Press Release For Immediate Release Date: January 15, 2025 Contact: Jessica Johnson, District Administrator, <u>johnsonj@dodgeland.k12.wi.us</u> 920-386-8287

Dodgeland School District Board of Education Unanimously Approves Resolutions for Operational Referendum

At a special board meeting held on Monday, January 13, 2025, the Dodgeland School District Board of Education unanimously approved two critical resolutions to address the district's financial challenges. Like many Wisconsin public school districts, Dodgeland faces increased student needs, rising inflationary costs, and reduced state funding. Remarkably, only 13% of Wisconsin school districts have not pursued an operational referendum since 1990, and Dodgeland has been among them—until now.

The approved resolutions set the stage for a referendum to exceed the district's revenue limit starting with the 2025-2026 school year. These include:

- 1. A resolution authorizing the district budget to exceed the revenue limit for five (5) years for non-recurring purposes.
- 2. A resolution providing for a referendum election to seek voter approval for exceeding the revenue limit.

If approved by voters, the referendum will allow the district to exceed its revenue limit by \$1,400,000 annually for five years, from the 2025-2026 school year through the 2029-2030 school year. The additional funds will support essential operational expenses, including:

- Maintaining student-to-staff ratios,
- Sustaining educational and co-curricular programs,
- Enhancing student behavioral and mental health resources, and
- Maintaining technology and cybersecurity infrastructure.

These measures aim to preserve the district's ability to provide high-quality education and meet the evolving needs of its students and staff.

The referendum question will appear on the ballot on **April 1, 2025**. To ensure voters have the information needed to make an informed decision, the district will release detailed updates and host informational sessions in the coming weeks.

For further information or inquiries, please contact Jessica Johnson, District Administrator at 920-386-8287.