

West Lafayette Community School Corporation

1130 North Salisbury Street ▪ West Lafayette, Indiana 47906-2447
(765) 746-1602 • FAX (765) 746-1644 • www.wl.k12.in.us

TO: Board of School Trustees

FROM: Dr. Shawn Greiner, Superintendent
Michelle Cronk, CFO

DATE: July 5, 2023

RE: Referendum Question and Resolutions

The next step of the Referendum Renewal process is to hold a meeting to finalize the determination that the school district cannot carry out its public education duty unless it renews the school referendum tax levy and to approve the Revenue Spending Plan for 2024. Documents for the July 10, 2023 meeting of the Board of Trustees have been prepared by Ms. Jane Herndon at Ice Miller and she will walk us through the process during the meeting.

The Board will need to consider the Renewal of Referendum Tax Levy Resolution which determines that “the School Corporation will not be able to carry out its public educational duty unless it continues to annually impose a referendum tax levy of up to, but not to exceed \$0.37 per \$100 assessed valuation per year starting in 2024 through and including 2031.” The Resolution also outlines the proposed question that will appear on the ballot on November 7, 2023. Upon the passage of the Resolution, it will be sent to the Department of Local Government Finance to proceed with final approval. Lastly, the Resolution approves the Revenue Spending Plan that has been proposed and included in your board packets. The Board Secretary must also sign the Certification of Renewal of Referendum Tax Levy Resolution that will accompany the Resolution when it is sent to the Department of Local Government Finance.

We have received the final Auditor’s Certificate certifying the calculations for the proposed question. Baker Tilly Municipal Advisors, LLC completed the calculations for both a residential property and a business property. The proposed question using these calculations will read as follows:

Shall West Lafayette Community School Corporation 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 programming and operating expenditures with the renewal of the current maximum referendum property tax rate of \$0.37? The property tax increase requested in this referendum was originally approved by the voters in 2017 and if extended will increase the average property tax paid to the school corporation per year on a residence within

the school corporation by 46.2% and if extended will increase the average property tax paid to the school corporation per year on a business property within the school corporation by 41.8%.

The Proposed Revenue Spending Plan included in your board packets indicates the estimated annual revenue as calculated on today's net assessed valuation of \$1,911,372,791. The Referendum Tax Levy of \$0.37 would result in estimated revenue of \$7,072,079 (the net assessed valuation / 100 X .37). The specific purposes for the referendum levy proposed are for teacher compensation for managing class sizes and academic programming (63% of estimated revenue) and Operations Fund expenditures for maintenance personnel and student transportation related expenses (37% of estimated revenue). Referendum legislation does allow us to amend this plan each year to more closely align with actual revenue received and the needs of the district.

Please place this item on the agenda for the July 10, 2023 meeting of the Board of School Trustees. Let us know if you have any questions.