



Westfield Washington Schools

2022 Operating Referendum Renewal



Community Meeting Dates

- To Be Decided – Fall 2022



Board of School Trustees

- Rebecca Ogle President
- Bill Anderson Vice-President
- Amber Willis Secretary
- Jimmy Cox Member
- Mike Steele Member



Success Stories

- 98.3 Percent Graduation Rate



A

based on state test passing rates, student growth year over year, graduation rate, and college and career readiness



A+

- A+ Teachers
- A+ Academics
- A+ College Prep
- A Clubs & Activities



Top 4% Nationwide



Success Stories



- MGES #1 in state for Spell Bowl and #3 in state for Math Bowl



- MGES Teacher Mitzi Johnson named a Lilly Endowment Teacher Recipient



- SSES started the student leadership ambassador program



- SSES completing phase 1 of the WWS Nature Preserve serving all WWS students





Success Stories

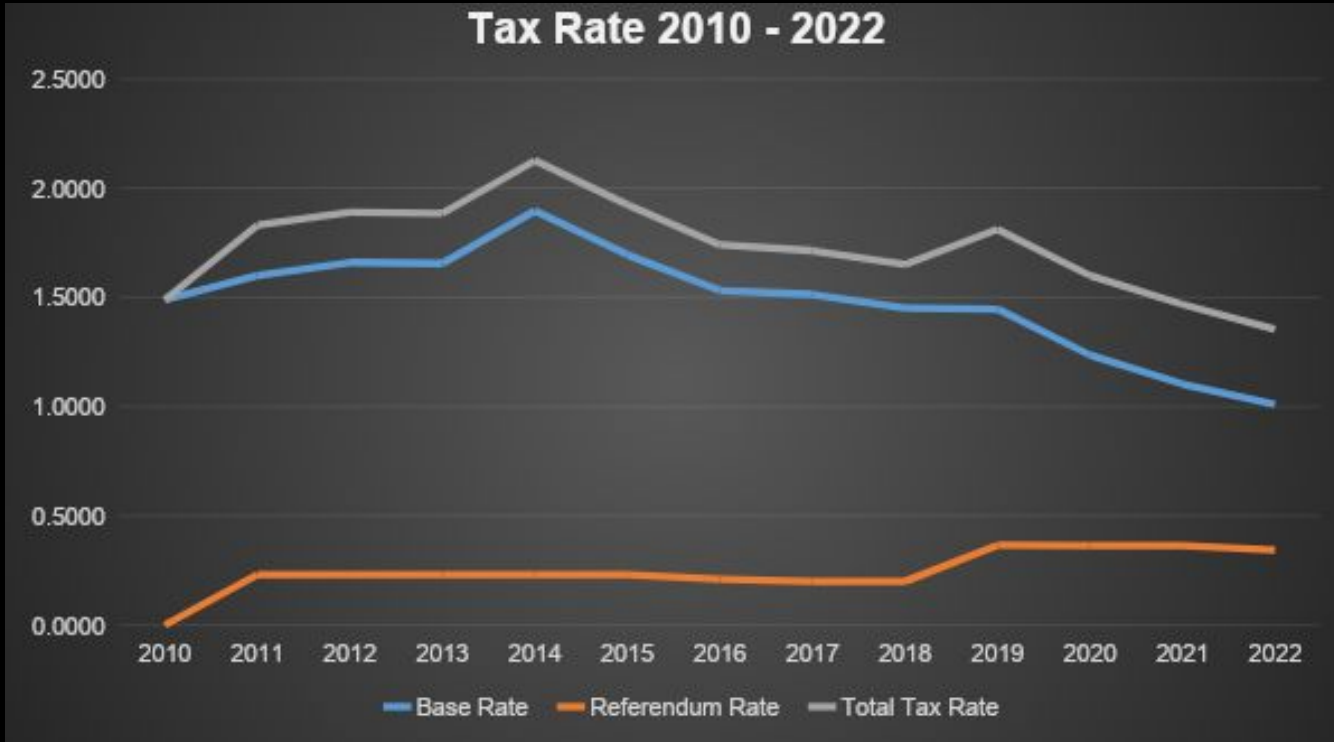


- The Life Skills program at MTES has partnered with the WWS Natatorium to provide a monthly swimming opportunity for students.
- WHS Football Team State Runner Up
- WHS Boys Basketball first ever sectional title
- WHS Marching Band
- 802,898 Miles Driven by our transportation department in 2021-22 school year
- 1,009,661 Meals Served to Students in the 2021-22 school year



Success Stories

- District Tax Rate has Decreased from \$2.1566 in 2016 to \$1.4000 in 2022. A **35% Decrease**

