

Frequently Asked Questions
Public Education Recreational Levy
PERL

Q: Is the PERL Levy going to be used for the playground at Alta Elementary?

A: No, the funding for the Alta Elementary Playground project. The project will be complete before any of the funding for the PERL is included in School District revenues. The Alta Elementary Playground project has already been approved and is moving forward this spring.

Q: How will PERL help create a Community Education Program?

A: Current funding sources do not allow for the use of public funds to support community-wide recreation efforts. PERL will allow for the creation of a self-sustaining Community Education Program for children and adults in Alta-Aurelia Schools.

Q: How will the move to a Community Education Program enhance current youth programs?

A: Many of our youth programs already use our school facilities. This funding will help us maintain these facilities and continue to make them available to our youth programs in both Alta and Aurelia.

Q: What types of programs can a Community Education Program bring for adults?

A: The intent would be to provide continued access to District facilities such as our fitness facilities as well as club and adult education offerings based on interest.

Q: Will this provide a free Community Education Program?

A: The purpose of the levy is to establish a funding stream for coordination of programs and upgrades to district property primarily used outside of school hours by the community. This allows both the ability for some free public recreation opportunities and facility access for the community and the

creation of a self-sustaining, organized and efficient Community Education Program charging appropriate participation fees.

Q: If passed, when will the funds be available?

A: If passed, the funds would not be levied until the 2021-22 school year; however, planning for the Community Education Program will begin immediately, including the creation of the Community Education Program Board.

Q: Who decides how the money is allocated?

A: The PERL money itself is allocated by the Alta-Aurelia Board of Education. Once allocated to establish a community education program, the Community Education Board,

Q: Is this only for athletics?

A: The intent of PERL goes beyond expanding opportunities for athletics. While PERL will support and expand recreation opportunities in athletics, especially for younger children it will also bring the necessary structure to create fine arts opportunities that cannot currently be offered. .

Q: How can the school district keep property taxes neutral when adding a Levy like PERL?

A: Each school year the school board establishes a property tax levy rate when certifying its budget. If PERL is passed, the school district would look to lower its other property based tax levies by 13.5 cents. By doing this it creates flexibility to use district funds for the purposes described earlier. Iowa school finance is very specific when it comes to what a district can spend its revenues on.