

**WORTHINGTON SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION
RESOLUTION OPPOSING HOUSE BILL 96 AND ITS IMPACT ON STATE FUNDING FOR
WORTHINGTON SCHOOLS**

WHEREAS, the State of Ohio funds public education through a partnership between state and local resources, with the intent of distributing funds based on student needs and community financial capacity; and

WHEREAS Worthington Schools has experienced stable or increasing student enrollment since 2020, yet its share of state funding is projected to decrease significantly under the Governor's newly proposed budget; and

WHEREAS, the proposed funding model results in a reduction of Worthington's state funding share from 18.9% to 10%, leading to a projected loss of approximately \$2.2 million in state funding in the first year and an additional \$0.3 million in the second year; and

WHEREAS, House Bill 920 restricts the district's ability to collect additional revenue from rising property values since Worthington is not at the 20-mill floor, preventing a natural increase in local funding to offset state reductions; and

WHEREAS, the proposed funding calculations rely on outdated cost figures from 2022, failing to reflect current educational expenses and economic realities; and

WHEREAS, the reliance on updated property valuations without safeguards against sudden changes in value unfairly shifts the financial burden onto local taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, this shift increases the need for local levies, with the projected \$2.2 million loss for Worthington Schools equating to an estimated 2/3 mill increase in local property taxes;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Worthington Schools Board of Education formally opposes the provisions of House Bill 96 and the Governor's budget proposal that result in a disproportionate reduction in state funding to Worthington Schools; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board urges state legislators, the Governor's office, and the Ohio Department of Education to:

1. Update funding calculations to reflect current educational costs.
2. Implement safeguards against sudden, drastic funding shifts caused by property reappraisals.
3. Ensure that state funding shares do not disproportionately shift financial responsibility onto local taxpayers.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Worthington Schools Board of Education will actively engage with legislative representatives, education associations, and community stakeholders to

advocate for a fair and sustainable school funding model that provides equitable support for all districts.

Adopted this ___ day of _____, 2025.

WORTHINGTON SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION

Board President

Superintendent

Treasurer
