



Metropolitan School District of
Washington Township

"Superior Schools in a Supportive Community"

Recommendation for the \$1.1 Million in General Fund Reductions

February 10, 2010



October 28th School Board Actions

- ▶ Approved the referendum resolution for \$.08 to yield a levy of \$4 million for 7 years
- ▶ Approved a tax neutrality resolution that reduces the Capital Projects Levy by \$4 million in each of the next 7 years
- ▶ Approved the development of plan to reduce the General Fund by \$1.1 million effectively reducing the Referendum levy to \$4 million



Board Consideration and Discussion of the Reduction Plan

- ▶ November 24, 2009 School Board Meeting – Presentation made to the Board (Discussion Item)
- ▶ December 16, 2009 School Board Meeting - Presentation made to Board (Discussion Item)
- ▶ January 13, 2010 School Board Meeting Presentation made to the Board (Discussion Item)
- ▶ January 27, 2010 - Discussion of Citizens Checklist and Budget Reductions to the Board (Discussion Item)



Detail of Recommended Reductions

Reduction	GF Impact	Rationale/Details/Background
Eliminate elementary and middle school summer school with the exception of ENL Summer school. Eliminate Category 2 H.S. classes. Maintain current level of offerings in H.S.	\$ 130,000	The State does not reimburse this completely. We will maintain, but limit, the size of NC Summer School. The HS cost \$275K and shorten ENL Summer School from 20 days to 16 days.
Eliminate Youth Support Academy	\$ 64,000	This support will be provided in each middle school in the ISS programs there.
Eliminate Academy Six	\$ 101,000	This support will be provided in each school. (EW does not currently have any A6 students.)



Detail of Recommended Reductions

Reduction	GF Impact	Rationale/Details/Background
Eliminate a 20 % of Elementary Classroom Assistants	\$ 238,000	We will examine the structure and use of the remaining assistants. (Does not include Special Education or ENL Assistants.)
Reduce NC General Fund Costs	\$ 300,000	This will involve a reduction in teaching, classified staff, or extracurricular positions. When possible we will work through attrition, retirement, and other means.



North Central High School Detail

<u>Reduce</u>		\$	<u>Add</u>		\$
1	PE	82355	1	Data Input	5476
1 3/7	Mathematics	116375	2/7	Reading Specialist	15928
1	English	50760			21404
3/7	Art	21754			
2	Football	7878			
1	Basketball (M)	3939			
1	Basketball (W)	3939			
1	Wrestling	3223			
1	Golf (M)	2149			
1	Track (M)	3223			
1	Track (W)	3223			
1	Baseball	3223			
1	Softball	3223			
1	Cheerleading	2149			
1	Student Council	2507			
1	Project Director (OP)	1809			
2	Intramural	7162			
	Total	318891			



Detail of Recommended Reductions

Reduction	GF Impact	Rationale/Details/Background
Reduce ECA Positions in Athletics, Fine Arts, and other areas by 10%	\$ 70,000	We will reduce level of pay for coaches not in the bargaining unit and leaving some ECA positions unfilled.
Reductions in Custodial Staff or Maintenance Staff	\$ 150,000	Involves several positions plus the restructuring of an additional position.
Reduce GF Professional Travel and Professional Development	\$ 45,000	This reduction is about 55% of the budgeted funds. Stimulus money can be used to augment these functions. This figure may go higher.
Eliminate lobbying contract	\$ 10,000	
	\$ 1,108,000	Total – Subject to adjustment



Superintendent's Recommendation

I recommend approval of the \$1.1 million General Fund budget reduction plan as developed. The effect of this plan reduces the size of the 2010 General Fund referendum levy to \$4 million.



Metropolitan School District of Washington Township

"Superior Schools in a Supportive Community"

Next Challenge: Planning for a \$4
million General Fund Reduction if
the Referendum Fails

Our Duty to Plan For the Worst Case



The Financial Challenges Remaining

- ▶ Educating 10,500 children in a manner consistent with our Mission:

Our mission is to build the mind and character of every student by teaching the academic, creative, and social skills needed to achieve excellence.

