

When Was the Last Time Voters in FHSD Approved an Operating Levy?

Every school district in St. Charles County has passed a school bond issue or operating levy in the past four years - except for Francis Howell. The last time voters in FHSD approved an increase in the levy was 14 years ago, in 2004. In neighboring St. Louis County, voters have approved more than 60 different operating levies or bond issues for school districts during that same 14-year period.

In 2004, George W. Bush was re-elected, and Facebook was launched. This year's high school graduates, the class of 2018, had not yet started kindergarten in 2004. The iPhone, YouTube, and Twitter did not yet exist.

The costs of goods and services associated with operating the school district continue to increase, including utilities, transportation, insurance, and special education. Funds generated by the passage of Proposition Learn would be used to increase technology devices and access for students, and provide new programming and innovative courses in areas such as Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) to better prepare students for college or career. The funds would be used to hire staff to address student academic and social-emotional needs, provide updated classroom materials, restore funding for extracurricular activities, improve and maintain District facilities, and increase staff compensation after two years of frozen salaries.