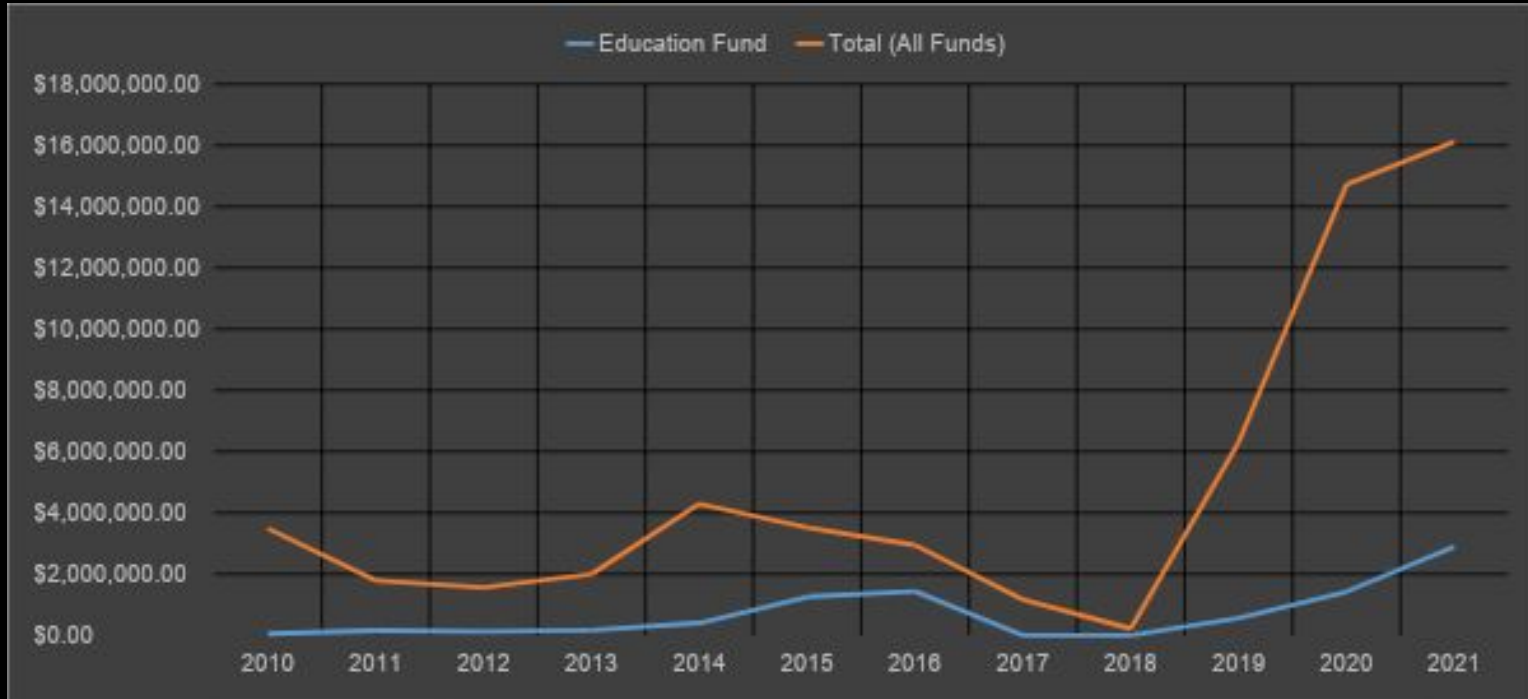




Success Stories



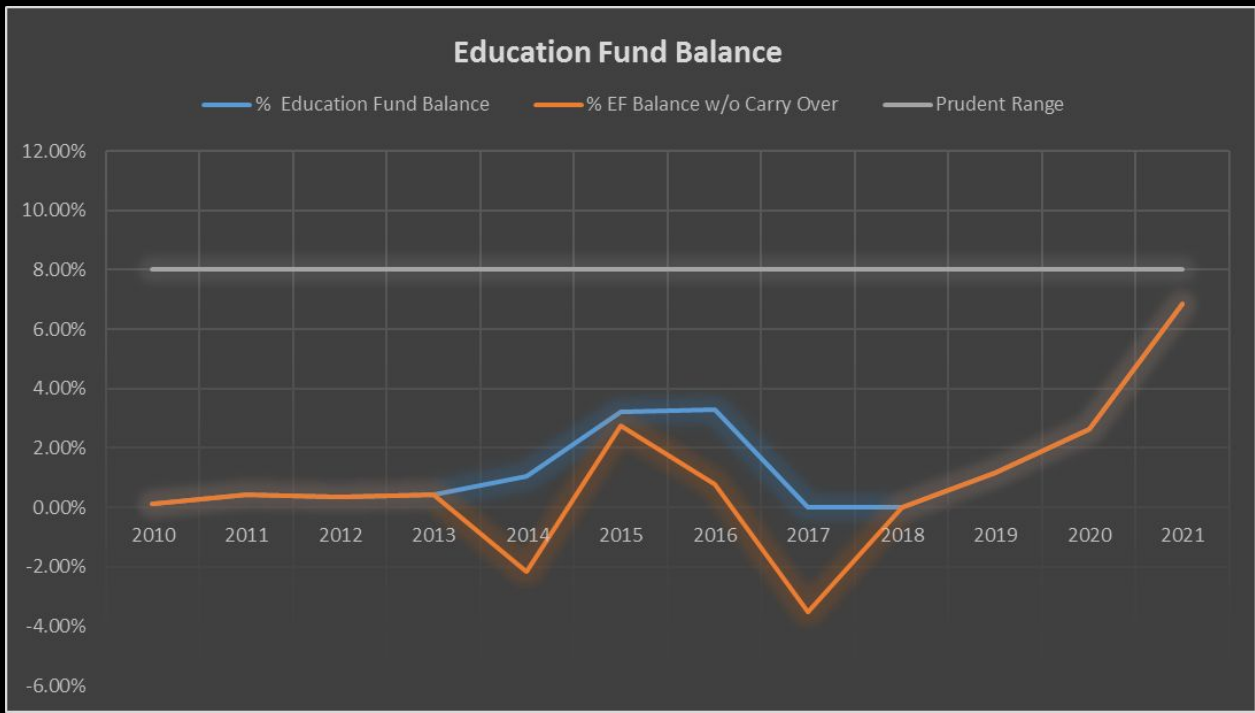
- District total reserves have increased from 217,600 in 2018 to \$16.8 million in 2021





Success Stories

- Education Fund reserves have increased from \$0.00 in 2018 to \$4.1 million in 2021 - **Goal 8%**





Success Stories

- Increased Bond Rating from BBB+ to A-, Lower interest rates on projects
- Estimated Savings of \$100,000 on our Early Learning Center Project



Standard and Poor's Rating Comments



Downside scenario

We could lower the rating if declining enrollment, a decline in state-aid receipts, or another budgetary pressure leads to a material decrease in the school corporation's level of available cash reserves.



Upside scenario

If the school corporation were able to significantly increase and maintain a higher level of available cash balances, assuming no deterioration in the school corporation's other credit factors, we could raise the rating.





Why We Are Here Today

State Funding and Property Tax Caps

State Funding (Below Average, FY2022)	\$4,429,659
Circuit Breaker Loss	\$5,380,292
Total Gap in Funding	\$9,809,951



Why We Are Here Today

State Funding

- Average Funding per Student in Indiana \$7,144
- Westfield's Average Funding per Student \$6,637
