

**In 2024, 19 of the 31 districts in our area will be pursuing referendums. Within a 5-year timeframe of this year it will be 29 of 31 schools. Dodgeville, like many Southwest Wisconsin schools, continue to invest in the future of our students and community while managing the challenges of reduced revenue and inflationary increases in expenses.**

## Objectives for today

- Gather your questions

## **Dodgeville School District Community,**

**On November 5, 2024, the Dodgeville School District will seek approval for an operating referendum to cover a shortfall in funding. If approved, the referendum would allow the district to exceed state revenue limits by \$2,990,000 per year for the next four years.**



# Types of school referendum?

- **Capital Referenda-** a district may hold a referendum to issue debt for a specified purpose because the funds are typically (but not always) for construction and other large capital projects. A capital referendum provides the authority to issue a certain amount of bonds/notes to pay for a capital project.
- **Operating Referenda-** an operating referendum pays for things such as utilities, routine maintenance, salaries and benefits of all staff, insurance, supplies, etc.
  - Recurring: repeats indefinitely
  - Non-recurring: occurs for a specified number of years

# Why is an Operational Referendum necessary for Dodgeville Schools?



## DECLINING ENROLLMENT

Over the past six years, the district has seen a decrease of 204 students due to lower birth rates and students choosing other schools through School Choice programs. Funding for schools is based off student enrollments.



## RISING COSTS/ INFLATION

Expenses not only in the home but also to operate our schools increased due to an inflationary period lasting over the past three years. CPI indexes are 1.5 times the indexes prior to 2020.



## LACK OF STATE FUNDING

The federal government provided ESSER funding to offset the needs of educating students during the Covid pandemic. These funds were reduced last year and eliminated this year. The state did not provide additional funding directly to schools during this time.



**VISIT [WWW.DODGEVILLESCHOOLS.ORG/REFERENDUM](http://WWW.DODGEVILLESCHOOLS.ORG/REFERENDUM) TO LEARN MORE**

# Why is an Operational



## DECLINING ENROLLMENT

Over the past six years, the district has seen a decrease of 204 students due to lower birth rates and students choosing other schools through School Choice programs. Funding for schools is based off student enrollments.



VISIT [WWW.DOD](http://WWW.DOD)

Per 1000 people	
Year	Wisconsin
2022	10.2
2021	10.5
2020	10.3
2019	10.9
2018	11
2017	11.2
2016	11.5
2015	11.6
2010	12
2005	12.7
2000	12.9
1995	13.2
1990	14.8
1985	15.4

Year	FTE	Difference
18-19	1,319	
19-20	1,321	2
20-21	1,221	-100
21-22	1,203	-18
22-23	1,172	-31
23-24	1,188	16
24-25	???	
<b>Total</b>		<b>-131</b>
<b>Revenue (23-24)</b>		<b>-\$1,475,715.00</b>



## **RISING COSTS/ INFLATION**

Expenses not only in the home but also to operate our schools increased due to an inflationary period lasting over the past three years. CPI indexes are 1.5 times the indexes prior to 2020.

<b>Item</b>	<b>22-23</b>	<b>23-24</b>	<b>Increase</b>
egg scrambled	\$43.37	\$76.11	43.02%
cereal	\$25.76	\$31.09	17.14%
granola	\$45.25	\$51.78	12.61%
string cheese	\$35.25	\$38.95	9.50%
Uncrustables	\$43.03	\$46.96	8.37%
yogurt	\$27.73	\$29.70	6.63%
goldfish	\$61.19	\$64.80	5.57%
Floor Cleaner	\$152.06	\$158.20	3.88%
Chromebook	\$350.00	\$450.00	22.22%
Water	\$43,291.00	\$45,500.00	4.85%
Electricity	\$249,094.00	\$257,000.00	3.08%
Gas	\$131,321.00	\$145,000.00	9.43%

## CPI-U rates going back to July 1, 2010 through February 1, 2025



### **RISING COSTS/ INFLATION**

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	Historical Data					Current Year	Budget Year
	2018 - 2019	2019 - 2020	2020 - 2021	2021 - 2022 (ESSER)	2022 - 2023 (ESSER)	2023 - 2024 (ESSER)	2024 - 2025
Federal Revenue	\$191,600	\$241,304	\$294,395	\$1,252,180	\$1,042,432	\$410,806	\$166,412



**LACK OF STATE FUNDING**

The federal government provided ESSER funding to offset the needs of educating students during the Covid pandemic. These funds were reduced last year and eliminated this year. The state did not provide additional funding directly to schools during this time.

