

ROSSVILLE CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

JANUARY 7, 2025 7:00 P.M.

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Call to Order
Mr. Hufford



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OATH OF OFFICE

The Honorable Bradley K. Mohler, Judge Clinton County Circuit Court, will administer the Oath of Office.

- ★ Joe Hufford
- ★ Brent Michael
- ★ Jentry Pendleton

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Public Comments (Section 1300 - Meetings)

- This meeting is a meeting of the Board of Education in public for the purpose of conducting the School Corporation's business.
- A handout of the agenda items to be presented to the Board was available at the sign-in table for patrons to review.
- A registration form was provided at the sign-in table for patrons who wanted to address the Board. Public participation in the public comment section of the meeting is permitted.
- Registration is required if you wish to speak. You will be allowed three (3) minutes and must preface your comments with your name, address, and group affiliation, if any.
- The Board has established specific rules to guide the presiding officer. Those rules were outlined on the registration form and will be followed.

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Election of Officers

- President

Motion made to nominate Joe Hufford as President.

- Vice President

Motion made to nominate Nathan Root as Vice-President.

- Secretary

Motion made to nominate Nathan McCullough as Secretary.

Motion by: Jentry Pendleton 2nd by: Nathan Root
Motion Passed: Hufford, Root, McCullough, Pendleton, Michael

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New Business – Reorganization Appointment of Members

- ISBA Delegate
- Athletic Council Representative
- Scholarship Committee Representative

Motion made to appoint Brent Michael as ISBA Delegate, Nathan McCullough as Athletic Council Representative, and Jentry Pendleton as Scholarship Committee Representative.

Motion by: Nathan Root 2nd by: Nathan McCullough
Motion Passed: Hufford, Root, McCullough, Pendleton, Michael

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New Business – Reorganization

Consideration of Appointment of Personnel

- Treasurer
 - Mrs. Mandi Pennington
- Deputy Treasurer
 - Mrs. Cara Cornell
- HIPAA Privacy Officer
 - Dr. Jim Hanna

Motion made to appoint the Treasurer, Deputy Treasurer, and HIPAA Officer.

Motion by: Nathan McCullough 2nd by: Jentry Pendleton

Motion Passed: Hufford, Root, McCullough, Pendleton, Michael

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Approval of Minutes

Consideration of Claims & Payroll

- ★ December 3, 2024 Regular Session
- ★ December 5, 2024 Executive Session
- ★ Board members received the claims docket, payroll claims, and minutes in advance of the meeting.
- ★★ Fund and bank reports were supplied for review.
 - Members were asked to contact Dr. Hanna with individual items for which they had questions.

Motion made to approve the minutes, claims, and payrolls as presented.

Motion by: Nathan Root

2nd by: Jentry Pendleton

Motion Passed: Hufford, Root, McCullough, Pendleton, Michael

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New Business – Personnel Items

Consideration of Resignations

- ★ Timothy Herston has submitted his resignation as a Rossville Middle/Senior High School Teacher, effective December 20, 2024.
- ★ Jessica Cox has submitted her resignation as the Girls Tennis Coach effective December 5, 2024.
- ★ Amanda Parton has submitted her resignation as the Physical Therapist effective January 6, 2025.

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New Business – Personnel Items

Consideration of Appointments

Mr. Hammons is recommending Mr. Craig Remaly for the Secondary Math position for the second semester. Mr. Remaly began his duties on January 6, 2025. Mr. Remaly's pay will be prorated base salary of \$55,000.

★ Dr. Hanna is recommending his retroactive approval.



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New Business – Personnel Items

Consideration of Appointments

Mr. Hammons recommends Mr. William “Russ” Olnick for the Secondary Language Arts position for the second semester. Mr. Olnick began his duties on January 6, 2025. Mr. Olnick’s pay will be a prorated base salary of \$44,500.00

Dr. Hanna is recommending his retroactive approval.



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New Business – Personnel Items

Consideration of Appointments

Mr. Hammons is recommending Mrs. Kate Washburn as Mr. Olnick’s mentor. Mrs. Washburn began her mentor duties January 6, 2025. Mr. Hammons is recommending she be compensated a prorated amount of the mentor stipend for her services for second semester.



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New Business – Personnel Items

Consideration of Appointments

Dr. Hanna is recommending the employment of Mr. Michael Frasure as a Physical Therapist for Clinton County Jt. Services. Mr. Frasure will be servicing students at Rossville, Clinton Central, and Clinton Prairie. His pay and benefits are outlined in the Handbook for Classified Staff – Physical Therapist.



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New Business – Personnel Items

Consideration of Appointments

Mr. Todd Dillingham is recommending Mr. Mark Harris as a substitute Custodian.