- \$507 Less than the average per student
- 2021-22 Enrollment – 8,737
- \$4,429,659 less in funding per year



Example Property Tax Bill



Spring installment due on or before May 10, 2022 and Fall installment due on or before November 10, 2022.

TABLE 1: SUMMARY OF YOUR TAXES

ASSESSED VALUE AND TAX SUMMARY

	2020 Pay 2021	2021 Pay 2022
1a. Gross assessed value of homestead property	\$321,600.00	\$338,600.00
1b. Gross assessed value of other residential property and farmland	\$0.00	\$0.00
1c. Gross assessed value of all other property, including personal property	\$0.00	\$0.00
2. Equals total gross assessed value of property	\$321,600.00	\$338,600.00
2a. Minus deductions (see Table 5 below)	\$144,810.00	\$150,760.00
3. Equals subtotal of net assessed value of property	\$176,790.00	\$187,840.00
3a. Multiplied by your local tax rate	2.5633	2.4881
4. Equals gross tax liability (see Table 3 below)	\$4,531.66	\$4,673.64
4a. Minus local property tax credits	\$0.00	\$0.00
4b. Minus savings due to property tax cap (see Table 2 and footnotes below)	\$671.62	\$642.98
4c. Minus savings due to over 65 circuit breaker credit	\$0.00	\$0.00
5. Total property tax liability (see remittance coupon for total amount due)	\$3,860.04	\$4,030.66

Please see Table 4 for a summary of other charges to this property.

