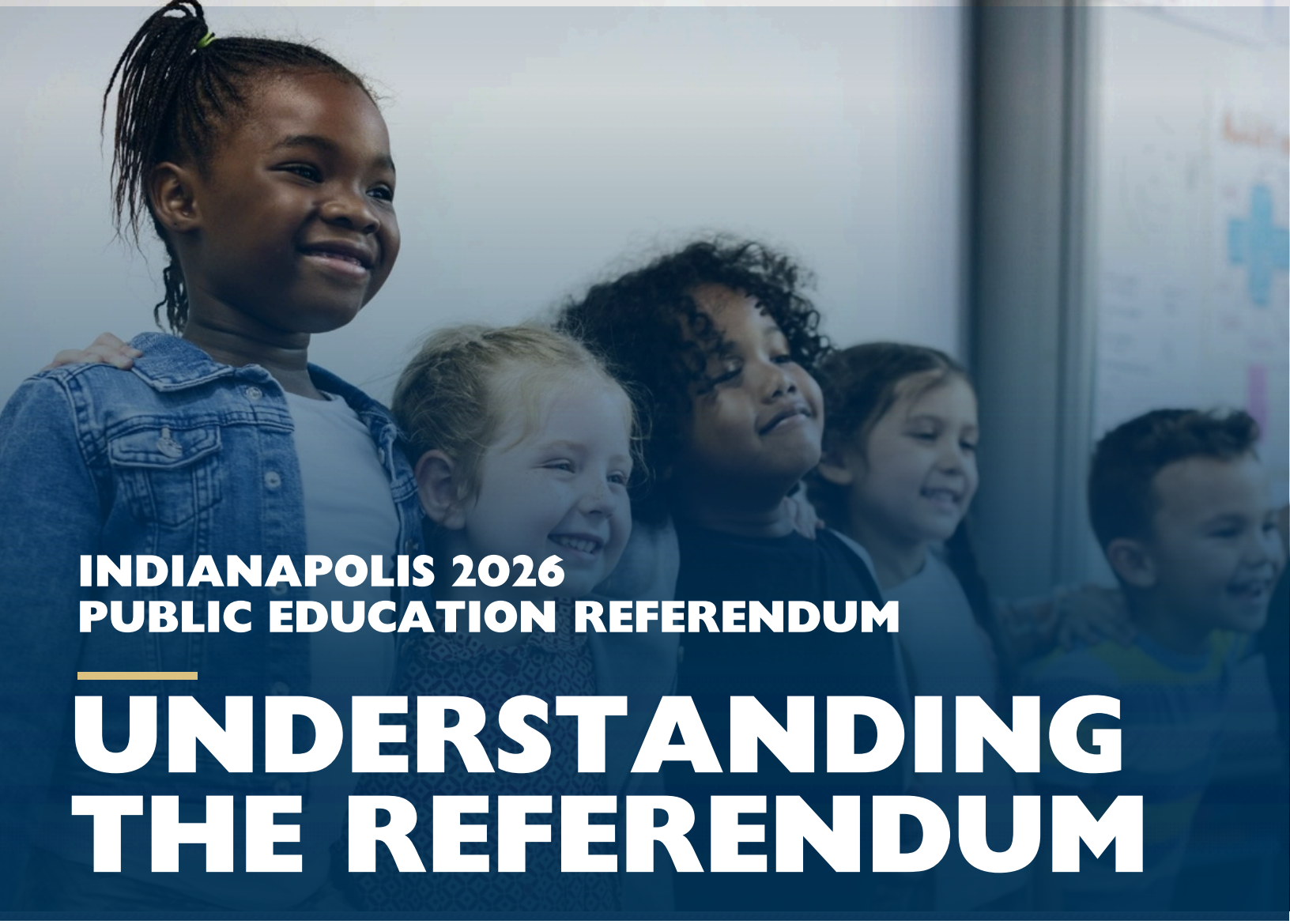


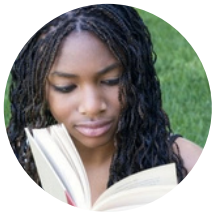
INDIANAPOLIS 2026 PUBLIC EDUCATION REFERENDUM

UNDERSTANDING THE REFERENDUM

Voters within the Indianapolis Public Schools boundaries will decide on the 2026 Indianapolis Public Education Referendum on or before Nov. 3, 2026. If approved, the referendum would fund IPS and participating public charter schools in four areas:

Teacher Retention

Funding would support salaries and retention efforts for teachers and staff at IPS and participating charter schools.



Classroom Resources

Funding would support academic programs, instructional materials and classroom technology.

Student Services

Funding would maintain services for students with special needs and access to academic and extracurricular programs.

Public Reporting

Referendum revenue would be subject to public reporting on how funds are allocated and spent.

VISIT VOTE.INDY.GOV TO LEARN EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT VOTING IN INDY

WHAT THE REFERENDUM WOULD FUND AND WHAT IT WOULD COST

2026 PUBLIC EDUCATION REFERENDUM: THE MATH

$9 a month for a $150,000 home

about $115 a year

NEW RATE ON THE BALLOT	37.2¢
REPLACES YOUR CURRENT RATE	19.6¢
WHAT YOU ACTUALLY ADD	17.6¢

State law requires the ballot to show the full 37.2-cent rate. This referendum would replace the current 19.6-cent rate rather than add to it, so the net increase is 17.6 cents per $100 of assessed value.

Want to know your exact investment?

IPS has a calculator to do just that. Scan this code, or visit the IPS website: myips.org/2026-referendum/operating-referendum-calculator

For a home assessed at $150,000, the referendum would cost about $9 a month and would:

Fund teacher and staff retention: Support compensation and professional development for educators.

Fund classroom programs: Direct revenue to academic programs, materials and student support.

Require public reporting: Annual reporting on how referendum funds are spent.

2026 Referendum Ballot Language:

"Shall the Indianapolis Public Education Corporation increase property taxes paid to the Indianapolis Public Schools ("IPS") and participating charter schools for no more than four (4) years for the purpose of funding teacher and staff retention, professional development, and advancing academic programs and opportunities by imposing a property tax rate that does not exceed $0.372 per $100 of assessed value and results in a maximum annual amount that does not exceed $95,000,000? If this operating referendum public question is approved by the voters, for a median residence of $150,000, the property's annual property tax bill would increase by $221 per year."