

School District of Sturgeon Bay Educational Programming Operational Referendum Information and Frequently-asked Questions



Introduction

Several years ago at an annual Board of Education daylong retreat, the phrase “*Every Student – Every Day*” was used to summarize who we serve and what we stand for, among other things. The School District of Sturgeon Bay is proud of who we are, the people we serve, and the people who provide this service. We also believe strongly in offering a wide range of opportunities within the classroom and beyond the classroom to help our young people learn, grow, and have the most options and the best options available to them in the future.

It does take quite an investment to educate every student every day, and we are committed to bringing that service and value to not only our students and the families we serve, but the entire community. We realize that the investment we need to make requires resources in the form of time and money. Frankly, we take our fiscal responsibility very seriously—just as we take asking for financial support very seriously.

This also underscores the appreciation we have for the overall community support we receive in an ongoing way—not just at the ballot box as educational programming operational referenda have passed in 2007, 2010, 2013, and 2016, although that has been critically important. We work hard to continue to earn your trust. As part of this effort, we work to inform the community through a variety of avenues, including but not limited to community newsletters, social media posts, and working with our local media partners to name a few.

The following information has been updated to reflect the current context, and builds off of past questions and information so those individuals who would like more detail than can be included in a different venue or presentation can contain. Thank you for your interest and for taking time to be informed.

Sincerely,
Dan Tjernagel, Superintendent

Frequently Asked Questions regarding the Educational Programming Revenue Limit Override Operational Referendum

The following questions have been raised during past discussions of educational programming operational referenda. We will continue to answer questions as they come up, update this document, and post the updated document to our website. If you have specific questions that are not answered in this document, or if you need more information on any question, please email Superintendent Dan Tjernagel at dtjernagel@sturbay.k12.wi.us or call him at 746-2801. Thank you for taking some time to be informed on this important topic. If you have not already seen it, please review the District Update Presentation available on the district website; this presentation is also being shared via service club presentations and correspondence with local media outlets.

1. **When is the election?** *The educational programming operational referendum to exceed the revenue limit will be held along with the School Board Election on Tuesday, April 2, 2019.*
2. **Where do I vote?** *City of Sturgeon Bay Wards 1-6, 22-24, 29 at City Hall; Wards 7-10, 18-21, 25-27 and 30 at Bay View Lutheran; Wards 11-17 & 28 at Jaycee Hall. All Town of Sevastopol eligible voters vote at the Sevastopol Town Hall (including the Town of Sevastopol residents living in Sevastopol Ward 2/Sturgeon Bay School District).*
3. **How do I get an absentee ballot?** *To vote absentee ballot for Sturgeon Bay, contact Municipal Clerk Stephanie Reinhardt at 746-2900. March 18 is the first day that electors are able to go into the Clerk's Office to vote. March 28 at 5:00 P.M. is the last day for electors to request an absentee ballot by mail. March 29 at 5:00 P.M. is the last day for electors to register to vote for the April 2 election—and it is also the last day to absentee vote in person in the Clerk's Office. To vote absentee ballot for Sevastopol, contact Municipal Clerk Amy Flok at 746-1230.*
4. **What will the actual wording of the referendum be on the ballot?**
“Shall The School District of Sturgeon Bay, Door County, Wisconsin be authorized to exceed the revenue limit specified in Section 121.91, Wisconsin Statutes, by \$2.9 million for the 2019-2020 school year only; by \$3.2 million for the 2020-2021 school year only; and by \$3.6 million for the 2021-2022 school year only, for non-recurring purposes consisting of funding educational programming for students?”

A “Yes” vote would be in favor of passing the referendum and authorizing the school district to exceed the revenue limit by the amounts stated for those particular years, while a “No” vote would not be in favor of passing the referendum or authorizing the school district to exceed the revenue limit.

5. **How much money is the referendum for?** *The referendum is a non-recurring revenue limit override referendum to be used for educational programming for three years. For 2019-2020, the amount would be \$2.9 million. For 2020-2021, the amount would be \$3.2 million. For 2021-2022, the amount would be \$3.6 million.*
6. **I realize school funding can be complicated, but what is the referendum money for?** *The educational programming operational referendum will provide dollars for educational programming for students. It is very difficult to articulate exact positions that the educational programming referendum supports without communicating some sort of threat, or giving the impression that those positions would be the exact positions cut if a referendum would not pass, or that cutting positions is actually a suitable alternative (see next paragraph). Such a list could cause people, programs, departments, and grade levels to be pitted against each other thereby fracturing our school community, rather than bringing it together which is what is needed for the benefit of children, families, and the community as a whole.*

To put this in perspective and explain what the referendum money is for (also see slide 22 of the District Update Presentation), \$2.9 million is the equivalent of 22 teacher positions (out of a total of 104), 18 support staff positions (out of a total of 81), and three director/administrator positions out of a total of nine—and that would be just in the first of the three referendum years. There would have to be additional cuts in year two and in year three.