Considering a plan to deal with a \$4 million reduction if the GF referendum fails to pass

- ▶ Dealing with our 4.55% budget reduction caused by the State's shortfall in revenue



Budget Cuts Attributable to the Loss of the Referendum Election

Reduction	GF Impact	Rationale/Consequence
Eliminate all summer school including high school, middle school, elementary, and ENL	\$250,000	This reduction would begin in Summer, 2011.
Eliminate 40% of Elementary Classroom Assistants	\$476,000	This brings the overall reduction of classroom assistants to 60%. This does not include Title 1 or Special Education Assistants.
Reduce North Central Teaching Positions (20-30 positions)	\$1,400,000	Class sizes will increase dramatically and some programs will disappear due to a lack of enrollment as elective enrollment declines. The elimination of summer school will also interact with this reduction.



More Budget Cuts Attributable to the Loss of the Referendum Election

Reduction	GF Impact	Rationale/Consequence
Reduce Elementary Specials Area Teachers (Art, Music, Media, or P.E.) (7-10 positions)	\$490,000	The Special Areas would have to be integrated into the regular classrooms.
Reduce Middle School Teaching Positions (12-15 positions)	\$840,000	We would eliminate block scheduling and teaming.
Reduce ECA Positions in Athletics, Fine Arts, and other areas by 40%	\$400,000	This represents a total economy in this category. Non-Revenue athletic, student activity, and fine arts programs would exist on a pay-to-participate basis.



More Budget Cuts Attributable to the Loss of the Referendum Election

Reduction	GF Impact	Rationale/Consequence
Eliminate 1 Cabinet Level Position Funded by GF	\$150,000	Other reductions may be possible based upon opportunity.
Eliminate General Fund Commitment to International Baccalaureate Program	\$ 50,000	
	\$ 4,056,000	Total Budget Reduction



Beyond The Numbers, What Can People Expect?

- ▶ Class sizes will increase across the board, K-12.
- ▶ Small, elective courses and programs will be eliminated at the high school because of the elimination of work-ahead courses in summer school and economy of scale issues.



Beyond The Numbers, What Can People Expect? - Continued

- ▶ Fine arts and athletic programs will be fewer in number or will resort to pay-for-play.
- ▶ Equity and access issues will arise as a result of the financial need of many children.
- ▶ There will be fewer resources for children at risk, in need, or gifted.



Beyond The Numbers, What Can People Expect? - Continued

- ▶ There will be fewer opportunities for *excellence* and *enrichment*.
- ▶ There will be fewer higher level academic choices.
- ▶ The K-12, IB program will be delayed or abandoned completely.



Other Associated Issues If the Referendum Fails

- ▶ We would spend the account balance in the Referendum fund in the 2010-2011 school year.
 - ▶ The reductions would have to be in place early in 2011 in order to build master schedules and make plans for the 2011-2012 school year.
 - ▶ The potential looms for the loss of talent (teachers, administrators, resident and non-resident students) during the *window of uncertainty* – January 1 through May 4, 2011.
-



Our Timetable For Actions

Action	Timeline
<p>Approve \$1.1 Million Budget Reduction plan associated with the 2010 referendum</p>	<p>February 10, 2010 School Board Meeting</p>
<p>Begin discussion of \$4 million reduction plan necessary if the Referendum fails to pass</p>	<p>February 10, 2010 School Board Meeting</p>
<p>Evaluate and effects of the 4.55% General Fund revenue reductions mandated by the State and develop a plan to respond</p>	<p>After the General Assembly adjourns in late February or early March</p>
<p>Monitor State Revenue Developments in Preparation for Additional Reductions</p>	<p>State revenues have fallen short in each of the last 16 months. The new FY begins 7/1/2-10.</p>