

State of the Schools Year 4 of the Referendum

**How much money does the School Corporation receive each year from the referendum?**

\$600,000

**What have we been able to do with this increase in revenue?**

- Staff pay increases. From 2011 – 2016 all staff salary were frozen.
- Continue our programing. We have not eliminated any offerings for students or eliminated any ECA's.
- Increase cash balance in the education fund: At the end 2016 we had a cash balance of \$188,600 in the education fund. At the end of 2020 the education fund balance is \$1,236,431.

**What are we doing to eliminate the referendum after seven years?**

- Prior to the referendum, we operated on emergency fixing of anything in the corporation. Because of the referendum and the debt service projects we have been able to fix some large ticket items that occur every 15-20 years.
  - Renovation of the Jr/Sr High school
  - Preparation for the Intermediate school to house grades 3-6
  - Pool
  - Tennis courts
  - Track
  - Soccer field
  - HVAC in all buildings
  - Parking lots
  - NDE gym floor
  - Jr/Sr High cafeteria
  - LED lighting in all rooms
  - Purchased buses
  - Renovated Corporation office and classrooms in all buildings
- In the works to be completed prior to the end of the referendum
  - Jr/Sr High Roof
  - Gym Bleachers
  - HVAC in swimming pool
  - Increase parking at Jr/Sr High
  - Intermediate School Gym Floor
  - Multi-purpose room flooring

**How does the School Corporation absorb the loss of \$600,000/year when the referendum ends?**

- When the legislature changed the funds to Education and Operations, it moved some expenses from the Education Fund to the Operations Fund. This resulted in the need for Northeast Dubois to transfer \$600,000 each year from the Education Fund to the Operations Fund to pay for those expenses that were moved. Our best way to absorb the \$600,000 is to eliminate this transfer.
- The elimination of the need for a Pension Fund will eliminate over half of this \$600,000. The Pension Fund will expire around the same time as the end of the Referendum. Currently, we are budgeting \$347,000/year for Pension Bonds. This amount by law must be neutralized from another fund. The only other fund left is the Operations Fund. Thus, we are receiving \$347,000 less in Operations because it is spent in the pension fund. This \$347,000 will go into the operations fund starting in 2024.
- That leaves around \$253,000 of the \$600,000 we annually transfer to the Education Fund.
- With all the large expenses that have been taken care of these past few years, \$253,000 should be able to be eliminated from an Operations budget that is \$2,600,000.
- There is also a small increase each year in the amount we receive in the Operations fund, called the growth factor.