

All that's left to do now is for voters to head to the polls

More than \$568 million.

That's what's at stake in the Tuesday, April 4, election.

And no, we are not confusing reality with lyrics from the Community Revue's spoof on the Hinsdale High School District 86 referendum, featured in a song titled "\$583,000,600."

Four years of both the high school district's annual budget (\$103 million) and the village's annual corporate budget (\$20 million) combined with the \$76 million referendum adds up to the amount listed above.

The candidates seeking office through Tuesday's election will be part of the tapestry of fiduciaries that will decide how that money — most of which is provided by taxpayers — should be spent.

Hinsdale voters have a choice between two candidates for village president and five candidates (one running as a write-in) for four seats on the District 86 Board.

Three other local races they will see on the ballot are uncontested — those for seats on the Hinsdale Village Board, the Hinsdale Public Library Board and the Community Consolidated Elementary District 181 Board.

We have done our best to provide readers with a wealth of information on the seven candidates in local contested races and the referendum. All of the stories and charts that have run in the paper over the past eight weeks are posted on our website at thehinsdalean.com.

In today's paper, on Page 7, we provide brief biographies of the candidates in uncontested races in town and share the top priorities each



candidate will bring to his or her respective position.

We thank all of the candidates for their cooperation in getting this information out to you, our readers.

And now it's your turn to make a difference.

In 2015, 31 percent of registered voters cast a ballot in the District 181 contested race and 27 percent voted in the District 86 contested race. Those turnout percentages are only of registered voters and do not take into account eligible but unregistered residents.

We hope to see those percentages climb. There's really no excuse not to vote.

Early voting is available for DuPage County voters now through April 1 at Downers Grove Village Hall and through April 3 at Yorktown Center. Visit dupageco.org/election for times and other details.

Cook County residents can vote early through April 3 at Brookfield Village Hall. Information is available at cookcountyclerk.com/elections.

And the polls will be open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 4.

This election offers you an opportunity to have a say in how decisions are made right in your own backyard. We hope you will take advantage of it.

Paper recaps its endorsements of individuals and referendum

The Hinsdalean offered its endorsements for village president and school board member candidates, along with its opinion on the high school district bond referendum, in the March 9 issue.

Those recommendations, recapped below, may be read in full on the newspaper's website at thehinsdalean.com. Click on the Decision 2017 logo.

Hinsdale Village President

Laura LaPlaca

Hinsdale High School District 86 Board

Kevin Camden

Keith Chval

Robin Gonzales

Nancy Pollak

District 86 \$76 million referendum

"Shall the board of education of Hinsdale Township High School District Number 86, DuPage and Cook counties, Illinois, improve the sites of, alter, repair, equip and replace portions of the Hinsdale Central High School



campus and Hinsdale South High School campus, including, but not limited to: adding classrooms and science labs, renovating classrooms, science labs, libraries and other facilities for special education, fine arts and student services at both campuses; increasing accessibility to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act at both campuses; expanding and renovating pre-engineering and technology facilities at Hinsdale South High School; renovating the existing pool and building a diving well that meets safety standards at Hinsdale South High School; and building a new aquatic facility at Hinsdale Central High School, and issue bonds of said school district in the amount of \$76,000,000 for the purpose of paying the costs thereof?"

Yes