Neither the Board of Education nor the Administration can imagine being able to meet the growing needs of children and continuing to bring value to the community with cuts of this magnitude.

7. **I saw something in the news about the Blue Ribbon Commission on School Funding which has been looking at funding for schools in Wisconsin. Will the state be changing school funding, which would eliminate the need for having a referendum?**

The Blue Ribbon Commission had a series of meetings and hearings around the state in 2018. We're hearing that particular topics from their work would need legislative sponsorship in order to move forward and bring about changes or increases in support for students and school districts. With the next State of Wisconsin Biennial Budget process, there is a requirement in statute that a budget be in place by July 1, but the reality that it may be later in the summer and possibly even into the fall before the State Budget is known. We cannot wait that long to see what happens. Additionally, there is no opportunity for school districts to go to referendum in the fall of 2019.

The Board of Education needs to pass a resolution in January of 2019 in order for us to have a referendum question on the ballot in April of 2019. Additionally, the current educational programming operational referendum (passed in April of 2016) expires on June 30, 2019. Formal budget approval in a school district occurs in October (typically the same day that the Board sets the Tax Levy), however, our fiscal year actually begins July 1. We cannot take the risk of falling close to \$3 million short of budget and simply hope that any pieces of legislation and the state budget process eliminate the need for an educational programming operational referendum.

8. **Why does the referendum increase each year?** *The increase from one year to the next of the referendum is to cover much of the year-to-year cost increases for our teachers, since they are the ones who provide the educational programming for our students. We use a budget forecast model that takes into account state and local trends to try and project what might happen over the course of the next three years. At the same time, we typically take a conservative approach on some of the projection details, such as property valuation increases in the district.*

Based on our projected increases to expenses, our annual increases in the important areas pertaining to wages and benefits are projected to be as follows:

<u>Years</u>	<u>Salary Increases</u>	<u>10% Dental Ins Increase</u>	<u>10% Health Ins. Increase</u>	<u>Total</u>
2019-20	\$207,683	\$12,577	\$139,890	\$360,150
2020-21	\$154,262	\$15,423	\$186,565	\$356,250
2021-22	\$163,669	\$16,966	\$205,222	\$385,857

In addition to these figures, which show projected increases, there are other factors such as per pupil aid, which is scheduled to decrease this next year, then rebound which is why the tax increase for year two of this next referendum would appear to have a smaller increase than from this year to year one of this next referendum. Obviously, we continue to pursue various cost-saving measures since the projected staffing increases from one year to the next are sometimes more than we are increasing the referendum request.

9. **What is a non-recurring referendum?** *A referendum that is "non-recurring" means that the money is received only for the years for which it is specifically approved. The Sturgeon Bay School District's revenue limit may increase only during the 2019-2020, 2020-2021, and 2021-2022 fiscal years as a result of this non-recurring referendum.*

10. What is the difference between a recurring and non-recurring referendum? *School districts can run two types of operational referendums: recurring and non-recurring. A recurring referendum means a school district will continue to get the amount of money. When a school district runs a recurring referendum for \$1,000,000, if the referendum passes, the school districts revenue limit will be raised by \$1,000,000 on a continual basis. A non-recurring referendum means a school district only gets the money for the time period for which it is requested. If a school district asks for a 3-year non-recurring referendum for \$1,000,000 each year for the three years and it passes, the school districts revenue limit will be increased by \$1,000,000 for each of the three years. At the end of the three years, the school district's revenue limit goes back to the revenue limit set by the state, unless another referendum is approved.*

11. How are the schools in the School District of Sturgeon Bay doing? *Our school district understands the importance of employing quality people to work with our young people. Additionally, our district believes in providing support and opportunities to our students not only within the classroom, but also through other programs and opportunities that impact a student's learning and overall growth.*

We do realize that external indicators are another source of information regarding how we are doing. As shown on slide nine of the District Update Presentation points out, our school report cards and district report card all either "exceed expectations" or in the case of SBHS "significantly exceed expectations" as identified by the State of Wisconsin. Additionally, SBHS ACT scores continue to be solid and students wrote a total of 60 exams in 10 different Advanced Placement course areas last spring (see slide ten of the District Update Presentation).

