

INDY PUBLIC SCHOOL REFERENDUM

 INDY CHAMBER

Our goal is to collectively balance public-school excellence and taxpayer cost with a referendum that provides for reasonable, sufficient and sustainable funding.

COST DRIVERS, INVESTMENTS, OFFSETS

Priority	Public Cost Basis	Working Cost Est.
Parity for all public-school students in the IPS boundary	39K public school students to be supported under HEA 1423	\$89.7M to extend consistent per-student support to all new students
Transportation expansion	~\$2,300/transported student/year; ~5,700 charter students lacking transportation	~\$13.1M incremental cost under a straight pro-rata model
Core quality / annual operating pressure	Current referendum funds teacher pay, safety, and academics; \$40M annual IPS deficit remains	Up to \$40M (depending on reconciliation)
Quality Pre-K program (restored commitment)	Current program: 601 full-day students; Current full-pay tuition: \$5,400/year	Up to ~\$3.25M for current full-day footprint
SPED + ELL Gap	IPS: \$30.5M SPED / ELL gap; assuming an addtl ~\$19.5M from charters	\$50M combined (should be a state expense)
Recurring local efficiencies / offsets	ID \$24M-\$40M in efficiency measures across IPS and charter school operations.	\$24M-\$40M
TOTAL REFERENDUM SUPPORT NEEDED:		\$53M - \$146M

Indianapolis Education Operating Referendum Rate Options					
Scenario	Assumptions	Approx. annual need	Referendum Rate	Taxpayer Impact (Annual/Monthly)	% Increase
None	current referendum expires	n/a	n/a	(\$167)	-100%
Status Quo	current referendum - same rate	\$49M	0.196	\$169 / \$14	0%
Max state \$ + max offsets	Full costs - full state support and max efficiencies	\$57M	0.238	\$216 / \$18	+14%
1.5 x Increase	Full costs + partial state SPED/ELL help - efficiencies	\$67M	0.283	\$245 / \$20	+83%
Parity	\$2,300/student across 39,000 public school students	\$93.4M	0.392	\$346/ \$29	+104%
Min state \$ + fewer cuts	Full costs + min state SPED/ELL help - efficiencies	\$107M	0.45	\$389 / \$32	+130%
No state \$ + min cuts	Full costs, no state \$ for SPED/ELL gap, fewer cuts	\$131M	0.55	\$475 / \$40	+181%

Rate Examination: \$0.24

\$56M

Revenue generated

\$40M

Additional offsets
required

\$216

Annual property tax
increase

Assumes the state funds the \$50M SPED/ELL gap and IPEC system realizes \$40M in recurring local efficiencies/offsets

Rate Examination: \$0.283

\$67M

Revenue generated

\$29M

Additional offsets
required

\$245

Annual property tax
increase

Assumes \$50M state support for SPED/ELL gap. Will require recurring local efficiencies/offsets of \$29M.

Rate Examination: \$0.392

\$93.4 M

Revenue generated

\$35.6 M

Additional offsets
required

\$346

Annual property tax
increase

Extends \$2,300/student level of support to 39,000 public-school students. Assumes state and IPS share equally in offsets - state by providing support for SPED/ELL equal to IPS offsets, which include \$17.3M in previously announced efficiencies.

Rate Examination: \$0.450

\$107M

Revenue generated

\$39M

Additional offsets
required

\$389

Annual property tax
increase

Assumes \$11M in state SPED/ELL support and \$28M
in recurring local offsets/efficiencies.