

A photograph of a classroom where several young children are playing with wooden blocks. One child in the foreground is wearing a grey patterned jacket and a skirt with Minnie Mouse designs. Another child to the right is wearing a black jacket over a pink shirt with a Hello Kitty graphic. The background shows wooden shelves filled with toys and educational materials.

Worcester Central School District

Annual Budget Hearing Presentation

May 3, 2023

6:30 p.m.

Strive, Support, Succeed!

Budget Goals



Propose an operating budget that supports WCS and the goals of the Board of Education.

Continue to appropriately manage the fund balance.

Important Facts

- School foundation aid increased to \$321,781 which resulted in a net state aid increase of \$202,884 from 2022-23.
- WCS relies on state aid for approximately 64% of its revenue.
- We will again need to use Fund Balance to offset any revenue shortcomings. This will allow the District to maintain our student programs.
- The total proposed budget (spending) would increase by 2.3%, which is equal to \$273,740.
- The proposed budget includes a 2.19% tax levy increase. A majority vote (50% +1) is required for budget approval. The proposed levy is lower than the 2.22% tax cap for this year.

Strive, Support, Succeed!

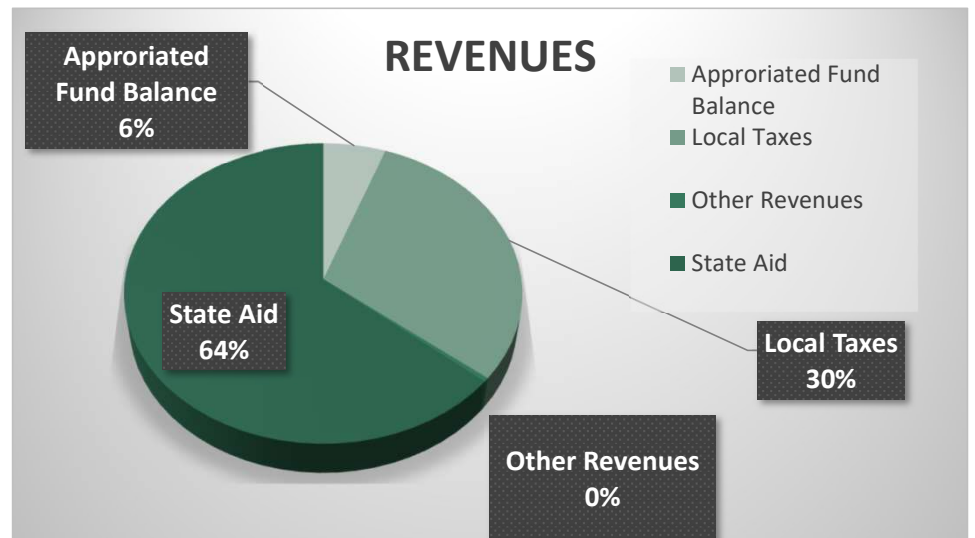


WCS Tax Levy Over the Years

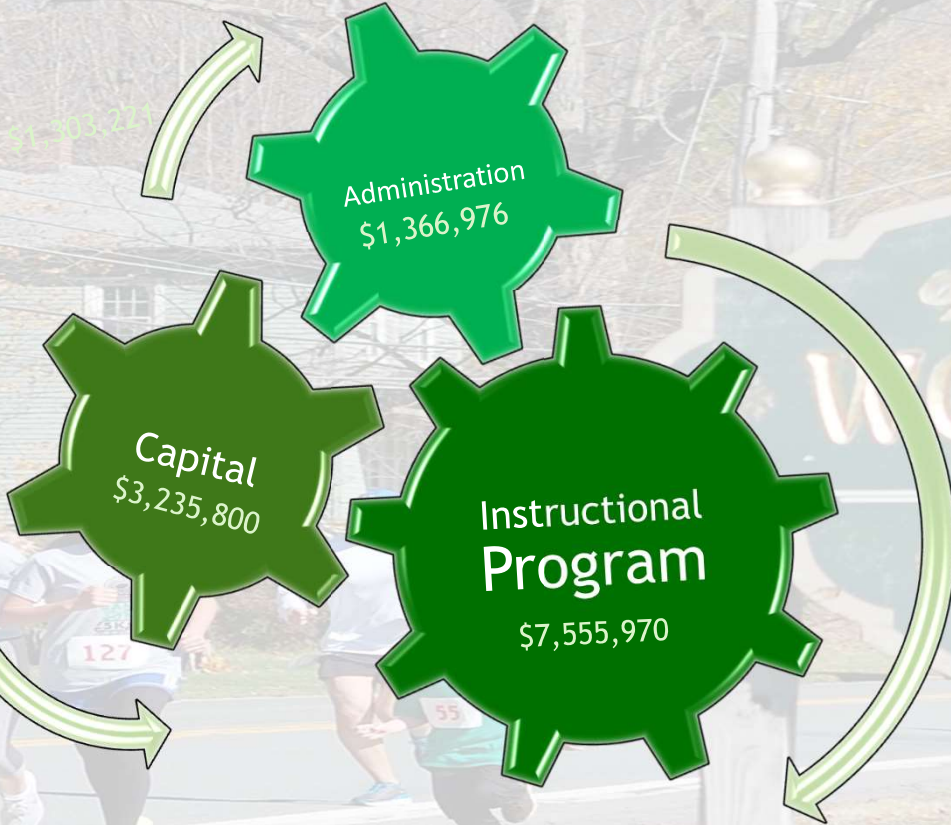


Where does the money come from?

REVENUES	2022-23 Budget	2023-24 Proposed	% Change
Appropriated Fund Balance/Reserves	\$685,000	\$675,000	-1.46%
Other Revenues	\$47,000	\$49,000	4.26%
State Aid	\$7,558,829	\$7,761,713	2.68%
Local Taxes	\$3,594,177	\$3,673,033	2.19%
TOTAL	\$11,885,006	\$12,158,746	2.30%



Where does the money go?



Three Part Expenditure Breakdown

- Administration = 11%
- Capital = 27%
- Instructional Program = 62%



Three Part Budget Comparison

Category	2022-23	2023-24	Change	% Change	% of Budget