12. Why does the district have to go to a referendum in the first place? *Over the past three years we have received 32.5% of our total revenue from the State of Wisconsin. Whether one is considering the most recent discussion of the State funding two-thirds of total education costs, or the discussions going back to the 1990's for example, that does not mean each district got (or would get) two-thirds of the necessary revenue from the State.*

Meanwhile, the state uses a four-step process to set the revenue limit, which is basically a limit as to how much the district can tax the local community. This local tax limit does not make up the remainder of the school budget that is not covered by state funding. While the district has worked hard to contain and reduce costs to maintain a low budget of expenditures, there is still a shortfall between the amount of state and local funding and what it takes to run a quality school district. That is why the district is asking the local community to approve a Referendum which allows the district to set a tax rate above the state's formula or "revenue limit" for local taxation.

In a sense, a referendum allows the local community to support their local schools to the extent that the state funding does not cover the school's expenses. The good news is that local tax goes directly to our local schools whereas higher state taxes would not necessarily mean those additional tax dollars would find their way to schools here in Sturgeon Bay.

For those interested in additional history, revenue limits imposed by the state are the driving force behind school districts running operational referendums. Revenue limits have been in place since 1994. Governor Tommy Thompson made revenue limits permanent with the introduction of two-thirds funding, although, the state never did fund every school district at two-thirds and eventually gave up two-thirds funding of K-12 education, although there is talk of two-thirds funding returning at the state level. The

Qualified Economic Offer (QEO) was the third of three pieces put into place in 1994, and the QEO has also been eliminated. Of the three major changes put into place in 1994, just revenue limits are in place currently. In the early years of the establishment of revenue limits, our district did make cuts to become more efficient, as well as cuts that impacted educational offerings. Additional cuts have continued over the years, as has shifting more cost to our employees. In recent years, the school district has made additional changes and cuts and has gone to referendum every three years since 2007 in order to avoid crippling cuts to the remaining quality education we provide to our students and community.

- 13. Why do we need to go for another referendum?** *In 2007, 2010, 2013, and 2016 the school district ran three-year, non-recurring referenda. The school district's revenue limit set by the state and aide associated with our enrollment will not cover current educational programming levels for our students, families, and community. The referendum approved in 2016 expires on June 30, 2019. Our next fiscal year begins on July 1, 2019.*
- 14. How is this referendum different than the last referendum?** *This referendum continues the three-year approach, but asks for different amounts. Our last referendum asked for \$1.9 million in 2016-2017, \$2.25 million in 2017-2018, and \$2.7 million in 2018-2019. This time, we are asking for \$2.9 million in 2019-2020, \$3.2 million in 2020-2021, and \$3.6 million in 2021-2022.*
- 15. Why didn't the last referendum fix the problem?** *Regardless of political affiliation, most people seem to understand that educational funding challenges exist. This is part of the reason that the Blue Ribbon Commission on School Funding was formed. While it sounds like there will be legislation proposed that aligns with Blue Ribbon Commission work, we will not know what that will be exactly for some time yet. In talking with community representatives in fall, the Board heard clearly that we should ask for what we know we need and wait and see what happens (or doesn't happen) with the state budget process.*
- 16. What efforts has the district taken to make the referendum amount as low as possible?** *The Board and administration have looked over past and current information, looked for budgetary savings, and made the changes we feel can be made without a major impact on the quality of education. We utilize a projection program (created by Forecast 5 Analytics) to take into account as many factors as possible.*
- 17. What has the school district done to live within the revenue limits?** *The School District of Sturgeon Bay has been realizing reductions to balance the budget for a number of years. Here is information with examples of what has been reduced, realigned, or reorganized to reduce expenses.*
- a. *Reduced a number of staff positions from 2002 forward.*
 - b. *Reduced benefits and take-home pay for employees.*
 - i. *Employees began paying 50% of their retirement contributions in 2011.*
 - ii. *Retirement benefits from the district have been reduced.*
 - iii. *Much like the private sector, we've changed insurance providers, increased deductibles, and increased employee premiums.*
 - c. *Sub-contracted transportation*
 - d. *Maximized available dollars for maintenance-related and technology-related projects by pursuing and receiving grants.*

