

Q: I pay property taxes. Where is all my money going?

Local Property taxes no longer support General Fund which is the Fund that pays salaries. The State took over General Fund Jan. 1, 2009. Local property taxes go to Debt Service, Capital Projects, and Transportation Funds as well as City, library, and local services outside of the school district.

Q: Why are we Reducing in Force 12 - 13 teachers?

Although we are receiving stimulus money, we are ridding 12 -13 teachers because we are projected to see a reduction in funding. We are est. not to receive any new money in the new funding formula for 2010 & 2011. We are est. to lose approx. \$80/student after stimulus money is applied. Our costs have gone up approx. \$750K - \$800K due to increases in health insurance, supplies, materials, utilities, shortfall from last year's property tax to the General Fund, & an expected increase again in Health Insurance effective Jan. 1, 2010. Thus, we need to reduce staff now since we are projected not to receive any new dollars in 2010, 2011.

Q: If we do reduce the teaching staff & enrollments stay the same or grow as projected, what will this do to a class size in each of the schools?

If we don't receive any new money from the State & if we can't find additional revenue to cover our rising costs, then class sizes will continue to grow. We will be educating more students with less staff members.

Q: My child has a great teacher. How are reductions in force determined?

Indiana is a labor relations State. In 1972, State legislators put into law the Collective Bargaining Language requirements which means Indiana School Districts must negotiate labor contracts with its teachers' associations.



Expecting changes in public school funding, West Lafayette again set the standard with the creation of the West Lafayette Schools Education Foundation in 2004.

Is Our Donation Tax Deductible?

Yes! Tax Exempt donations designated for "SOS" can be made directly to the foundation at the event, or by mail. If we can raise approx. \$300/student we will cover keeping ALL the staff. If we raise \$50/ student that will allow us to keep 2 staff members.

Any amount appreciated & will help!

WLSEF Foundation
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For more information about WLCSC, visit <http://www.wl.k12.in.us>

Each Indiana School District has a negotiated master contract with its teacher's union and that contract is binding per Indiana Code. Master contract language is followed with regards to Reductions in Force.

Q: Why are we reducing in force but doing major construction projects?

Construction Projects come out of different funds. Per Indiana Code, school districts cannot take Capital Projects money or Debt Service money and move the dollars to General Fund.

Q: What's the current status of the funding formula?

A team from WLCSC met again with our legislators. They continue to look into our issues and try to provide options for us. However, the current proposed funding formula still projects WLCSC losing funds. Until our legislators complete the state budget, we won't know the status of our funding.

Q: Why should I give money to the SOS Campaign?

The more funding we get through a variety of sources like the SOS campaign, the better chance we stand of maintaining our current staffing levels in the short-term.

Q: How do I know that the money I give is really going to save jobs?

By law, any donation designated by the donor has to go to that project or program. It can't, by law, be diverted to something else.

Q: If I give money for the shortfall, what happens next year?

In the short-term we need creative funding, but in the long-term, the school district is working to have in place viable, sustainable solutions. Many ideas will be shared in the coming weeks and months.