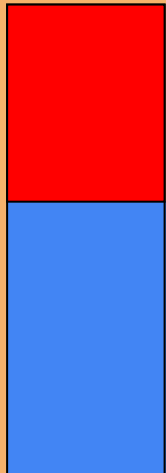
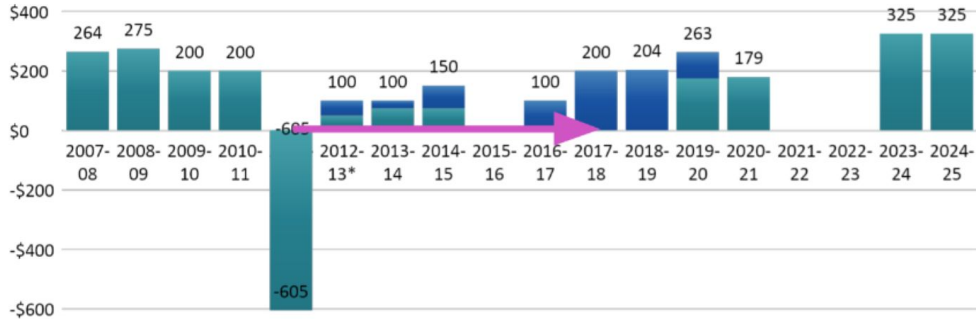


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- Largest one-time increase to the low revenue ceiling from \$10,000 to \$11,000
- \$325 per-pupil revenue limit increase each year of the biennium + 400 years

### Revenue Limit + Per-Pupil Categorical Aid Increases



Revenue Limit - \$13.6 million

Levy 5,915,294 (45%)

State-Aid \$7.5 million (55% funded)

The only way to get more money is to approve an operational referendum.

## How will the Operational Referendum funds be used?



Rebuild our district's fund balance to minimize short-term borrowing and cover unexpected financial needs or operational expenses



Manage inflationary increasing operational expenses such as supplies, utilities, and transportation



Maintain ongoing replacement cycles for classroom technology and networking needs



Invest in professional development and competitive wages to boost student performance and retain high quality staff



Rebuild our district's fund balance to minimize short-term borrowing and cover unexpected financial needs or operational expenses

	Historical Data					Current Year
	2018 - 2019	2019 - 2020	2020 - 2021	2021 - 2022 (ESSER)	2022 - 2023 (ESSER)	2023 - 2024 (ESSER)
Fund 10 Revenues	\$16,219,328	\$16,403,486	\$16,428,578	\$17,642,343	\$16,819,206	\$15,620,509
Fund 10 Expenditures	\$17,032,800	\$17,279,570	\$16,071,956	\$17,401,005	\$17,606,436	\$17,561,710
Surplus (Deficit)	<b>-\$813,472</b>	<b>-\$876,084</b>	\$356,622	\$241,338	<b>-\$787,230</b>	<b>-\$1,941,201</b>
<b>FUND BALANCE</b>	<b>\$4,492,099</b>	<b>\$3,616,015</b>	<b>\$3,972,637</b>	<b>\$4,213,975</b>	<b>\$3,426,746</b>	<b>\$1,485,545</b>
Fund Balance as % of Expenditures	26.37%	20.93%	24.72%	24.22%	19.46%	8.46%



**Rebuild our district's fund balance to minimize short-term borrowing and cover unexpected financial needs or operational expenses**

**Fund balance is at or above the 12% as outlined by board policy. Payroll would be obtainable in most months.**

<b>2.99 M; 4-years</b>	Historical	Current Year	Budget Year		Forecast			
Fund 10 Revenues	\$16,819,206	\$15,620,509	\$18,533,025		\$18,776,990	\$19,172,016	\$19,592,949	\$17,042,203
Fund 10 Expenditures	\$17,606,436	\$17,561,710	\$17,967,867		\$18,458,830	\$19,140,408	\$19,474,937	\$20,208,250
Surplus (Deficit)	<b>-\$787,230</b>	<b>-\$1,941,201</b>	\$565,158		\$318,160	\$31,608	\$118,012	<b>-\$3,166,047</b>
Fund Balance	\$3,426,746	\$1,485,545	\$2,050,703		\$2,368,862	\$2,400,470	\$2,518,482	<b>-\$647,565</b>
% of Expenditures	19.46%	8.46%	11.41%		12.83%	12.54%	12.93%	-3.20%

Implementing strategies to offset these costs. Reducing energy consumption, bidding services to get the cheapest rates, and budgeting according to indexes.