18. Why can't we consolidate schools in Door County? *This is a topic that gets discussed from time to time—and is also a topic people can have very strong feelings about. While some people say this topic is not relevant as one district looks at a referendum others say it is relevant so we continue to include it in our materials. The reality is that one school district cannot force another school district to consolidate with it. For some of the historical information, please see the next paragraph.*

The Sturgeon Bay and Sevastopol School Districts studied consolidation back in 2007-2008. The property valuation difference was reported to have caused the Sevastopol taxpayers to have an increase in their taxes, while the Sturgeon Bay taxpayers were reported to see a decrease in their taxes. Even if both communities and districts had decided to consolidate, there would still have needed to be a referendum at some point. Much more recently, Sevastopol passed an operational referendum and a capital referendum in the fall of 2018 (as did Gibraltar and Southern Door).

19. If the referendum fails, which programs will be impacted? *If the referendum question fails, the Board of Education and Administration would be forced to make decisions with serious implications. The district could further reduce educational programming offerings, reduce or completely eliminate departments and programs, raise class sizes, and/or utilize fund balance until a referendum would pass. (The fund balance would be exhausted in approximately 18 months—and the loss of fund balance would cost the district hundreds of thousands of dollars in interest; see question #24 below.) However, the impact of these cuts would cause our district to lose students to our neighboring districts through open enrollment and make the financial situation even more challenging than it already is or would become. Therefore the Board and Administration do not believe the additional reductions and related actions referenced above are a viable option.*

20. What is the current per pupil spending amount? How does Sturgeon Bay compare to other school districts? *The most recently published data (from 2016-2017) shows the Total District Cost Per Member as follows: Sturgeon Bay spent \$14,136 per student; Gibraltar spent \$20,536 per student; Sevastopol spent \$15,210 per student; Southern Door spent \$12,935 per student; and Washington Island spent \$18,315 per student.*

Source: DPI Data Warehouse – Longitudinal Comparative Cost Summary Data Spreadsheet (2017-2018 has not been released yet)

21. Are other school districts going to referendum? *One full year ago in April of 2018, there were 66 school referendum questions, which had an 82% passage rate: 31 of the 38 questions to issue debt passed; 23 of the 26 operational referendum questions to exceed the revenue limit on a non-recurring basis passed; and five of the seven operational referendum questions to exceed the revenue limit on a recurring basis passed (Source: Baird Public Finance Referenda Results).*

In November of 2018, there were 82 school referendum questions, which had a 93% passage rate: 44 of the 45 questions to issue debt passed; 23 of the 25 operational referendum questions to exceed the revenue limit on a non-recurring basis passed; and 13 of the 14 operational referendum questions to exceed the revenue limit on a recurring basis passed (Source: Baird Public Finance Referenda Results).

Looking at the 2018 year as a whole, Baird Public Finance reports that the 89% passage rate was the highest approval rate since the revenue limit formula was implemented in the mid-1990's.

In Door County, Gibraltar, Sevastopol, and Southern Door each passed capital referenda questions and operational referenda questions in November of 2018. In the past, Gibraltar, Sevastopol, Southern Door, Sturgeon Bay, and Washington Island have all passed operational referenda to exceed the revenue limits. Sturgeon Bay is currently the only mainland Door County school district running a referendum on April 2, 2019.

- 22. How bad is the declining enrollment situation?** *Declining enrollment has a negative impact on revenue limits. Since 1996, the district has lost 395 students. Thankfully, the district continues to bring in more students through open enrollment than the number of resident students who attend another district through open enrollment.*
- 23. Why can't the school district apply for grants to help cover increased cost?** *The district actively seeks and receives grants and donations to help support education and what we are able to offer students, families, and the community. We have received a large number of grants over the years. We have been able to update to more secure elementary and middle school office entrances, have updated technology infrastructure, technology available to students and staff, wireless connectivity, phone servers, replaced high school lockers, replaced middle school bleachers, and built a brand new greenhouse.*
- 24. Why can't the school district use its fund balance to make up the deficit?** *A common misconception is that a school's fund balance is money in a long term savings account being stashed away for a rainy day. The way it is talked about sometimes, this is a very easy mistake to make. Very simply, fund balance is a snapshot of the district's equity position on June 30th (the last day of a school's fiscal year) and changes on a daily basis. To figure out our equity position, we subtract our liabilities from our assets. Our June 30th assets are generally made up of our current cash (in our checking account), plus the taxes we will receive in August, and any grant payments we are expecting by the end of September (for expenses paid in the previous fiscal year). Our liabilities include payments yet to be made, such as utilities (from the month of June) and insurances over the summer for our staff members.*

