



LAKE COUNTRY SCHOOL DISTRICT
STRONG SCHOOLS BUILD STRONG COMMUNITIES

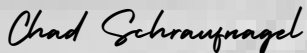
Dear Lake Country Community,

Last April, the Lake Country community was asked two questions on the election ballot: one for the purpose of updating our facilities and improving our learning environments; and the other to fund operating costs, balance our budget, replenish our fund balance, and maintain the high level of programming you've come to expect from Lake Country School District.

We are extremely grateful to our entire community for investing in our buildings and infrastructure to continue to serve our students for years to come. Because the operational referendum did not pass, however, our district is still lacking the funds needed to effectively operate. We have taken significant steps to balance our budget, including right-sizing staffing levels to match current enrollment and future projections, sunsetting post-employment benefits, and evaluating and adjusting staff benefits. These efforts have resulted in more than \$800,000 in annual savings, but have not been enough to close the funding gap caused by state funding shortfalls and inflation.

This is why we are coming back to our community with another ask. While we will continue to work diligently to manage costs efficiently, without this referendum, we face serious financial challenges, including further staff and programming reductions and fewer extracurricular opportunities. The April 1 referendum is about preserving the high-quality education that has defined Lake Country School for generations.

Thank you for your continued support and commitment to our schools.



Chad Schraufnagel
District Administrator

BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of the Lake Country School District, Waukesha County, Wisconsin, that the revenues included in the School District budget be authorized to exceed the revenue limit specified in Section 121.91, Wisconsin Statutes, by \$800,000 per year for five years, beginning with the 2025-2026 school year and ending with the 2029-2030 school year, for non-recurring purposes consisting of operational expenses, including but not limited to maintaining curriculum programs, services, and rebuilding of the fund balance.

REFERENDUM

COMMUNITY INFO SESSIONS

WE INVITE YOU to attend an informational session to ask questions and understand the impact of this referendum on our school, our students and staff, our families, and the broader community. Each session will provide an overview of the referendum, its financial impact, and the ways it will support Lake Country School students. District leadership will be available to answer questions and hear community input.

25
FEB

🕒 5:30 p.m.

📍 LCS Library Media Center

05
MAR

🕒 6:00 p.m.

📍 LCS Library Media Center

15
MAR

🕒 10:00 a.m.

📍 LCS Library Media Center

24
MAR

🕒 6:00 p.m.

📍 LCS Library Media Center



APRIL 1, 2025: VOTE!

On April 1, 2025, residents can vote between 7 a.m. and 8 p.m. at their regular polling locations. Early Absentee in-person voting begins March 18; the last day to request an absentee ballot by mail is March 27.

If you are not sure where to vote, need to register, or have questions, please contact your municipal clerk or visit <https://myvote.wi.gov>.

OUR STUDENTS.
OUR SCHOOLS.
OUR FUTURE.



Sustain Educational Excellence

Local referendum dollars will help fund costs associated with running the District and maintaining the level of excellence in academic programming, staff, and resources that define LCS.



Address Financial Challenges

While we have worked to balance our budget, without additional funding to rebuild our dangerously low fund balance and address the state funding gap, we face cuts to staff and programming.



Invest in Future Success

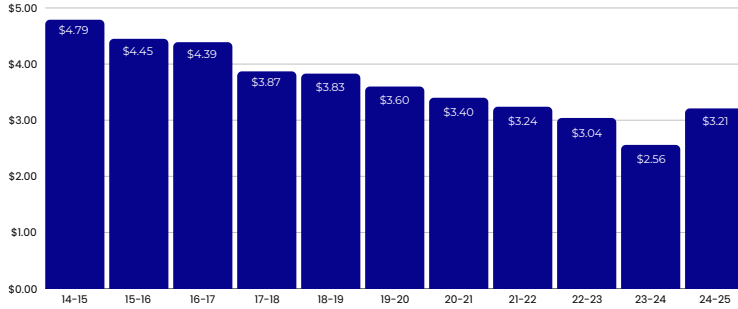
LCS has a proud tradition of academic excellence, consistently ranking among the top districts in Wisconsin and nationally. This investment in LCS will help stabilize the District's finances.

Learn more at www.lcs.k12.wi.us/referendum

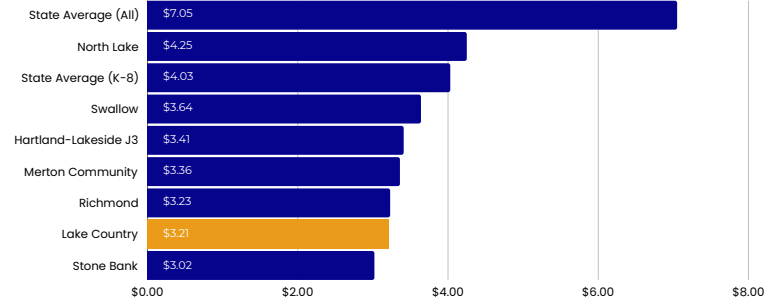
THE FINANCIAL REALITY

ADDRESSING THE NEED FOR ADDITIONAL LOCAL FUNDING

LCS HISTORICAL MILL RATE



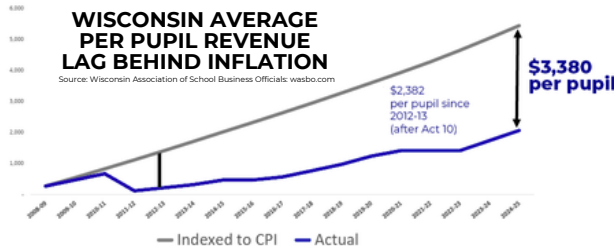
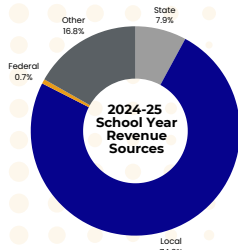
CURRENT MILL RATE COMPARISON



While it is up for this school year thanks to community support for the District's facilities referendum in April 2024, the Lake County School District mill rate has consistently declined since 2014, remains below the state average for all districts *and* K-8 districts, and is among the lowest in the region.

THE FUNDING GAP

The majority of LCS revenue is received through local funding. State Aid and federally-supported grants continue to decrease. Additionally, revenue received from the State hasn't adjusted to inflation since 2010, resulting in an average gap of \$3,380 per student, or \$1.18 million per year for LCS.



THE ASK



\$800,000 per year for five years equates to a \$0.30 increase in the Mill Rate, or less than \$200 per year for the average home in our District.

PROPERTY VALUE	COST PER YEAR	COST PER MONTH
\$300,000	\$90	\$7.50
\$400,000	\$120	\$10.00
\$500,000	\$151	\$12.58
\$600,000	\$181	\$15.08
\$700,000	\$211	\$17.58



LAKE COUNTRY SCHOOL
WILDCATS

1800 Vettelson Road | Hartland, WI 53029



**Sustain Educational
Excellence**



**Address Financial
Challenges**



**Invest in
Future Success**

OUR STUDENTS | OUR SCHOOLS
OUR FUTURE



To learn more about the
upcoming referendum or its
impact, scan the QR code, or visit
www.lcs.k12.wi.us/referendum

GO WILDCATS!