

BIRCHWOOD SCHOOL DISTRICT RESOLUTION

Resolution Under Wis. Stat. § 121.91(3)(a) to Exceed the Revenue Limit and to Cause Submittal of this Resolution to the Electors on a Referendum Basis for their Approval or Rejection

WHEREAS, the School Board of the Birchwood School District in the Barron, Rusk, Sawyer and Washburn Counties, Wisconsin has determined that it is in the best interests of the students of the District to exceed the revenue limit for recurring purposes consisting of maintaining student programming, curriculum, building maintenance and other ongoing operational expenses; and

WHEREAS, state law has imposed a revenue limit upon the amount of monies available to a school district from state aid and the local property tax levy; and

WHEREAS, it is deemed by the School Board to be in the best interest of the taxpayers of the District to take advantage of the revenue limit exceedance authority under Wis. Stat. § 121.91, placed in local school districts under that statute; and

WHEREAS, revenue exceedances may either be for a non-recurring or a recurring purpose; and

WHEREAS, the Birchwood School District has the need for a recurring exceedance commencing with the 2025-2026 school year and thereafter; and

WHEREAS, the need for the School Board and the electors of the School District to authorize a revenue limit exceedance is the decline in state aid, increasing operational costs, and the need to finance the provision of ongoing services;

WHEREAS, it is deemed to be appropriate for the School District to submit to electors at the next regular spring election to be held on April 2, 2024, the question of whether the School District of Birchwood, be authorized to exceed the revenue limit specified in Section 121.91(2m), Wisconsin Statutes, by \$2,600,000 in the 2025-2026 school year, and thereafter for recurring purposes for the paying of the ongoing operational expenses of the school district.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of the School District of Birchwood that it shall include revenue in its budget for the 2025-2026 school year and thereafter a sum not to exceed \$2,600,000 per school year in excess of the revenue limits set forth in Wis. Stat. § 121.91 for the purpose of meeting operational expenses.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that for this purpose the School Board shall add a recurring sum for the 2025-2026 school year and thereafter which shall result in total revenue for each school year in an amount not to exceed the sum of \$2,600,000 over and above the revenue cap for each school year, as calculated in accord with the formula under Wis. Stat. § 121.91(2m).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the amount of excess revenue designated hereinabove, subject to approval of the electors, shall be added to the 2025-2026 school year budget and school year budgets thereafter for purposes of calculating the School District revenue limit.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 121.91(3), this Resolution shall be submitted to the electors of the School District for approval or rejection at the spring election to be held on April 2, 2024.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said referendum question shall be placed on the ballot in accord with the law and that the School District Clerk shall perform all required duties in relationship thereto.

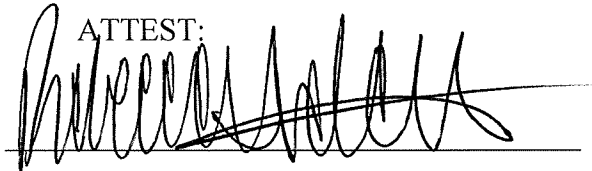
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall not be effective until ratified by the electors upon the referendum election called for in this Resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in accord with Wis. Stat. § 121.91(3)(a), within 10 days after the adoption hereof, the School District Clerk shall notify the Department of Public Instruction of the scheduled date of the referendum and submit a copy of this Resolution to the Department.

Adopted and recorded (December 18, 2023).



Robert Langham, Board President

ATTEST:


Rebecca Hrdlicka, Board Clerk

Upon roll call vote, 5 members voted in favor of adoption of the Resolution and 0 members voted against adoption of the Resolution.

EXHIBIT A

NOTICE OF REFERENDUM
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF BIRCHWOOD
APRIL 2, 2024

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that at an election to be held in the School District of Birchwood on April 2, 2024, the following proposed Revenue Limit Resolution of the School Board will be submitted to a vote of the people:

Resolution Under Wis. Stat. § 121.91(3)(a) to Exceed the Revenue Limit and to Cause Submittal of this Resolution to the Electors on a Referendum Basis for their Approval or Rejection

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of the School District of Birchwood that it shall include revenue in its budget for the 2025-2026 school year and thereafter a sum not to exceed \$2,600,000 per school year in excess of the revenue limits set forth in Wis. Stat. § 121.91 for the purpose of meeting operational expenses.

The question that will be submitted to a vote of the people and as the question which will appear on the ballot is as follows

"Shall the following Resolution be approved?

