

How did we get here?

Reduction of state funding

State funding has dropped \$444 per student. With over 6,000 students, this is a loss of \$2,664,000. Projections for 2011 have the district bracing for an additional drop of \$150 per student.

Loss of new facility appeals

In the past, growing school districts were able to appeal for additional money to operate the new schools built to accommodate growth. The appeal process was discontinued by the legislature and cost Westfield \$635,614.

Property tax reform

In 2009, the property tax cap was applied by the state legislature. While reducing many residential tax bills, it reduced WWS funding by the following:

2009 - \$ 66,125
 2010 - \$1,498,155
 2011 - \$3,390,166

Loss of interest income

Due to significantly reduced interest rates, Westfield's interest income has dropped by \$700,000.

HOMEOWNER REFERENDUM TAX IMPACT

Home Value	Annual Cost	Monthly Cost
\$350,000	\$449.07	\$37.42
\$250,000	\$299.57	\$24.96
\$200,000	\$224.82	\$18.73
\$150,000	\$150.07	\$12.50

Based on a tax rate of 23 cents per \$100, raising \$4.6 million.



Visit us on the web:
www.wwsreferendum.com

Testimonials...

"Our schools, teachers, and administrators are among the best anywhere. We want to be sure that we keep the highest quality education opportunities possible in the future. We encourage the very careful management and care of finances when so many are facing hard times. We also encourage each family to examine and study the referendum and do what is best for all."

- John A. & Donita Hiatt, Community Members

"We've looked at other districts, mainly for a bigger house for a growing family, but we've stayed because being a special needs parent – all that matters is the services your child receives. And we can't find any better services than here in Westfield. What they've done for our son has been phenomenal."

- Mathew & Michelle Foley, Westfield Parents

"I received six credit hours by successfully completing AP Biology and History classes while at Westfield High School. I also tested out of two semesters of Spanish. By completing this coursework while in high school, it reduces the amount of time and money I will have to spend at the University of Alabama to satisfy my graduation requirements."

- Nicholas Reith, Westfield Class of 2010 Graduate

"Thanks to the commitment towards technical excellence in our schools, our 13 year old son Cameron has worked with Edutopia and Lucasfilm, and has started his own video/production business. As parents, we hope our district will continue to receive adequate funding so that our two daughters, along with other students, will be able to benefit from similar opportunities."

- Kevin & Debbie Murray, Westfield Parents



WESTFIELD WASHINGTON SCHOOLS

2010 Operating Referendum



Support Quality on November 2, 2010
 Vote "YES"!

www.wwsreferendum.com

Paid for by the Westfield Invest in Quality
 Political Action Committee (PAC)

Voting yes means...



- Controlling class size
- Preventing layoffs and teacher cuts
- Keeping our students competitive
- Supporting growing enrollment
- Maintaining technology
- Replacing a *portion* of lost funding



Fast facts...

Funding

Westfield Washington Schools ranks 330th out of 349 Indiana school districts in the amount of funding received per student.

Why?

Due to rapid growth in Washington Township, the state legislation funding formula is not keeping up with growing school districts.

Achievement

Westfield Washington Schools ranks 10th out 349 Indiana school districts passing ISTEP+.



What is an operating referendum?

An operating referendum allows school districts the ability to ask, with voter approval, for additional funds to cover essential district operating costs.

Why is a referendum needed?

By 2011, we will have lost over \$7 million in funding. With the referendum, we want to replace a portion (not all) of this lost funding. The amount we need is \$4.6 million.

We want to maintain the quality education, teachers and programs we have in place.

That said, we have already made reductions in instructional, maintenance and personnel areas that will not return.

Westfield Washington Schools has been doing more with less for a long time. Now we need the support from voters, through an operating referendum, to maintain what we have.



What happens if the referendum does not pass?

- Class sizes will increase
- Layoffs and teacher cuts will occur
- Our students will lose their competitive edge
- Programs will be cut
- Technology will be reduced



STATE SUPPORT COMPARISON (PER STUDENT)

\$5,006 WWS State Support

\$5,864 Average Indiana Schools State Support
(The amount of funding received per student across the state ranges from \$4,900 to \$9,000.)

\$5,700 WWS Referendum + State Support

More FAQs are located at www.wwsreferendum.com

