



Unified School District of De Pere
1700 Chicago St.
De Pere, WI 54115



UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT OF DE PERE



Operational Referendum **VOTE APRIL 2**



WHAT'S ON THE BALLOT?

**\$4.75
Million**



X

**Five
Years**



Funding will be used to maintain – not expand – existing programs and operations.

- Curriculum mandates and updates
- Recommended class sizes
- Technology security & devices
- Interventionists / instructional coaches
- Building maintenance
- Market rate employee compensation
- Transportation
- Student mental health support
- Utility cost increases




UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT OF DE PERE

Visit www.DePereK12.org for details.




WHY?

State limits how much revenue the district can receive (Revenue Cap)




State Equalized aid

+



Local Property Taxes (Mill Rate)

=

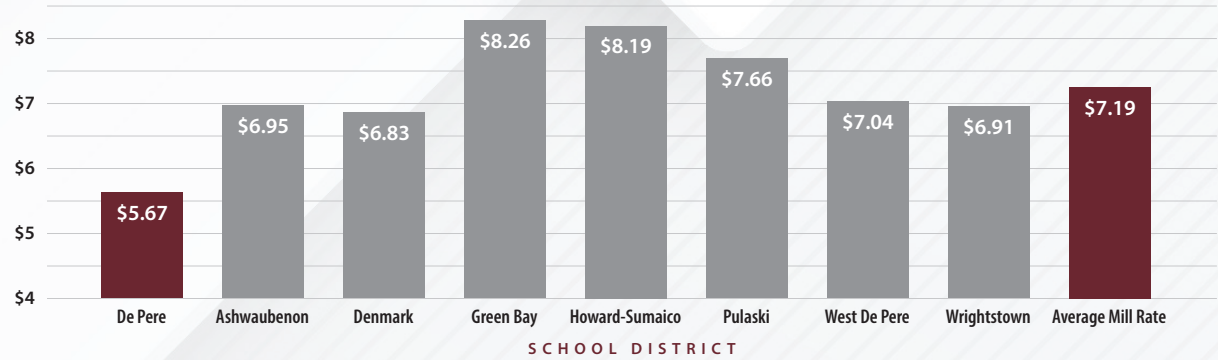


District Budget*

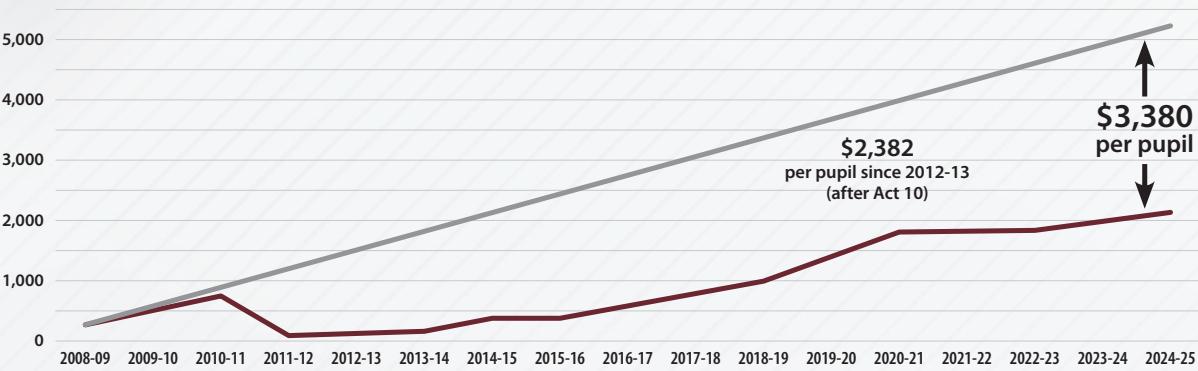
- The revenue cap can only be exceeded by holding a referendum
- The revenue cap, and the amount of aid De Pere receives from the state, have not kept pace with inflation and enrollment growth
- De Pere has worked hard to keep mill rate low and achievement high

*A very small portion of the District's budget comes from the federal government

De Pere = Lowest Mill Rate in Brown County 2023-2024



Per Pupil Funding From State Lags Inflation by >\$3300 Since 2009



Source: Wisconsin Association of School Business Officials (WASBO).

HOW DID WE GET HERE?

ESSER (federal funds) used to close budget gaps for the past 4 years run out at the end of this school year, resulting in:

- \$3 million deficit for 2024-25 school year, up to \$6.8 million by 2028-29
- Many cost saving measures, including those below, have been put in place but are not enough to fill the gaps.
 - Salary increases far less than other districts
 - Changed insurance benefit administrators
 - Grant funding for student support staff and programs
 - Energy measurement, controls, processes at all buildings
 - Grants and private fundraising for athletic fields and playgrounds



WHAT IF IT DOESN'T PASS?



Increase

- Class sizes at all schools



Limit

- Courses offered at high school
- Training and assessments to comply with recent Wis. Act 20 (literacy law)
- Ability to attract and retain high-quality staff



Decrease

- Staff positions across district
- Current bus routes (increased student ride times)
- Extracurriculars
- Employee health care benefits
- Student mental health services
- Student technology (currently 1:1) and district wide cyber security upgrades
- Building budgets (field trips, etc.)