Shall the School District of Birchwood be authorized to exceed the revenue limit specified in Section 121.91(2m), Wisconsin Statutes, by \$2,600,000 in the 2025-2026 school year, and thereafter for recurring purposes for the paying of the ongoing operational expenses of the school district."

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT AND EFFECT OF VOTE

The referendum election ballot will ask District electors to vote "yes" or "no" on the referendum election question as set forth above.

A "yes" vote on the question is a vote to authorize the School District of Birchwood budget to exceed the revenue limit specified in Section 121.91, Wisconsin Statutes, by \$2,600,000 for the 2025-2026 school year, and thereafter for recurring purposes for the paying of the ongoing operational expenses of the school district.

A "no" vote on the question is a vote to deny the School District of Birchwood the authority to exceed the revenue limit specified in Section 121.91, Wisconsin Statutes, by

\$2,600,000 for the 2025-2026 school year, and thereafter for recurring purposes for the paying of the ongoing operational expenses of the school district.

In the event a majority of the electors voting on the question vote "yes", the District will be authorized to exceed the revenue limit specified in Section 121.91, Wisconsin Statutes, by \$2,600,000 for the 2025-2026 school year, and thereafter for recurring purposes for the paying of the ongoing operational expenses of the school district; if a majority vote "no" on the question set forth above, the District will not be so authorized.

LOCATION AND HOURS OF POLLING PLACES

Information as to the location of the polling places is available in the District Office at 300 S. Wilson Street, Birchwood, Wisconsin.

ALL POLLING PLACES WILL BE OPEN AT 7:00 A.M. AND WILL CLOSE AT 8:00 P.M.

If you have any questions concerning your polling place, contact the municipal clerk:

Township	Clerk's Name	Address	City State Zip	Phone	Hours	Email
Town of Birchwood	Nicole Minnick	N1549 Cty Rd T	Birchwood, WI 54817	715-651-3864	9am-1pm Tues & Thurs	clerk@tn.birchwood.wi.gov
Village of Birchwood	Ashley Beffa	PO Box 6	Birchwood, WI 54817	715-354-3300	8am-4pm Mon - Thurs	ashley@birchwoodvillagewi.com
Town of Cedar Lake	Maryhelen Drew	2696 26 ¼ Ave	Mikana, WI 54857	715-234-4333	By Appointment	clerk@cedarlakets.com
Town of Couderay	Charles Warner	13224 W Ortwig Ln	Exeland, WI 54835	715-945-2902	By Appointment	towncoud@gmail.com
Town of Edgewater	Natalie Clemens	PO Box 338	Birchwood, WI 54817	715-354-7747	By Appointment	info@townofedgewater.com
Town of Meteor	Clarence Frey	1544 N Cole Ln	Exeland, WI 54835	715-295-4366	By Appointment	clerk@townofmeteor.wi.gov
Town of Sand Lake	Elaine Nyberg	PO BOX 6	Stone Lake, WI 54876	715-865-2006	By Appointment	townofsandlake@gmail.com
Town of Wilkinson	Colleen Gordon	W15599 Cty Rd F	Weyerhaeuser, WI 54895	715-353-2932	By Appointment	wilkinsontownclerk@gmail.com
Town of Wilson	Cindy Fairchild	PO BOX 95	Birchwood, WI 54817	715-939-9173	By Appointment	towilsonclerk@gmail.com

All polling places are accessible to elderly and disabled voters.

NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF CANVASSERS

By no later than 9 a.m. on the Tuesday after the election, the school district board of canvassers shall convene, pursuant to the provisions of Wis. Stat. § 19.84, for the purpose of conducting the school district canvass pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 7.53(3). This meeting will be open to the public pursuant to Wis. Stat. §§ 19.81-89.

¹ THIS NOTICE MUST CONTAIN A STATEMENT ABOUT THE ACCESSIBILITY TO THE ELDERLY AND DISABLED FOR EACH POLLING PLACE. IF ANY POLLING PLACES ARE NOT ACCESSIBLE OR IN COMPLIANCE WITH FEDERAL LAW, CONTACT THE ELECTIONS COMMISSION.