TABLE 2: PROPERTY TAX CAP INFORMATION

Property tax cap (1%, 2%, or 3% depending upon combination of property types) ¹	\$3,216.00	\$3,386.00
Upward adjustment due to voter-approved projects and charges (e.g., referendum) ²	\$644.04	\$644.66
Maximum tax that may be imposed under cap	\$3,860.04	\$4,030.66

TABLE 3: GROSS PROPERTY TAX DISTRIBUTION AMOUNTS APPLICABLE TO THIS PROPERTY





Why We Are Here Today



Circuit Breaker Impact



Year	2019	2020	2021	2022 Projected
Levy	\$55,673,817	\$54,862,884	\$54,856,588	\$58,099,911
Actual Collections	\$46,192,348	\$47,271,445	\$49,476,296	\$52,635,391
Net Circuit Breaker Loss	\$9,481,469	\$7,591,439	\$5,380,292	\$5,592,990
Circuit Breaker Loss %	17.03%	13.84%	9.81%	9.63%



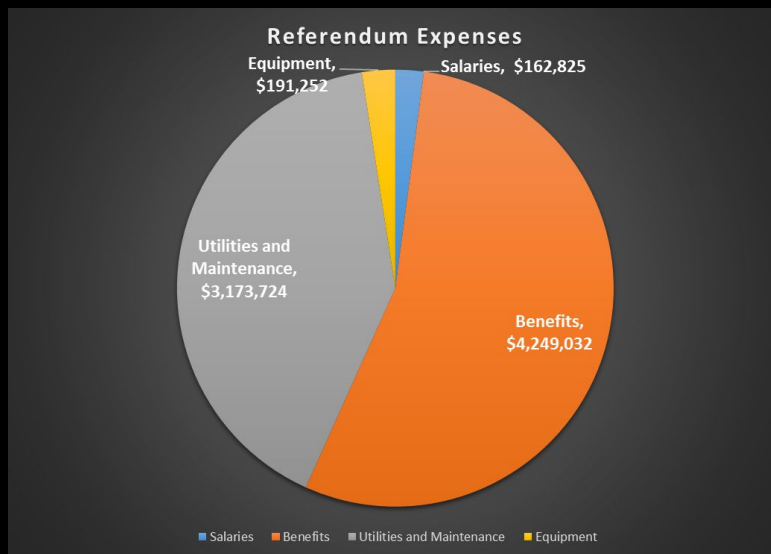
A Growing School Corporation

- October 1, 2021 – A new family builds and moves into Westfield
- October 10, 2021 – Two new students enroll at WWS
 - Take the bus to school
 - Meet their new teacher
 - Take a seat in their new classroom
- February 15, 2022 – two students are counted in enrollment
- May 15, 2022 – WWS receives funding for two new students
- Fall 2022 - Assessed Valuation contains the new house
- June 30, 2023 – First tax draw is received with their new house included



2016 Operating Referendum

- Decrease current Operating Referendum Rate from \$0.2300 to \$0.2000, a **13% reduction**
- Maintain Class Sizes





Proposed Public Question – DRAFT

"Shall the Westfield Washington Schools continue to impose increased property taxes paid to the school corporation by homeowners and businesses for eight (8) years immediately following the holding of the referendum for the purpose of retaining and attracting teachers and staff and funding academic and educationally related programs at current levels and to manage class sizes while changing the previously approved maximum referendum tax rate from \$0.20 to \$0.17? The property tax increase requested in this referendum was originally approved by the voters in 2016 and originally increased the average property tax paid to the school corporation per year on a residence within the school corporation by _____% and originally increased the average property tax paid to the school corporation per year on a business property within the school corporation by _____%."



Homeowner Impact

	Current Operating Referendum	New Operating Referendum
Home Value	\$338,600	\$338,600
Deductions	\$150,760	\$150,760
Taxable Home Value	\$187,840	\$187,840
Referendum Rate	\$0.2000	\$0.1700
Tax Impact per month	\$31.31	\$26.61
Tax Reduction per month		\$4.70

15% Reduction in taxes with approval



2022 Operating Referendum – Successful

- Continue to Retain and Attract Highly Qualified Teachers and Staff
- Decrease current Operating Referendum Rate from \$0.2000 to \$0.1700, a **15% reduction, beginning in 2023**
- Maintain Low Class Sizes
- Start an Orchestra and Agriculture Science Program
- Protect Property Values, Better Schools Better Homes



2022 Operating Referendum – Fails to Pass



- 2023 Operating Referendum Rate remains at \$0.2000
- Increase Class Sizes, Minimum of 30 students
- Staffing cuts will occur across the district
- Future Academic and Extra-Curricular Program Expansions will be tabled
- Implementation of Transportation of Walk Zones

Vote November 8, 2022