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New Business – Personnel Items

Consideration of Appointments

Mr. Chad Dennison is recommending Mrs. Katie Mackey as the elementary M.A.T.H. Bowl coach for the 2024-2025 school year.



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New Business – Personnel Items

Consideration of Appointments

Mr. Nathan Burkle is recommending the following coaches for the 2024-2025 winter and spring sports season:

Boys Basketball

Sam Blackburn -5th Grade Volunteer Asst.

Coed Track and Field

Darrin Haupt – Varsity Head Coach

Wes Nagel – Varsity Asst. Coach

Josh Richey – Varsity Asst. Coach

Julia Malson – MS Coach/Varsity Vol. Asst.

Brianne Haupt – MS Coach/Varsity Vol. Asst.

Neal Schnieb – MS Coach/Varsity Vol. Asst.

Eddie Yoder – MS/Varsity Vol. Asst.

Amanda Mulligan – MS/Varsity Vol. Asst.

Chadd Gibson – MS/Varsity Vol. Asst.



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New Business – Personnel Items

Consideration of Stipend for Teachers Not Providing Direct Classroom Instruction

- The Rossville Consolidated School District received the Teacher Appreciation Grant for the 2023-2024 school year, intending to serve as a stipend for eligible teachers based on their performance. To qualify for the grant funds, teachers had to meet specific criteria, including being employed in a traditional or virtual classroom, receiving an evaluation of either effective or highly effective, having worked at least 120 days during the 2023-2024 school year, and being employed on December 1, 2024.
- There are three teachers, Mr. Morrison (the librarian), Mrs. Geheb (the Title 1 teacher), and Ms. Houser (Literacy Coach) who met the criteria for highly effective evaluation but were not directly involved in classroom instruction.
- Dr. Hanna recognizes their valuable contributions and is proposing that they receive the same stipend from the Education Fund as other highly effective teachers did through the grant. The requested stipend amount for each individual is \$627.50 .



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New Business – Personnel Items

Consideration of Handbook

- Dr. Hanna is recommending approving the following handbooks due to changes in personnel:

The Handbook for Classified Staff – Occupational Therapist
The Handbook for Classified Staff – Physical Therapist



Motion made to approve the personnel items as presented

Motion by: Nathan Root

2nd by: Jentry Pendleton

Motion Passed: Hufford, Root, McCullough, Pendleton, Michael



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Action Item – Policy Items

Consideration of Update to Policy Manual

- The Rossville Consolidated School District Board of Education serves as the governing body for the district.
- A primary responsibility of the Board is to create policies that provide guidance for the district's administrative staff in the operation of the district.
- To maintain relevance and currency, the Board regularly reviews and updates its policies.
- Rossville Schools actively engages in a comprehensive policy program in collaboration with the Indiana School Boards Association (ISBA).



New Business – Policy Items

Consideration of Policy

First Read Policies:

- ★ SECTION 7003 – TAKE HOME VEHICLE POLICY.....REVISED
- ★ SECTION 7020 – CHEMICAL MANAGEMENT POLICY.....REVIEWED
- ★ SECTION 7021 – PEST CONTROL AND USE OF PESTICIDES.....REVISED
- ★ SECTION 7030 – FIXED ASSETS INVENTORY.....REVIEWED
- ★ SECTION 7100 – VEHICLE IDLING POLICY.....REVISED
- ★ SECTION 7201 – ENERGY CONSERVATION.....REVIEWED
- ★ SECTION 7245 – CYBERSAFETY POLICY.....REVISED

Motion made to approve the policy items as presented

Motion by: Nathan McCullough

2nd by: Brent Michael

Motion Passed: Hufford, Root, McCullough, Pendleton, Michael



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New Business – Financial Items Consideration of Early Literacy Grant

- The Indiana Department of Education established the Early Literacy Achievement Grant through HEA 1001-2023 to reward schools and teachers for improving students' foundational reading skills as evidence by IREAD-3 data.
- This grant is to award cash stipends for teachers, instructional coaches, and other school staff responsible for the implementation and delivery of literacy and reading instruction through grade three.
- The Board has been provided with the amounts to be distributed and the roster of staff who are responsible for delivering literacy and reading instruction.
- Dr. Hanna is recommending approval of this stipend to be paid on the January 17, 2025.