INFORMATION TO ELECTORS

Upon entering the polling place, an elector shall state his or her name and address, show an acceptable form of photo identification and sign the poll book before being permitted to vote. If an elector does not have acceptable photo identification the elector may obtain a free photo ID for voting from the Division of Motor Vehicles. If an elector is not registered to vote, an elector may register to vote at the polling place serving his or her residence, if the elector presents proof of residence in a form specified by law. Where ballots are distributed to electors, the initials of two inspectors must appear on the ballot. Upon being permitted to vote, the elector shall retire alone to a voting booth and cast his or her ballot except that an elector who is a parent or guardian may be accompanied by the elector's minor child or minor ward. An election official may inform the elector of the proper manner for casting a vote, but the official may not in any manner advise or indicate a particular voting choice.

On referendum questions where **paper ballots** are used, the elector shall make a mark **(X)** in the square next to "yes" if in favor of the question, or the elector shall make a mark **(X)** in the square next to "no" if opposed to the question.

When using a *tactile ballot marking device (Vote-PAD)* to mark a **paper** ballot, the elector shall obtain from the inspectors, the assistive device and any audio or dexterity aids if required. On referendum questions, the elector shall fill in the oval or connect the arrow next to "yes" if in favor of the question, or the elector shall fill in the oval or connect the arrow next to "no" if opposed to the question.

On referendum questions where **optical scan** voting systems are used, the elector shall fill in the oval or connect the arrow next to "yes" if in favor of the question, or the elector shall fill in the oval or connect the arrow next to "no" if opposed to the question.

When using an *electronic ballot marking device ("Automark", "ExpressVote", Clear Access or "ImageCast Evolution-ICE")* to mark an **optical scan** ballot, the elector shall touch the screen at "yes" if in favor of the question, or the elector shall touch the screen at "no" if opposed to the question.

On referendum questions where **touch screen** voting systems are used, the elector shall touch the screen at "yes" if in favor of the question, or the elector shall touch the screen at "no" if opposed to the question.

The vote should not be cast in any other manner. Not more than five minutes' time shall be allowed inside a voting booth. Sample ballots or other materials to assist the elector in casting his or her vote may be taken into the booth and copied. The sample ballot shall not be shown to anyone so as to reveal how the ballot is marked.

If the elector spoils a **paper or optical scan** ballot, he or she shall return it to an election official who shall issue another ballot in its place, but not more than three ballots shall be issued to any one elector. If the ballot has not been initialed by two inspectors or is defective in any other way, the elector shall return it to the election official, who shall issue a proper ballot in its place.

The elector may spoil a **touch screen** ballot at the voting station before the ballot is cast.

After an official **paper** ballot is marked, it shall be folded so the inside marks do not show, but so the printed endorsements and inspectors' initials on the outside do show. The elector shall leave the booth, deposit the ballot in the ballot box, or deliver the ballot to an inspector for deposit, and shall leave the polling place promptly.

After an official **optical scan** ballot is marked, it shall be inserted in the security sleeve so the marks do not show. After casting his or her vote, the elector shall leave the booth, insert the ballot in the voting device and discard the sleeve, or deliver the ballot to an inspector for deposit. If a central count system is used, the elector shall insert the ballot in the ballot box and discard the sleeve or deliver the ballot to an inspector for deposit. The elector shall leave the polling place promptly.

After an official **touch screen** ballot is cast, the elector shall leave the polling place promptly.

An elector may select an individual to assist in casting his or her vote if the elector declares to the presiding official that he or she is unable to read, has difficulty reading, writing or understanding English or that due to disability is unable to cast his or her ballot. The selected individual rendering assistance may not be the elector's employer or an agent of that employer or an officer or agent of a labor organization which represents the elector.

The following is a sample of the official ballot:

OFFICIAL REFERENDUM BALLOT

April 2, 2024

Notice to Voters: If you are voting on Election Day, your ballot must be initialed by two election inspectors. If you are voting absentee, your ballot must be initialed by the municipal clerk or deputy clerk. Your ballot may not be counted without initials.

Instructions to Voters

If you make a mistake on your ballot or have a question, ask an election inspector for help.
(Absentee Voters: Contact your municipal clerk.)

To vote in favor of a question, make an "X" or other mark in the square next to "Yes," like this:

To vote against a question, make an "X" or other mark in the square next to "No," like this:

Referendum	
Shall the School District of Birchwood be authorized to exceed the revenue limit specified in Section 121.91(2m), Wisconsin Statutes, by \$2,600,000 in the 2025-2026 school year, and thereafter for recurring purposes for the paying of the ongoing operational expenses of the school district.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	YES
<input type="checkbox"/>	NO

Persons with questions regarding the referendum election should contact Gayle Luebke, District Administrator.