Manage inflationary increasing operational expenses such as supplies, utilities, and transportation

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Maintain ongoing replacement cycles for classroom technology and networking needs

We built back into the budget expenses related to keeping classroom technology up-to-date. Chromebooks and SMARTboard replacement cycles have been extended an additional year with the possibility to extend another year if needed. We are being as frugal as possible without causing delays in educational delivery.

Generated IT service savings by basing our service on student enrollment.

2.99 M; 4-years		Historical	Current Year	Budget Year		Forecast			
Fund 10 Expenditures		\$17,606,436	\$17,561,710	\$17,967,867		\$18,458,830	\$19,140,408	\$19,474,937	\$20,208,250
Budgeting for technology, curriculum, maintenance, and staff raises.				\$406,157		\$490,963	\$681,578	\$334,529	

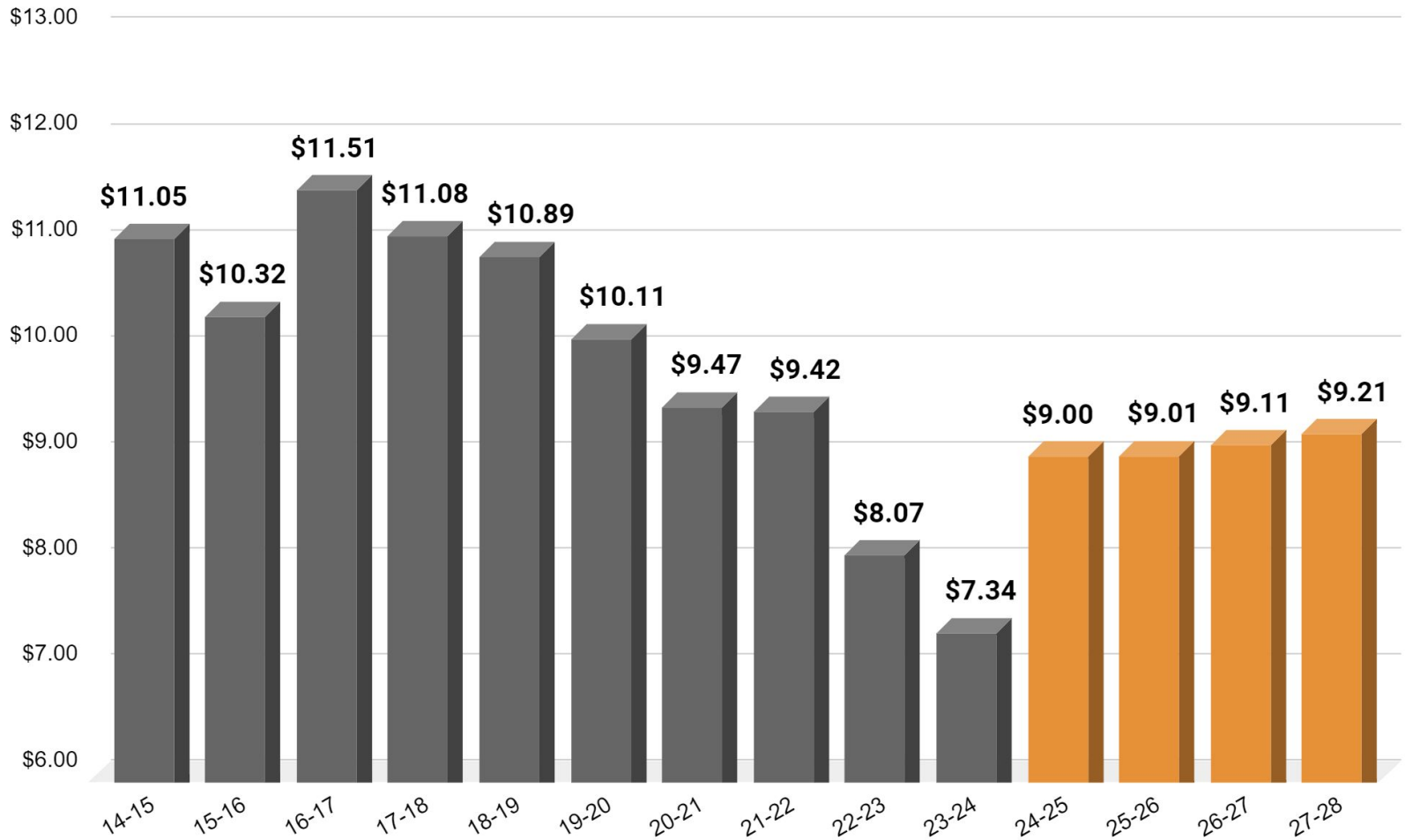


**Invest in professional development and competitive wages to boost student performance and retain high quality staff**

With ESSER funding we were able to invest in ongoing professional development and train the trainer programs. By continuing with these models we will be able to offset costs that would normally be accrued through bringing in outside consultants. We currently have teams adapt in teaching and providing internal professional growth in the following:

- Professional Learning Community frameworks
- Non-violent crisis intervention training
- Reading & Math instructional coaches
- AP certified teachers
- Sources of Strength
- Master's level certification incentives
- Internal mentoring for new staff





# Dodgeville Property Tax Impact:



<i>Property Value</i>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2026</b>	<b>2027</b>
<b>\$100,000</b>	+ \$166	+ \$167	+ \$177	+ \$187
<b>\$200,000</b>	+ \$332	+ \$334	+ \$354	+ \$374
<b>\$300,000</b>	+ \$498	+ \$501	+ \$531	+ \$561



<https://ascent.iowacounty.org/LandRecords/PropertyListing/RealEstateTaxParcel#/Search>

## Mill Rate

- Total School Levy / Equalized Property Value X \$1000 = Mill Rate
- **2023:**    \$8,046,610 / \$1,096,640,111    X \$1000        =    \$7.34
- **2024:**    \$9,972,432 / \$1,107,606,512    X \$1000        =    \$9.00
- Reducing the mill rate (both are true)
