

## **SUPPORTING PINELLAS STUDENTS SINCE 2004**

#### 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.



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

### **How have Referendum funds been used?**

2022-23 Referendum Annual Report



\$44.4 million teacher salaries; \$5,734 per teacher



\$11.1 million reading, arts, technology



\$4.6 million charter schools, as required by law



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

The Referendum for Pinellas County Schools will be on the ballot for citizen vote on November 5, 2024



## CREATING NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR PINELLAS STUDENTS

## What is proposed for the 2024 Referendum?

- Continue quarterly independent citizens committee oversight of the referendum and remain good stewards of the funding
- Ballot language with millage change to 1.0 mill, consistent with surrounding counties
- Continue the teacher salary supplement, and art, music, technology and reading programs
- Add a salary supplement for all support staff, including nurses, bus drivers, cafeteria workers, classroom aides, and district security personnel

### How do current school taxes compare with nearby counties?

County	Operating Millage	Sales Tax for Schools (Capital Projects)	Impact Fees for Schools (Capital Projects)
Hernando	1.0 mill	Yes, ⅓ cent	Yes
Hillsborough	1.0 mill failed in 2022; will be on ballot in 2024	Yes, two sales tax, ⅓ cent and ⅙ cent	Yes
Manatee	1.0 mill	Yes, ⅓ cent	Yes
Pasco	1.0 mill	Yes, <sup>9</sup> / <sub>20</sub> cent	Yes
Pinellas	0.5 mill	No	No
Sarasota	1.0 mill	Yes, ¼ cent	Yes

# **Proposed Impact**Based on the 2023-24 tax roll

Teacher Salary Supplement \$11,081 2025-26

Support Salary Supplement **\$2,910**2025-26

Funding for Art, Music, Technology & Reading \$18.7 m 2025-26

Funding for Charters

\$10 m 2025-26

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