



Loyal School District

Fact vs Fiction



FACT	FICTION
This referendum is an Operational Referendum. The funds will be used for day-to-day operational expenses. It would allow the district to maintain current educational programs and current staff.	This referendum is NOT a Capital Referendum. No funds awarded from this referendum will be used for: construction, remodels, or expansion projects.
70% of the proposed referendum will go to teacher wages. The plan calls for a 3% wage increase in year 1.	No funding from the proposed referendum will be used to cover any back payments of any kind. This type of practice is illegal in public domains.
Consolidation is a 3–5-year (minimum) process that requires the districts involved to complete a feasibility study.	Consolidation is the cheapest and best immediate solution.
More than 80% of Wisconsin school districts have gone to referendum in the past 5 years. This includes: Granton, Greenwood, Spencer, and Owen-Withee.	Loyal is the only district always asking for additional funds.
Loyal is a highly aided district, for every \$1.00 we spend at the local level, we receive back .74¢ in aid from the state.	The local taxpayers shoulder the entire expense of the district.
ESSER funding (COVID relief) has been used for: HVAC upgrades, lighting, ultraviolet cleaners, IT updates for both staff and students.	The district should use COVID money it received to fund operations.
District policy is to keep the fund balance (emergency funds) stable at 15% of the total budget. The district fund balance is currently at 14.1%.	The district has a fund balance for times like these. Deplete the fund balance and ask for less money from the taxpayer.
The district has had an annual operational referendum since 2014. The 2022-23 renewal number was \$675,000. Making the 2024-25 renewal only \$225,000 more. Revenue has not increased, but expenses have. Decreased enrollment.	Why \$900,000 now?
The state formula for distributing funds is outdated. Declining enrollment has had an impact on our district. 2018 enrollment was 542 vs. 2022 enrollment of 493.	The district misspent its state allocation and that is why more funds are needed.