Total Administrative Budget	\$ 1,303,221	\$ 1,366,976	\$ 63,755	4.9%	11.2%
Total Instructional Program Budget	\$ 7,346,534	\$ 7,555,970	\$ 209,436	2.9%	62.1%
Total Capital Budget	\$ 3,235,251	\$ 3,235,800	\$ 549	0%	26.7%
Total Budget	\$ 11,885,006	\$ 12,158,746	\$ 273,740	2.3%	100%



What happens next?



- The Budget Vote is May 16th

What Happens if Voters Do Not Approve the Budget?

- The Board of Education can adopt a contingent budget which would require WCS not to increase the current levy by any amount.
- To make up the \$78,856 incurred with a contingency budget, WCS would look to possibly cut program expenses or increase the amount we would have to take from our fund balance.
or
- The District may choose to hold a revote to be held on June 20th.

Vehicle Purchase Reserve Proposition

In addition to the budget, WCS has a separate ballot proposition to open a new Vehicle Purchase Reserve Fund.

- What is a Vehicle Purchase Reserve fund?
- A reserve fund is like a savings account and allows the district to set aside money for future vehicles and related equipment.
- This reserve fund is only established with voter approval.
- Voter authorization is also required to make expenditures.
- Will my taxes go up due to the establishment of a Vehicle Purchase Reserve fund?


NO, your taxes would not increase due to the establishment of a Vehicle Purchase Reserve fund.

- Why establish a capital reserve fund now?

The fund can only be established with voter approval; therefore, it must be placed on a ballot. Asking WCS voters to decide on this proposition during the May 16th vote saves the district and taxpayers from having to pay for a separate referendum later.



Additions from Mr. Pochkar



Thank You!
See you at the Annual Budget Vote, Vehicle
Purchase Reserve Proposition and Board
Member Election.

Tuesday, May 16, 2023
12:00 (Noon) – 8:00 p.m.