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New Business – Financial Item Consideration of Donations

- The following organizations have made donations to the FFA program:

CIS-CROP Insurance Specialists, Inc	\$700
Redline Equipment	\$500
Truland Equipment	\$500
Creekside Growers	\$500
Linda Eller	\$1,000

Motion made to approve the financial items as presented

Motion by: Jentry Pendleton

2nd by: Nathan McCullough

Motion Passed: Hufford, Root, McCullough, Pendleton, Michael



New Business - Miscellaneous Item Consideration of 2025-2026 School Calendar

- August 1 – Teacher Day
- August 4 – Staff Orientation/Open House 6-7
- August 5 – Teacher Day
- August 6 - First Student Day
- September 1 – Labor Day (No School)
- September 3 – PD – 2-Hour Delay
- September 29 – October 10 (School In Session) - Parent/Teacher Conferences
- October 1 – PD – 2-Hour Delay
- October 13 – 17 - Fall Break
- November 5 – PD – 2-Hour Delay
- November 26-28 - Thanksgiving Break
- December 3 – PD – 2-Hour Delay
- December 22 – January 2 - Winter Break
- January 5 – Teacher Day
- January 6 - First Student Day
- February 4– PD – 2-Hour Delay
- February 16– Presidents' Day (No School)
- March 4 – PD – 2-Hour Delay
- March 20- 27 - Spring Break
- April 1 – PD – 2-Hour Delay
- May 21 - Last Student Day
- May 22 – Teacher Day
- May 31 - Graduation



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New Business - Miscellaneous Item Consideration of 2026-2027 School Calendar

- August 3 – Teacher Day
- August 4 – Staff Orientation/Open House 6-7
- August 5 – Teacher Day
- August 6 - First Student Day
- September 2 – PD – 2-Hour Delay
- September 7 – Labor Day (No School)
- September 30– Parent/Teacher Conferences (No Students)
- October 7 – PD – 2-Hour Delay
- October 12 – 16 - Fall Break
- November 4 – PD – 2-Hour Delay
- November 25-27 - Thanksgiving Break
- December 2 – PD – 2-Hour Delay
- December 21– January 1 - Winter Break
- January 4 – Teacher Day
- January 5 - First Student Day
- January 18 – MLK Day (No School)
- February 3 – PD – 2-Hour Delay
- February 12 – Possible Make-up Day
- February 15 – Presidents' Day (No School)
- March 3 – PD – 2-Hour Delay
- March 19 - 26- Spring Break
- April 7 – PD – 2-Hour Delay
- April 23 – Possible Make-up Day
- May 27 - Last Student Day
- May 28 – Teacher Day
- June 6- Graduation



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New Business - Miscellaneous Item Consideration of 2027-2028 School Calendar

- August 2 – Teacher Day
- August 3 – Staff Orientation/Open House 6-7
- August 4 – Teacher Day
- August 5 - First Student Day
- September 1 – PD – 2-Hour Delay
- September 6 – Labor Day (No School)
- September 29– Parent/Teacher Conferences (No Students)
- October 6 – PD – 2-Hour Delay
- October 18 – 22 - Fall Break
- November 3 – PD – 2-Hour Delay
- November 24 - 26 - Thanksgiving Break
- December 1 – PD – 2-Hour Delay
- December 20– December 31 - Winter Break
- January 3 – Teacher Day
- January 4 - First Student Day
- January 17 – MLK Day (No School)
- February 2 – PD – 2-Hour Delay
- February 21 – Presidents’ Day (No School)
- March 2 – PD – 2-Hour Delay
- March 24 – 31 - Spring Break
- April 5 – PD – 2-Hour Delay
- April 14 – Possible Make-up Day
- May 24 - Last Student Day
- May 25 – Teacher Day
- June 4- Graduation



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New Business - Miscellaneous Item Consideration of Resolution HEA 1003 Flexibility Waiver

- Rossville Schools has partnered with Equitable Education Solutions to develop and implement a three-year Learning Prioritization Plan. Our improvement plan zeros in on three Key Priority Areas (KPA) crucial for addressing our students' needs. One Key Priority Area involves establishing a K-12 System of Collaboration and Data-Informed Instruction embedded in an Enhanced Learner-focused Culture. The District explicitly states its commitment to granting teachers and administrators dedicated time to implement professional learning communities that foster horizontal and vertical collaboration across the entire school system.
- The District requests a waiver of 120 minutes (2 hours) for one day per month for seven months to provide professional development opportunities for program improvement.



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New Business - Miscellaneous Item Declaration of Surplus/Obsolete Equipment

- Rossville Consolidated School District has a variety of equipment that is no longer in use and should be declared surplus or of no value.
- Surplus/obsolete equipment will be disposed of according to Indiana Law.
- A list of the surplus equipment items has been provided to the Board for consideration.



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New Business – Miscellaneous Items Consideration of Overnight Field Trip

- Mr. Burkle submitted an overnight field trip request for the Rossville Wrestling team to spend the night December 20, 2024, in New Castle to be better prepared for the early morning competition schedule.
- Dr. Hanna is recommending retroactive approval of this overnight field trip request.



