

VOTE

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# VPPEL ELECTION

## What is the Voter-Approved Physical Plant & Equipment Levy?

On November 7, 2023, eligible voters living within the Urbandale Community School District (UCSD) boundaries will have an opportunity to vote on the renewal of the Voter-Approved Physical Plant and Equipment Levy (VPPEL). The VPPEL is a voter-approved levy that serves as one of the most important revenue sources for Iowa school districts. VPPEL funds can be used to enhance school safety and security, upgrade technology equipment, improve school buildings and grounds, and purchase items such as playground equipment and musical instruments.

The VPPEL has been in place since 2015 at a rate of \$1.34 per \$1,000 of assessed property valuation. The VPPEL is an annual property tax levy, not a bond referendum. The authorization for UCSD to levy this tax must be renewed by public vote every 10 years. The current authorization expires June 2025. Voters will be asked to consider the renewal of the voter-approved PPEL at the same rate of \$1.34 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation. The VPPEL is projected to provide \$15 million to \$20 million over its 10-year span. **Renewing the VPPEL will NOT increase the property tax rate.**

[urbandaleschools.com/ppel](http://urbandaleschools.com/ppel)

# VPPEL Election

Tuesday, November 7, 2023  
Polls Open 7:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

## What has the PPEL funded?

(Voter-approved PPEL and Board-approved PPEL projects include but are not limited to the following.)

- Security cameras & badge entry readers
- Safety/Security enhancements/updates
- Roof repairs and maintenance
- HVAC and boiler repair/replacement/maintenance
- Carpet replacement at Webster Elementary
- Interior painting
- Concrete repairs
- Turf replacement at UHS Frerichs Field
- Stadium and Performing Arts Center upgrades
- Gym bleachers at UHS
- North gym floor refinish at UHS
- New doors in UHS athletic area
- Cybersecurity upgrades district-wide
- Annual technology upgrades
- Multi-purpose office equipment
- Cell phone repeaters
- Music equipment
- District vehicle replacement
- Purchase of connected property by Olmsted
- Lease for District Administration Office & Metro West
- Metro West build-out for new lease location

## What would the renewed PPEL fund?

(Voter-approved PPEL and Board-approved PPEL projects include but are not limited to the following.)

- Continual safety/security enhancements/updates
- Interior painting at multiple schools
- Carpet replacement at multiple schools
- Roof repairs and maintenance
- Potential locker reconfiguration at UHS
- UMS practice track
- Replace music practice rooms at UMS
- Reconfigure space at UMS to add classroom space
- Potential reconfiguration of space at Webster to accommodate four sections at every grade level
- Wrestling room sub-floor and mat at UMS
- Replace bleachers in west gym at UMS
- UHS Fitness Center equipment replacements that are needed after five years
- Maintenance of baseball & softball fields
- Cybersecurity upgrades district-wide
- Annual technology upgrades
- Music equipment
- Purchase additional connected property by Olmsted
- Potential demolition of retired buildings
- Lease/purchase for District Administration Office & lease for Metro West Learning Academy

## Will my taxes increase?

No. The VPPEL has been in place since 2015 at a rate of \$1.34 per \$1,000 of assessed property valuation. Renewing the existing VPPEL will maintain the current property tax rate. The VPPEL is projected to provide \$15 million to \$20 million over its 10-year span. Renewing the VPPEL will NOT increase the property tax rate.

## What if the VPPEL is not renewed?

In order for the VPPEL to pass, 50% +1 of voters must vote in favor of the VPPEL. For example, if 100 total votes are received, 51 of those votes must be in favor of the VPPEL. If the VPPEL is not renewed, it would mean a loss of approximately \$2 million per year. This critical loss would negatively impact the services we can provide students, the safety and security of our buildings and technology, and our ability to properly maintain and repair school buildings.

Projects, security, and maintenance that would have been funded by the VPPEL would still need to happen so the majority of money would need to come from the General Fund which is the same fund we utilize for salaries and benefits. Depleting \$2 million per year could lead to a reduction in staff and/or a reduction in curriculum and/or programming.



**VOTE**  
**November 7**  
**7AM – 8PM**



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