital
Referendum
\$24,700,000

2025
Operational
Referendum
\$1,200,000
FAILED

2026
Operational
Referendum
\$1,000,000

IMPLEMENTED CHANGES:

- Charged Athletic & Activity Fees
- Delayed Bus Replacements
- Reduced Administration
- Delayed Updating Technology
- Reduced Number of Bus Routes
- Increased Class Sizes
- Reduced Staff
- Reduced Class Offerings
- Deferred Maintenance Projects
- Staff Absorbed Previously-Filled Positions
- Staffed According to Enrollment

MAXIMIZED RESOURCES

- More Efficient One-Campus Setting
- Consolidated Staffing
- Less Busing Between 3 Buildings
- Increased Summer School & 4K Enrollment
- Reduced Staff Benefits
- Moved to Self-Funded Insurance
- Eliminated FREE Before and After School Care
- Accepted Local Donations
- Applied for Additional Grants
- Added Additional Staff Responsibilities

HOW WILL FUNDS BE USED:

- Attract and Retain High-Quality Staff
- Competitive Compensation to Regional Cohort
- Maintain Staffing to Enrollment
- Preserve Class Sizes Using District Guidelines
- Sustain Opportunities for Students
- Enhance District Safety & Security
- Update & Maintain Technology
- Maintain Campus Facility
- OVERALL Support the Day-to-Day Operations of Our District

These Changes Have Allowed Us To Decrease The Referendum Amount From Last Year To This Year!

The State Funding GAP



Declining Enrollment

Declining enrollment is happening across the nation which makes a large impact on funding. Melrose-Mindoro is not immune from this impact.



Underfunded Programs

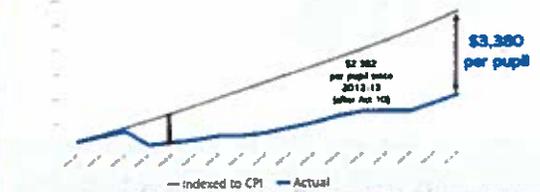
State Mandated and Special Education Programs are required, but the high costs associated with them are inadequately funded.



State Funding Lags Behind Inflation

Rising costs for utilities, transportation, academic materials, and staffing are outpacing the funding we receive to run our district.

General school district revenues per pupil lag inflation by more than \$3,300 since 2009



We would not need an operating referendum if the state kept up with cost of living increases.

Where Is Melrose-Mindoro At Financially?



Our Financial Future

\$3.7M Shortfall Over the Next 4 Years

	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	(Year 5) 2030-31
Total Revenues	\$11.6 million	\$ 11.8 million	\$11.8 million	\$11.4 million	\$11 million
Total Expenses	\$12.3 million	\$12.5 million	\$12.6 million	\$12.9 million	\$13.3 million
Estimated Shortfall	-\$700,000	-\$700,000	-\$800,000	-\$1,500,000	-\$2,300,000

Asking Voters For \$1,000,000 Per Year For The Next 4 Years

What Will The New Referendum Cost?



Estimated Tax Impact
\$0.65 per \$1,000
Of Equalized Property Value

The District Has No Control Over:

- Government Funding for Public Schools
- Equalization Property Value
- Interest Rates
- Inflation
- Declining Birth Rates

Fair Market Value of Your Property	Estimated Monthly Cost *	Estimated Annual Cost *
\$100,000	\$5	\$65
\$200,000	\$11	\$130
\$300,000	\$16	\$195
\$400,000	\$22	\$260

Mill Rate Over The Past 10 Years

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Mill Rate	\$10.79	\$10.79	\$13.74	\$12.94	\$12.94	\$12.93	\$12.21	\$11.75	\$9.78	\$8.08	\$8.18	\$8.93

Mill Rate Remains Below 2023 and Prior Years

Learn More... Ask Questions... And **VOTE** on Tuesday, April 7th!

Referendum Question

Shall the School District of Melrose, Mindoro, La Crosse, Jackson, and Monroe Counties in Wisconsin be authorized to exceed the revenue limit specified in Section 121.91, Wisconsin Statutes, by \$1,000,000 per year for four years, beginning with the 2026-27 school year and ending with the 2029-30 school year, for the non-recurring purposes consisting of operational expenses?

JOIN US!

Informational Session
March 25 at 5:30pm
Melrose-Mindoro Auditorium

Stay Engaged

Maintain the Heart of our Community!
Your ongoing involvement is vital.

Ask Questions

We are here to provide clarity. Do not hesitate to reach out with any concerns.

VOTE!

Together we will secure our children's future!

Voter Information

Visit myvote.wi.gov to register to vote, to request an absentee ballot by mail, or to find your polling location.



Set up an Appointment:

Deanna Wiatt

Call:

(608) 488-2201

Email:

wlatt.deanna@mel-min.k12.wi.us

Visit our Website:

<https://www.mel-min.k12.wi.us>

