

**NOTICE OF ELECTION
FOR
RENEWAL OF ADDITIONAL SCHOOL LEVY**

NOVEMBER 8, 2022

TO THE VOTERS OF WETZEL COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA:

TAKE NOTICE

That, at a regular meeting of the Board of Education of the County of Wetzel, State of West Virginia, held on the 25th day of July, 2022, of which meeting notice was duly given, as provided by law, the following order was made and entered of record, to-wit:

The Board of Education of the County of Wetzel, being of the opinion that the Maximum Levies for current expenses authorized by Article 8, Chapter 11, of the Code of West Virginia, as last amended, will not provide sufficient funds for the payment of current expenses of the Board of Education of the County of Wetzel, including expenditures for the purpose or purposes hereinafter set forth, and that an election should be held to renew additional levies which were approved by the voters of Wetzel County School District on December 15, 2017, under the provisions of Section 16, Article 8, Chapter 11 of the Code, as amended, it is hereby ordered:

1. That additional funds are needed for the following purposes and in the approximate amounts shown, during the next five fiscal years:
 - a. To provide instructional materials including, but not limited to, textbooks, workbooks, computer software, library materials, other instructional materials, supplies and equipment for all students enrolled in Wetzel County Schools, approximately **\$900,000** annually.
 - b. To improve access to technology through the purchase or lease of hardware, software, infrastructure, repair, and training. This includes funding for providing a laptop or tablet to every preK-12 Wetzel County Schools student, approximately **\$800,000** annually.
 - c. To provide for capital improvement, renovations and repair, maintenance of facilities, and payment of utilities, approximately **\$4,700,000** annually.

- d. To provide toward employee salaries/benefits annually:
 - 1) Local county salary supplements, unfunded positions, substitute costs, and fixed charges approximately **\$7,002,548**.
 - 2) Extra duty wages for the purpose of providing for academic and athletic trips approximately **\$180,000**.
 - 3) Extra duty salary supplements:
 - Curricular positions, approximately **\$60,000**.
 - Athletic positions, approximately **\$300,000**.
 - 4) To employ needed unfunded mandated positions approximately **\$100,000**.
 - 5) To provide dental and optical insurance for all employees approximately **\$370,000**.
 - 6) To provide an annual salary supplement for all employees approximately **\$950,000**.
- e. To maintain duplicating equipment and provide supplies for them in all schools, approximately **\$80,000** annually.
- f. To fund necessary added services such as speech therapy, psychological services, occupational therapy, physical therapy, and athletic training, approximately **\$200,000** annually.
- g. To provide support to the four Public Libraries in Wetzel County (Hundred, New Martinsville, Paden City, and Pine Grove), approximately **\$40,000** annually (approximately **\$10,000** per library annually).
- h. To provide funds to modernize the school bus fleet, assisting in the purchase of one additional school bus per year, approximately **\$100,000**.
- i. To provide funds to place a school resource officer at each attendance area approximately **\$210,000**.
- j. To supplement the child nutrition budget to continue providing free breakfast and hot lunch to all students of Wetzel County Schools, approximately **\$500,000**.
- k. To fund the Wetzel County Student ACT/SAT Preparation and Incentive Plan which will provide student test preparation courses to all students and book scholarships to successful completers of the course with qualifying scores, approximately **\$70,000**.

If for any reason all of the funds herein above allocated for any one of the above enumerated purposes is not used for such purpose in any of such five (5) fiscal years, the unused portion of such funds may be allocated by the Board of Education of the County of Wetzel, in its discretion and expended for any one or more of the remaining purposes.

2. That should any item in the aforementioned purpose be declared unconstitutional or invalid due to judicial or legislative action, affected funds will be distributed among the remaining items of the purpose.
3. That the total approximate amount for said purpose or purposes, after making due allowances for exonerations, discounts, and delinquent taxes, is **\$16,562,548** annually, and the total approximate amount to be expended during the term of this levy is **\$82,812,740**. In the event that the amount collected is less than the amounts noted for the aforementioned purposes, the Board of Education is obligated to spend only a proportionate amount per enumerated purpose.
4. That should additional funds be made available to the Board of Education for any of the above purposes by some form of matching funds by either the State or the Federal government, the amount herein set forth may be used, on a matching basis, to secure said additional funds. Additional funds may be used either in substitution for or in addition to the funds obtained from this levy.
5. That the Board may reduce these said maximum rates in any given year or years during the term of this levy after determining the sufficiency of funds for school purposes for the next ensuing taxable year.
6. The Board of Education of the County of Wetzel is hereby authorized and empowered to expend, during the term of this levy, the surplus, if any, accruing in excess of the amounts needed for any of the above stated purposes, plus excess collections due to increased assessed valuations for the enrichment, supplementation and improvement of educational services and/or facilities in the public schools of the County of Wetzel.
7. That the separate and aggregate assessed valuation of each class of taxable property within the County of Wetzel is as follows:

Class I	<u>\$ 0</u>
Class II	<u>305,415,528</u>
Class III	<u>1,597,557,627</u>
Class IV	<u>168,074,946</u>

8. That the proposed renewal of 100% rate of levy in cents on each class of property is as follows:

Class I	22.954
Class II	45.904
Class III	91.804
Class IV	91.804
9. That the proposed years to which the renewal of 100% levy shall apply are the fiscal years beginning **July 1, 2023; July 1, 2024; July 1, 2025; July 1, 2026; and July 1, 2027.**
10. That upon approval of the proposed renewal of 100% levy, the Board of Education of the County of Wetzel will not issue bonds obligating the receipts of this levy.

11. That the question of such renewal of 100% levy shall be submitted to a vote at the General Election to be held on the 8th day of November, 2022.
12. That notice calling such election shall be given by the publication of this order once each week for two successive weeks before said election in the Wetzel Chronicle, newspaper of general circulation in the Wetzel County School District. All the provisions of the laws concerning general elections shall apply as far as they are practicable.
14. That the ballot to be used at such election shall be in the form as follows: