What is the Referendum?

- Since 2004, the Pinellas County Schools Referendum has supported the recruitment and retention of quality teachers; strengthened reading, music and art programs; and provided up-to-date technology.
- Pinellas County voters have overwhelmingly supported renewals of the tax since 2004.
- An independent committee (ICROC) oversees the distribution of funds to ensure that money is spent as voters intended.

The Referendum has supported teacher salaries since 2004, impacting nearly 100,000 students each year.

Every penny collected through the Referendum is locally controlled and goes to Pinellas County teachers and students.

How have Referendum funds been used?

- $44.4 million teacher salaries; $5,734 per teacher
- $11.1 million reading, arts, technology
- $4.6 million charter schools, as required by law

Each year, thousands of students participate in Referendum-funded field trips to museums and art centers.

The Referendum for Pinellas County Schools will be on the ballot for citizen vote on November 5, 2024: pcsb.org/referendum
What is proposed for the 2024 Referendum?

- Continue ICROC oversight of the referendum and remain good stewards of referendum funds
- Ballot language with millage change to 1.0 mill, consistent with surrounding counties
- Continue teacher salaries and programs as currently defined
- Add support staff salaries; defined to be employees not on the administrative salary scale

Proposed Impact

**Transparency**
- Builds upon the 20-year commitment of Pinellas County citizens, wherein the district has significantly raised academic excellence and proven to be good stewards of Referendum dollars.

**Teacher and Support Staff Salaries**
- Allows PCS to become one of the top districts for teacher pay in the state.
- Adding support staff to the Referendum will allow for competitive salaries to attract and retain high-quality employees.

**Programming**
- Expands programs that support and enhance student experience and academic excellence for all.
- Raises programming in visual/performing arts and early literacy to elevate the district to state and national prominence.

How do current school taxes compare with nearby counties?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Operating Millage</th>
<th>Sales Tax for Schools (Capital Projects)</th>
<th>Impact Fees for Schools (Capital Projects)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hernando</td>
<td>1.0 mill</td>
<td>Yes, ½ cent</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hillsborough</td>
<td>1.0 mill failed in 2022; will be on ballot in 2024</td>
<td>Yes, two sales tax, ½ cent and ¼ cent</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manatee</td>
<td>1.0 mill</td>
<td>Yes, ½ cent</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pasco</td>
<td>1.0 mill</td>
<td>Yes, ¾ cent</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pinellas</td>
<td>0.5 mill</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarasota</td>
<td>1.0 mill</td>
<td>Yes, ¼ cent</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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