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New Business – Miscellaneous Items

Consideration of Overnight Field Trip

- Mr. Burkle submitted an overnight field trip request for the Rossville Wrestling team to spend the night January 10, 2025, in Monroe, Indiana to participate in the Wrestling Coaches Association Team State competition. This will allow the team to compete against the top 12 Class 1A schools in the state.
- Dr. Hanna recommends approval of this overnight field trip.



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New Business – Miscellaneous Items

Consideration of Overnight Conference Request

- Mr. Paul Mullen is requesting approval for an overnight conference stay to attend the IMEA State Music Education Conference in Fort Wayne, January 16 – 18, 2025.
- Not only will Mr. Mullen attend the conference to gain valuable knowledge and strategies on teaching students in K-5 grades, he will also be observing two Rossville Elementary students who will be performing in the Honor Choir.
- Dr. Hanna is recommending approval of this conference request.



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New Business – Miscellaneous Items

Consideration of Overnight Conference Request

- Mr. Dustin Shadbolt is requesting approval for an overnight conference stay to attend the Reunification Training, presented by The I Love You Guys Foundation in Fortville, Indiana, on February 4-5, 2025.
- The focus of this conference is the recommended process of reunification for school districts after a crisis occurs.
- Dr. Hanna is recommending approval of this conference request.



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New Business – Miscellaneous Items

Consideration of Out-of-State Conference Request

- Mrs. Natalie Kanaby is requesting permission to attend the Bjorem Speech Cruise in Fort Lauderdale, Florida on April 8 & 9, 2025.
- Bjorem is a world-renowned resource for Speech supplies and strategies for Speech-Language Development.
- The cost for this conference has been covered by another source.
- Dr. Hanna is recommending this out-of-state conference request.



Motion made to approve the miscellaneous items as presented

Motion by: Nathan Root

2nd by: Nathan McCullough

Motion Passed: Hufford, Root, McCullough, Pendleton, Michael



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Reports & Information

Conference Report

Group	Date of Trip	Activity	Location
★ Leila Barker Alisha Maish Emily Heater	December 12, 2024	The Magic of Early Learning	West Lafayette
★ Dustin Shadbolt	January 6, 2025	Indiana TLE Cohort Kickoff	Indianapolis
★ Hannah Doke	January 15, 2025	Indiana Agriculture Educators Winter Workshop	Trafalgar
★ Chad Dennison	January 17, 2025	Administration Lit Cadre Part 2	Virtual

Reports & Information

Field Trip Reports

Group	Date of Trip	Activity	Location
FFA/Ag Classes	January 30, 2025	Ag Workshop	Huntington

Adjournment

- The Presiding Officer will ask for a motion to adjourn the regular Board meeting.

Next Board Meeting

➤ Tuesday, February 4, 2025– 7:00 p.m.

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Meeting Adjournment



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ROSSVILLE CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

BOARD OF FINANCE MEETING
JANUARY 7, 2025 - 7:30 P.M.
OR
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING
THE REGULAR SESSION

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The Board of Finance Defined

- Per state law, the Board of Education establishes a Board of Finance.
- The Board of Finance is responsible for designating public depositories for school funds for two years and reviewing annual investment reports.
- As outlined in Board Policy Section 1308, the members of the Board of Finance consist of the Board of Education. The President of the Board of Finance is the President of the Board of Education, and the Secretary of the Board of Finance is the Secretary of the Board of Education.
- Elected officers will serve until their successors are elected and qualified.



Informational Slide

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Depositories for Corporation Funds

- Regions Bank and First Financial Bank currently serve as the depositories for the corporation's funds.
- Dr. Hanna recommends continuing with these institutions as the corporation's depositories.

Motion made to approve the depositories for the corporation's funds as presented.

Motion by: Nathan Root

2nd by: Nathan McCullough

Motion Passed: Hufford, Root, McCullough, Pendleton, Michael

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Investment of Public Funds

- Section 6020 – Investment of Public Funds Policy grants the corporation's treasurer the authority to invest funds to maximize the benefit to the corporation.
- All investments are made in compliance with Indiana law.
- At present, the corporation does not have any funds invested.



Informational Slide

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Removal of Outstanding Checks

- Outstanding checks over two years old are typically voided to remove them from the financial records. Vendors can submit a new claim voucher if the funds are still owed.
- Dr. Hanna requests authorization from the Board of Finance to void the checks listed in the provided report.



Motion made to approve the removal of outstanding checks as presented.

Motion by: Jentry Pendleton

2nd by: Brent Michael

Motion Passed: Hufford, Root, McCullough, Pendleton, Michael



Consideration of Conflict of Interest Disclosure

- Indiana law requires public servants to disclose a conflict of interest if they have a financial interest in a contract or purchase that would increase their income or net worth or that of their dependent.
- The conflict of interest disclosures will be uploaded to the Gateway online system for the State Board of Accounts.