  - The school will continue to do everything we can to reduce the numerator.
  - Community developments can increase the denominator.

## Dodgeville School Tax Rates:

- **1992 Equalized Rate:** \$21.94 per \$1,000 of property value.
- **2023 Equalized Rate:** \$7.34 per \$1,000 of property value.
- **2024 Equalized Rate:** \$9.00 per \$1,000 of property value (approved referendum).

### 1992:

- **School Tax on Median Home:**
  - $\$55,000 \text{ (home value)} \times \$21.94 \text{ (rate per } \$1,000) / 1,000 = \$1,206.70$
- **Percentage of Median Income:**
  - $\$1206.70 / \$25,000 \times 100\% = 4.82\% \text{ of median household income.}$

### 2023:

- **School Tax on Median Home:**
  - $\$198,000 \text{ (home value)} \times \$7.34 \text{ (rate per } \$1,000) / 1,000 = \$1,453.32$
- **Percentage of Median Income:**
  - $\$1,453.32 / \$63,862 \times 100\% = 2.27\% \text{ of median household income.}$

### 2024 (with an approved referendum):

- **School Tax on Median Home:**
  - $\$250,000 \text{ (home value)} \times \$9.00 \text{ (rate per } \$1,000) / 1,000 = \$2,250.00$
- **Percentage of Median Income:**
  - $\$2,250.00 / \$79,226 \times 100\% = 2.84\% \text{ of median household income.}$

## Summary:

In Iowa County, while the dollar amount of school taxes has increased from 1992 to 2023, the portion of median household income spent on school taxes has decreased, indicating a lower tax burden relative to income over time.

## Learn more at our Community Information Sessions:

- **Tuesday, September 17th** 5:30 PM Dodgeville City Hall
- **Tuesday, September 24th** 6:30 PM DHS Auditorium
- **Tuesday, October 1st** 6:30 PM DHS Auditorium
- **Monday, October 7th** 6:30 PM Iowa Co. Health & Human Services
- **Tuesday, October 8th** 12:00 PM DodgerBowl Lanes
- **Tuesday, October 8th** 6:00 PM Ridgeway Community Center



### Questions?

Scan the QR code to submit your comments through our Community Question Box online form!



**VISIT [WWW.DODGEVILLESCHOOLS.ORG/REFERENDUM](http://WWW.DODGEVILLESCHOOLS.ORG/REFERENDUM) TO LEARN MORE**



**NEXT STATEWIDE ELECTION**

## 2024 General Election

Tuesday, November 5, 2024



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[What's On My Ballot?](#)



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Up-to-date referendum info:

<https://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/>