



South Washington County Schools

Keith Jacobus, Ph.D., Superintendent

District Service Center

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ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

TO: Members of the School Board

FROM: Keith Jacobus, Superintendent

DATE: August 10, 2017

TOPIC/PURPOSE OF REPORT: Referendum Presentation

REFERENCE TO POLICY/STRATEGIC PLAN: Policy # 201

RECOMMENDED BOARD ACTION: Discussion

DATE FOR BOARD ACTION: August 17, 2017

REPORT

At our meeting on August 3, 2017 the Board approved placing three referendum questions on the November 7, 2017 general election ballot. The first question will ask voters to approve the renewal of an existing \$780 per pupil general levy that has been in place for the past 20 years and was renewed for the first time in 2007. This levy generates \$15.3 million dollars annually. The second question will ask voters to approve a \$375 per pupil general levy increase which will generate \$7.5 million dollars annually. The \$375 per pupil is the completion of the \$900 per pupil amount we identified as a need in our 2015 levy campaign. In 2015, we determined our need of \$900 per pupil was too much to request of our voters at that time so we divided the amount between the 2015 and our current 2017 election asking for \$525 per pupil in 2015 and \$375 per pupil in 2017. The third question we will ask our voters to approve is a \$2-million-dollar annual capital projects levy.

We are beginning to conduct informational meetings to help our staff and community members understand the levy request and the background for why these levy questions are important to us in maintaining the high quality educational experience we have been able to provide to our students. We will be presenting our full levy presentation to the board and will invite discussion and feedback to the information we will provide our stakeholders in preparation for the November election.