Motion made to approve the conflict of interest statements as presented

Motion by: Nathan McCullough

2nd by: Nathan Root

Motion Passed: Hufford, Root, McCullough, Pendleton, Michael



SCHOOL FUNDING OVERVIEW

- Indiana's public schools receive funding from federal, state, and local sources.
- Funding is distributed through a variety of formulas and grant processes.
- A common misconception is that all of Indiana's public schools receive the same amount of funding.
- No two districts receive identical funding due to many factors that affect how each funding source is distributed, which can lead to inequities between school districts.

EDUCATION FUND (STATE FUNDING)

- Prior to 2009, the General fund was supported by a combination of state funding and a local tax levy.
- Starting in 2009, the General fund moved to total state support, with variations to the funding formula over the years.
- In 2019, the General fund became known as the Education Fund; allowable expenditures were adjusted.
- Funding formula provides a basic foundational amount per student, plus categorical grants.
- Enrollment based (ADM)
- The formula and grant amounts are adjusted every two years as part of the Indiana biennium budget.
- Currently, the Education fund can be used to pay for expenses allocated to student instruction and learning.

OPERATIONS FUND (LOCAL FUNDING)

- Local funding is collected through property taxes levied against assessed valuation.
- Up until 2019, each district had separate tax rates for Capital Projects, Transportation, and Bus Replacement.
- In 2019, all tax rates were combined into the Operations Fund, and allowable expenditures were adjusted.
- Tax rates each year are certified by DLGF through the budget process.
- Currently, the Operations Fund can be used to pay for capital projects, transportation, and any expenses related to overhead and operational expenditures.

EDUCATION/OPERATIONS FUNDS

- The majority of Indiana public school funding comes from these two funds: Education and Operations
- There is a wide range of funding levels between districts due to variations in student populations, assessed valuation, etc.
- Transfers between Operations and Education Funds are now allowed; however, there is an expected limit of less than 15% when funds are moved from Education to Operations.

FEDERAL FUNDING

- The federal government provides funding for very specific purposes, which is distributed through a grant process that determines how much each district is eligible to receive.
- Districts qualify for access to various federal funds based on factors specific to their community.
- Common Federal Funds include:
 - Title I – Low-income, struggling populations
 - Title II – Combine with Title I
 - Title III – English Language Learners
 - Title IV – Professional Development & Tutoring
 - Special Education – funding to support special education services
 - Food Service – support for student meal service

OTHER FUNDING SOURCES

Districts receive other, smaller amounts of funding from a variety of sources, including:

- Extracurricular funds (athletics, fine arts, etc.) – cover their activities
- Sponsorships/Fundraising
- School lunch program
- Summer School
- Grants:
 - School Safety
 - IDOE

SCHOOL CORPORATION DEBT

- Indiana's public schools are expected to use debt to fund specific needs and projects:
 - Common School Loans
 - General Obligation Bonds
 - Lease-Rental Financing
- Debt is used to fund large-scale capital projects or purchases that are unable to be funded in the operations budget.
- Debt is repaid through debt service property tax.

REFERENDUM

- Local funding is provided through a property tax levy.
- Referenda are used to provide additional funding for specific needs of the district.
- Three types of referenda: school tax levy (operational), controlled project (construction), and school safety and security.
- Taxpayers must approve the maximum rate and use of funds.
- The use of a referendum to support Indiana's public schools is becoming increasingly common.

BUDGET PROCESS

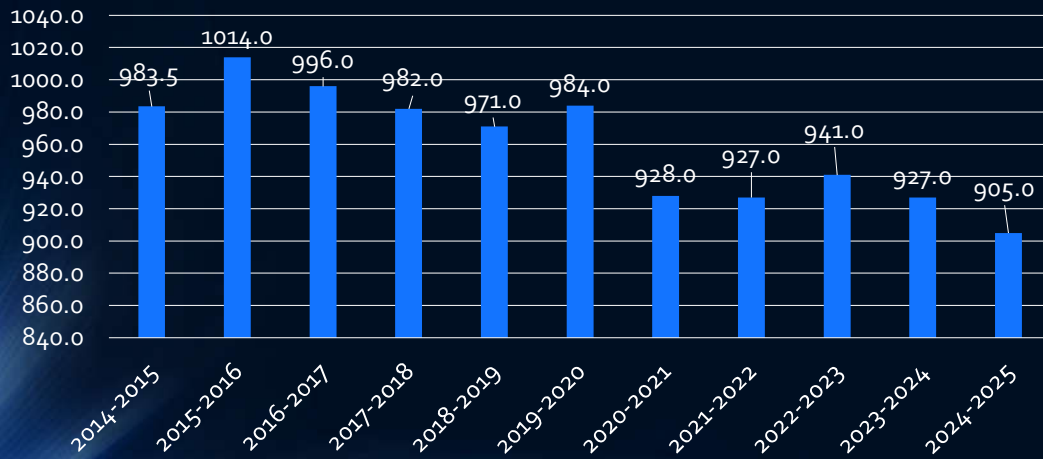
- All Indiana public school Boards must work through the budget process annually.
 - <https://www.budgetnotices.in.gov/>
- The budget process generally runs from late April through October.
- The process involves several required publications, hearings, and votes at public meetings.
- The Board is provided with financial information for each budget season. The Superintendent will discuss financial data and answer Board member questions.
- The advertised and approved budget may need to be inflated to allow for reduction by DLGF as part of the process.

