

## Frequently Asked Questions. . .

### What happens if the levy doesn't pass?

1. If the levy fails on May 21, the district will have to go without the necessary funding to maintain its existing level of programming and support for students during the 2024-25 school year.
2. Cuts to staffing will result in larger class sizes in some areas, multi-grade combination classes, reduction of electives and cuts to various programs. These cuts will hit particularly hard at the elementary level where students are just beginning their education.
3. While we never want to eliminate that which our students enjoy so much, it will be necessary to put limits on athletics and other student activities.
4. An inability to upgrade and replace safety and security measures puts everyone at risk.
5. Delayed maintenance on facilities often results in higher costs in the future. We have already seen increased costs of inflation to the necessary repairs and expect those to continue to rise.



**Why does Lakeside need a supplemental tax levy?** Unfortunately, the State of Idaho does not fully fund education to the extent necessary to provide the quality education our students need and deserve, nor has it kept up with the rate of inflation. Funding for safety and security from the state is minimal and doesn't cover everything needed. We apply for and received grants but equipment is expensive and a quality security system is a must to protect the safety of our children.

### How does this compare to previous years?

The chart shown compares the levy rates approved in 2019, 2022, and this requested levy. **Plummer-Worley's levy rate is the lowest in our area.** Neighboring districts reported levy rates last year ranging between \$.96 (CDA), to \$2.12 (St. Maries), and \$4.21 (Potlatch).

**What did the district do with the COVID funds?** The district used the majority of the COVID funds to repair, replace, and/or renovate the HVAC system in our buildings. This has dramatically improved the learning environment and comfort for our students and staff, as well as increasing energy efficiency. Through COVID funds, the district has also been able to provide "Jump Start", a two week session in August to refresh and enhance academic skills for elementary students and provide credit retrieval opportunities for older students. Intervention teachers have provided additional resources throughout the school year to students who may have been struggling from the impact of the COVID shutdown.

**Does the state provide any funding to offset property taxes?** Yes! Beginning in 2023, the State of Idaho began providing offset funds for school bonds and levies. During the 2023-24 school year, the counties received \$126,155 on behalf of Lakeside Schools which lowered the amount you paid. While we aren't able to accurately predict how much this will be each year, it will offset the amount the district is asking for. The maximum will be the \$.55 per thousand shown, but your tax will likely be less.

### How do I register to vote?

You can register at any city hall, online at <https://voteidaho.gov/>, or at the county election office. If you miss the deadline, you can still register on election day. Take your valid photo ID, along with proof of residency, to the polls and register on the day of the election.

### I just moved here. Am I eligible to vote?

If you have lived within the boundaries of Plummer-Worley Schools for 30 days prior to the election, you are eligible to vote. Simply take a valid photo ID, along with proof of residency, to the polls and register on the day of the election.

### I'm not able to make it to the polling place on election day. What can I do?

You can go to the county office personally to vote, or you can request an absentee ballot be sent to you. Absentee ballots must be requested before May 10, and returned to the county elections office by May 21.