From the final tax payment for the year, which we receive in August, the district receives no major funding until the first Monday in December every year in the form of state equalization aid. That means, in order for us to avoid short term borrowing (using a line of credit to make sure we can pay bills and payroll on time), we need to have a fund balance on June 30th that will not go negative before that first Monday in December. After a lot of planning and belt tightening, School District of Sturgeon Bay was able to avoid the extra expense of short term borrowing for the first time in over twenty years in 2018. Prior to the passage of the first three year operational referendum in 2007, this short term borrowing was costing the district over \$90,000 a year (or the approximate equivalent of two teachers not on our health insurance).

If the district were to use fund balance (which would mean running a deficit) to make up this deficit, we would be at \$0 before the end of the second year of the next three-year referendum cycle. This would mean having to borrow money on a long term basis, costing the district hundreds of thousands of dollars more every year, thus having to continue to cut teachers and staff. This is not something that is fiscally sound or sustainable for any school district.

25. Is it true the district needs to go to referendum in order to maintain benefits for the employees?

The majority of any school district’s expenses are related to their employees. Education is a student-centered business that requires people to educate students and maintain our district facilities. The school district has continued to work towards controlling salaries and benefits for all staff. We have made changes to our insurance providers, benefits, and deductibles; our employees pay 50% of the cost of their retirement. Our employees have seen a decline in benefits and take-home pay as a result of the changes in recent years. That being stated, we also need to be aware of attracting and retaining quality people and employees in the current climate.

26. Doesn’t the school district receive aid from the state? Why are the local property owners being asked to fix the funding issues?

As discussion in question #12 above, the School District of Sturgeon Bay receives about 32.5% of its budget from state aid (see 6-year trend of State aid for Sturgeon Bay below). Property valuation is another critical component (see 8-year trend of property values for Sturgeon Bay below). We also have the least amount of property valuation of the four mainland school districts in Door County (see county comparison in FAQ number 30 on page 6 for additional information).

As you can see by the trends outlined below, while there is some encouraging news, the overall trend still has us seeing less state aide than five years ago, with property values about \$54 million less than five years ago. Both of these figures have a major impact on funding and tax rates. Once again, in addition to keeping a close eye on our expenses, the solution to the state-funding problem is a local one—an operational referendum.

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Equalization Aide from State</u>	<u>Equalized Property Value</u>
2011-2012	\$3,810,834	\$835,099,661
2012-2013	\$3,458,435	\$813,307,219
2013-2014	\$3,435,817	\$790,159,078
2014-2015	\$3,404,464	\$791,483,410
2015-2016	\$3,744,986	\$774,745,554
2016-2017	\$3,963,621	\$782,767,967
2017-2018	\$4,274,704	\$788,013,114
2018-2019	\$4,330,955	\$821,611,564

27. According to my tax statement, the school district has already increased my property taxes. How come that didn’t fix the funding issue?

This did address the funding issue for this current year (and the two previous). However, because we are asking for a non-recurring revenue limit override (see questions 9 & 10), we have to ask for your permission to continue to fund at our current educational programming, and related staffing, levels.

28. If the school district quit funding athletics or extra-curricular activities in general, would they have enough money for the educational programming?

The school district’s total expenses for athletics in 2017-2018 were about \$249,740.72 or 1.4 percent of our total budget. While this is a substantial amount of money, the expense is very low considering the positive impact on a student’s education, as well as overall percentage of the district budget. Like it or not, athletics and extra-curricular in general are also a major priority for a number of students and families—and attract some families to our school district. Eliminating these programs would cause us to lose families to other districts and would make the funding situation worse yet.

