

PRENTICE SCHOOLS SEEK \$950K TO KEEP THE SHIP ON COURSE TOWARD A BRIGHT FUTURE!

The Prentice School District is asking for \$950,000 each year for the next four years through a referendum vote. This amount is lower than previous proposals, mainly because the school district's board wanted to be mindful of the impact of property tax reassessments, which have led to higher tax bills for many of its residents. This also defers some larger maintenance projects to the future. The goal was to balance the district's minimum funding needs with the financial burden on the community. The funds will help maintain current programs, continue maintaining facilities to the best of their ability, and avoid cuts that could negatively affect students' education.

The funding problem isn't unique to Prentice. Many rural school districts in Wisconsin, like Prentice, face challenges due to the state's outdated funding formula. Prentice, despite having more students this year, lost \$300,000 in state funding, which increased the local tax burden. As a result, taxes for local residents went up. Prentice's revenue limit is driven by the state's formula, which doesn't fully take into account the challenges of rural districts that are large in size but have smaller populations. Without the requested funds, the district will have to make difficult decisions that could affect nearly 400 students.

The vote on April 1st will determine how the district will continue to keep providing quality education and services, or if it will have to make cuts that will affect the students and the community. The decision is critical for the future of Prentice schools.

Buccaneers

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EDUCATION MATTERS.**