HISTORICAL FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

- Historical Overview
 - Average Daily Membership (ADM) {October & February Counts}
 - Demographic Information
 - Free/Reduced Lunch
 - Special Education Students
 - English Language Learners
 - Education Fund Operating Balance
 - Assesses Valuation
 - Fund Balances As Percent of Expenditures

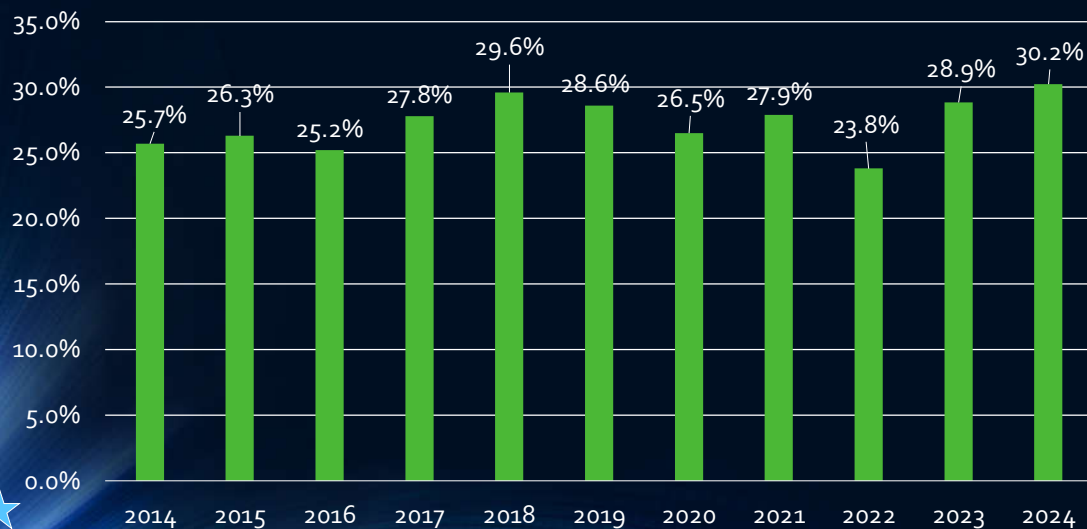
<https://www.in.gov/duab/school-corporation-fiscal-indicators/dashboard/>

School Corporation Financial Condition District Average Daily Membership (ADM)