- 29. Why can't Door County have just one superintendent? Green Bay has just one?** *Door County has five school districts. Each school district has its own school board. One superintendent for Door County would not be able to provide the attention each community, school board, and school district is currently accustomed to. In order to effectively operate with one superintendent, Door County should become one school district. Green Bay also has many layers of administration and departments. They have positions like associate superintendent, assistant superintendent, executive directors, and so forth. Green Bay has positions and departments that schools in Door County wouldn't pay to have.*
- 30. What has the district done to try to save money?** *The school district has always been a conservative school district. Even before revenue limits were put into place, our district was a low spending district. As a result, our district's revenue was lower than many other school districts at the time revenue limits were put into place. Since 2002, we have reduced staff by more than 30 employees. Every school district employee is now paying 50% of their retirement. Since Act 10, the school district has bid out insurance as a member of the Door-Kewaunee Insurance Purchasing Cooperative and lowered the benefits of employees. Back in 2013-2014 the district contracted transportation in order to maintain service and save about \$200,000 per year.*
- 31. How did Act 10 help save money for the school district?** *The school district has been able to save money as a result of Act 10. We changed benefits for teachers and staff, which includes post-retirement benefits. All employees are also paying 50% of their retirement. Employees pay a larger portion of the insurance premium cost. The Board of Education now has more authority to make changes for future savings.*
- 32. Why does the school district still need to go to referendum now that Act 10 is law?** *Even though Act 10 provided a great deal of savings to the district, it does not provide enough savings to overcome the shortfall caused by revenue limits. As previously discussed benefit levels have been reduced, staff now pay half of their retirement contributions, and the district can make changes to insurance, for example, whenever needed. We believe it is important to provide a quality education to the students of Sturgeon Bay. Act 10 has allowed us to save money by reducing benefits for our staff members. If we continue to balance our budget on the back of our employees, however, we will not be able to keep them in our district. We do not want to become a stepping stone for other school districts simply because they offer better pay and benefits. We want to maintain quality programs with quality teachers, and the cost of doing this is simply greater than what revenue limits provide for us.*
- 33. Has the school district really cut enough? Plus, if enrollment is less than it used to be why aren't there more cuts?** *To account for elementary class sizes averaging 70 students at the 4K-grade 5 levels, teaching positions have been eliminated. Since the last referendum, we have gone down to four classroom sections at each grade level for grades 4K-5.*

Secondary staffing levels are more difficult to grasp, especially in terms of averages while considering the courses and educational programs offered in the various areas. Secondary graduating classes currently average 96 students grades 6 -12 (or 100 students per class specifically at the high school level). We currently have secondary departments ranging from one to four members. Further reducing an elective area jeopardizes the program itself. Reducing teaching positions to part-time reduces our ability to attract and retain quality staff. (See information on next page.)

<u>Department</u>	<u>Middle School</u>	<u>High School</u>
English	*4	*4
	<i>Note: * = Includes a combined teacher, reading interventionist, and literacy coach</i>	
Math	3	4
Science	2	3
Social Studies	3 (includes reading interventions)	3
Special Education	3	4
Physical Education	1 (includes Health)	1 (includes Athletic Director)
Art	1 (includes Kindergarten Art)	1
Business Education	1 (includes Keyboarding in grades 3-5)	1
Family & Consumer Ed.	1	1
Music – Band	1 (includes Kindergarten Music)	1
Music – Choir	1	1
Spanish	--	2 (includes classes for MS students)
Technology Education	1	2

34. Why is Sturgeon Bay School District’s tax rate higher than other districts in the county? *The tax rate is determined by land value. The more land value a district has the lower the tax rate will be because the district has more value covering the expenses of the school district paid through property taxes. Membership deals with the number of students living in your school district.*

<u>District</u>	<u>Property Valuation</u>	<u>September Membership</u>	<u>Revenue per Member</u>	<u>Mill Rate</u>
Gibraltar	\$3,407,096,970	518	\$15,955.30	\$2.76
Sevastopol	\$1,388,638,784	559	\$10,662.82	\$6.00
Southern Door	\$1,125,819,282	1,045	\$9,195.38	\$8.72
Sturgeon Bay	\$821,611,564	1,100	\$9,484.25	\$10.68
Wash. Island	\$278,668,100	78	\$10,461.15	\$5.12

35. I saw information about the Blue Ribbon Commission on School Funding and that Governor Evers would like to provide additional dollars, which could come in the form of property tax relief and/or dollars for school districts. If the district doesn’t need all of the revenue limit override money from this educational programming operational referendum the next three years, what would the district do? *The school board gives final approval to the school budget and sets the tax levy every October as part of the annual business that needs to be done. If additional dollars become available, the school board could approach the situation by choosing to levy less money than they have the authority to levy, by funding projects that would not have to be deferred to future years, by funding projects that would not to be added to a potential future referendum question, coming up with other responsible uses for dollars as they deem appropriate at that time, or a combination of these options.*

Thank you for your time and attention. If you have an idea or additional question that could be added to this document to help with our communication efforts, please contact Superintendent Dan Tjernagel at 746-2801 or dtjernagel@sturbay.k12.wi.us .