

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Westerville City Schools Board of Education Places Earned Income Tax on November 2025 Ballot

Westerville — At its July 21, 2025 regular meeting, the Westerville City Schools Board of Education voted unanimously to place a 0.75% earned income tax levy on the November 4, 2025, general election ballot. The levy would generate approximately \$24.3 million annually to sustain operations, maintain high-quality programs, and protect the District's strong record of student achievement.

Superintendent Angie Hamberg emphasized the District's responsible financial responsibility and commitment to student success.

"This tax issue is essential to protecting the educational excellence our community has built over many decades," Hamberg said. "Westerville Schools are known for great teaching, excellent academic outcomes, and putting students first. Without new revenue, we cannot maintain the student programs, staffing, and services our students need and deserve."

The proposed tax issue is limited to **only earned income**—such as wages and salaries—and would not apply to retirement income, Social Security, dividends, or interest.

The District has already taken significant steps to reduce spending heading into the 2025-26 school year:

- **\$4.8 million in operational reductions**
- **\$3.3 million in staffing cuts**, eliminating **33 administrative, teaching and support staff positions**

Board President Kristy Meyer noted that the District has worked hard to extend the funds after a ballot request failed last November and does not take this new request lightly.

"We've tightened our belts and made hard decisions," Meyer said. "After all these years, this tax issue is needed to protect and preserve the District from more severe cuts."

Funds from the levy would support:

- Maintaining **smaller class sizes** and adequate staffing
- **Preserve academic programs** and extracurricular offerings
- Provide services for students with **specialized learning needs**
- Stabilize the District's operating budget in the face of rising costs and **reduced state funding** **and** **underfunding**

More information and opportunities for community engagement will be shared in the coming months at [WCsoH.org/Ballotissue](https://www.wcsoh.org/Ballotissue)

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