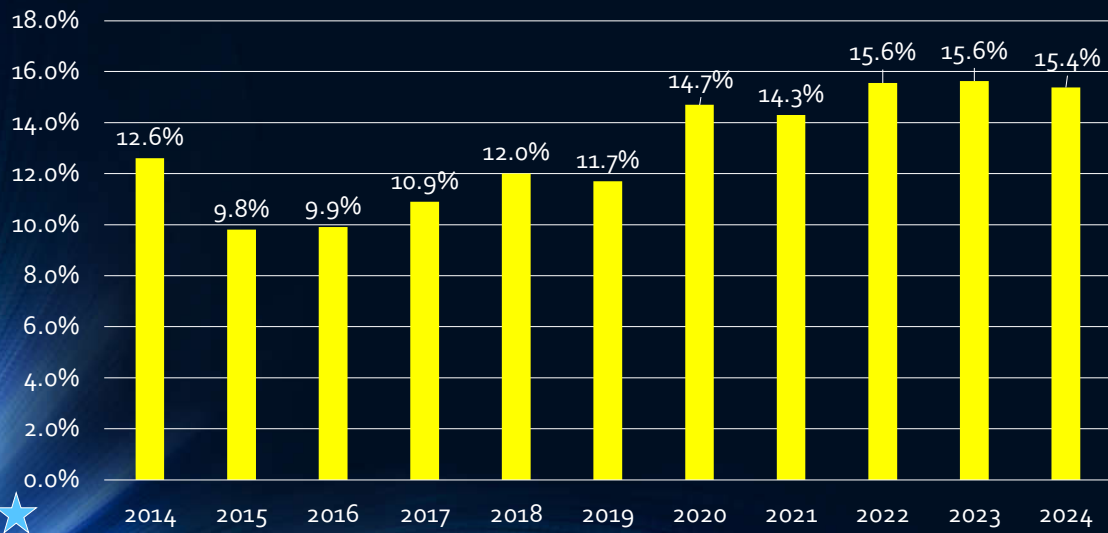
53

School Corporation Financial Condition Percentage of Free/Reduced Lunch

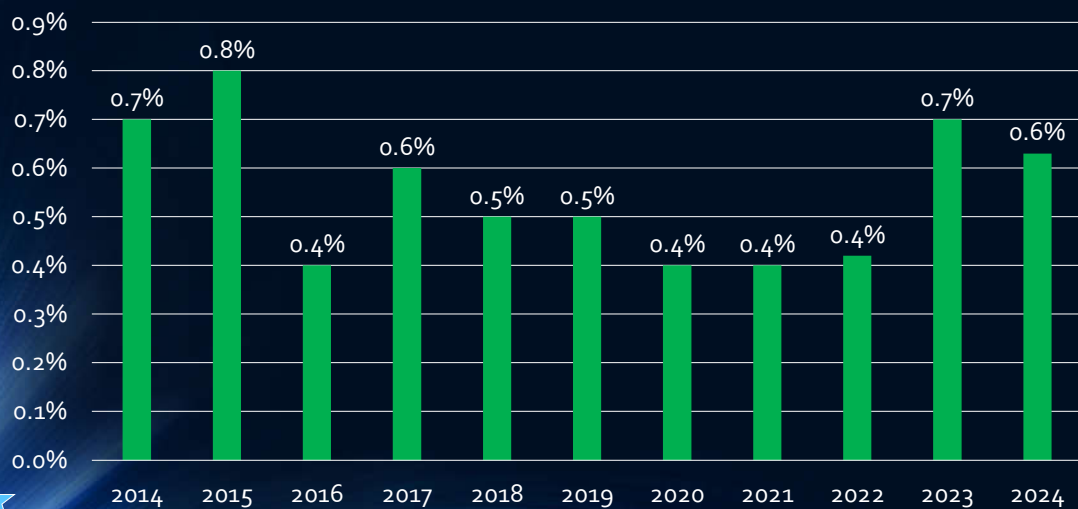


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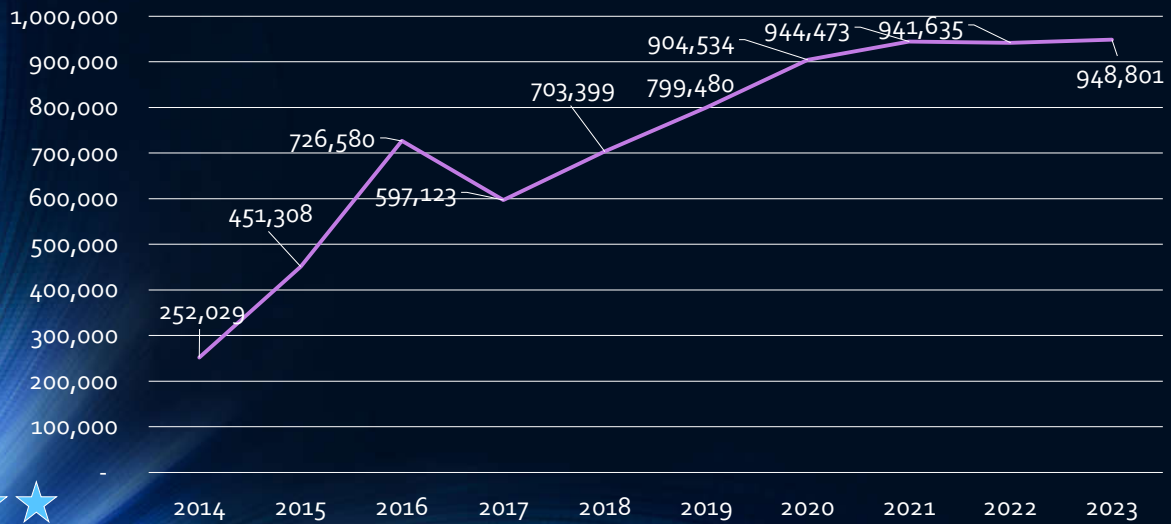
School Corporation Financial Condition Percentage of Special Education Students



School Corporation Financial Condition Percentage of English Language Learners

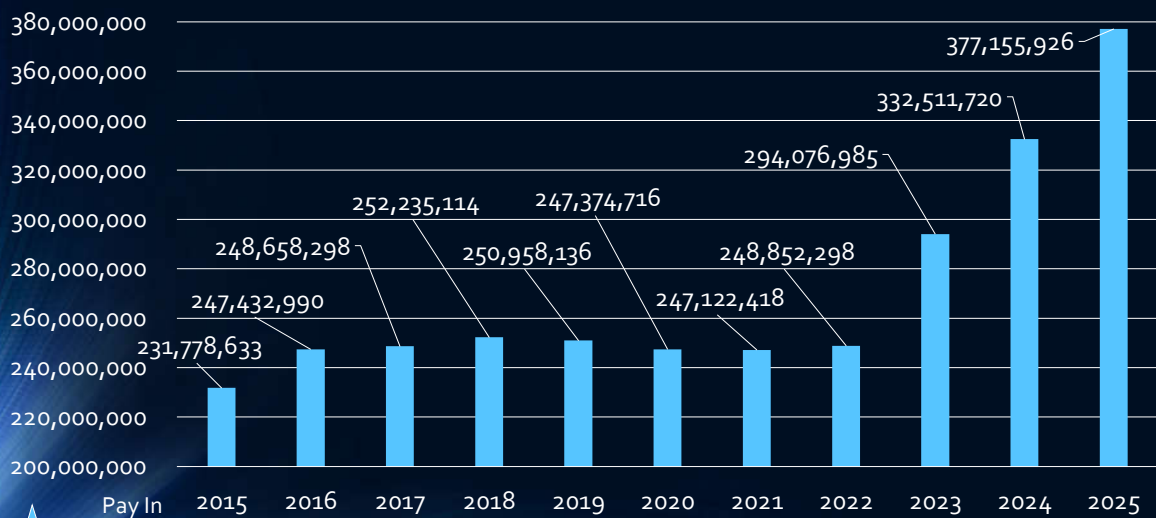


School Corporation Financial Condition General Fund & Education Fund Balance



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School Corporation Financial Condition Assessed Valuation

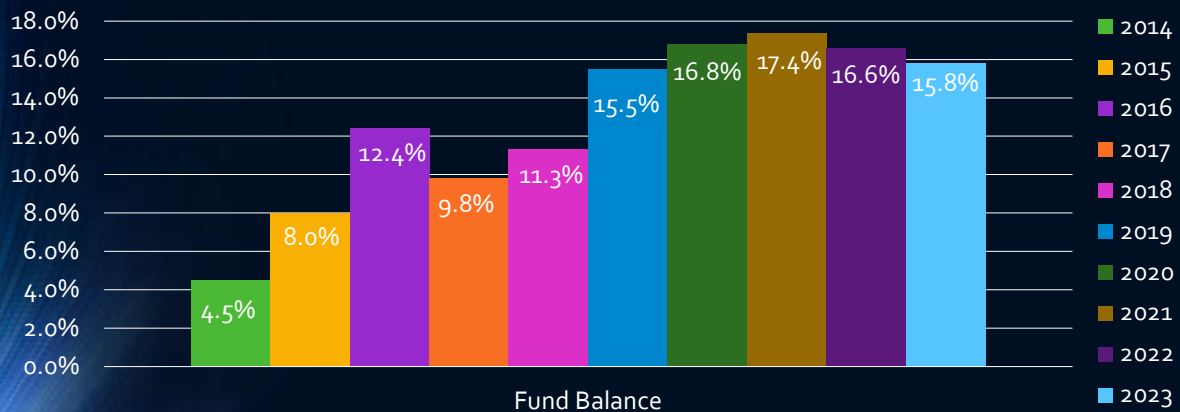


Pay In



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School Corporation Financial Condition Fund Balances As Percent of Expenditures



This indicator considers the ability of the school corporation to maintain operations in the event of delays in revenue by utilizing existing fund balances to fund operations. The funds include balances in the Education Fund and General Fund.



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School Corporation Financial Condition Information Source & Additional Information

- The Information for the School Financial Condition Report was generated from the Distressed Unit Appeal Board (DUAB) website at
 - <https://www.in.gov/duab/school-corporation-fiscal-indicators/dashboard/>
- To access Rossville Consolidated School District details, navigate to the Fiscal Indicators Dashboard and select "Rossville Consolidated School District" from the school corporation dropdown menu.
- The DUAB website also includes usage instructions and information about the data sources.
- Please note that any data not provided by DUAB has been generated locally.

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FINANCIAL GOALS

- Maintain a Balanced Budget
- Maintain a Strong Credit Rating
- Continually Monitor Tax Rate
- Maintain Strong Operating Balances
- Protect Rainy Day Fund

Financial Reports

- Financial Reports Provided to the Board Monthly from the Treasurer
 - Fund Statement
 - FMS Bank Statement
 - Clearing Report

Board of Finance Meeting Adjournment



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