



BROWN COUNTY SCHOOLS

# Support Our Future: Referendum for Brown County Schools

Investing in Education for a Brighter Tomorrow

May 2024

#### VISION

## BROWN COUNTY SCHOOLS VISION & MISSION



#### MISSION



BROWN COUNTY SCHOOLS Brown County Schools provides the highest quality educational experiences where all students are safe, valued, inspired, civically engaged, and globally connected.

## BROWN COUNTY SCHOOLS PK-ADULT SYSTEM







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#### **BCS Enrollment History**



#### \$7,044.20 per student = Loss of \$2,261,188

State funding is tied to each student. A loss of 321 students over the last six years at \$7,044 per student has cost the school system budget \$2,261,188. Many costs do not decrease when the number of students decreases.













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This referendum is an urgent opportunity for our community to support 10 cents per \$100 assessed value in taxes, only a 2 cent increase from the previous 8 cents with the sole purpose of directly funding wages and benefits for staff and to continue to build innovative programming within Brown County Schools. This referendum allows us, the community members, to have a direct say in important decisions that impact our children's education and our future.

## School Tax Rate Comparison





# <u>BCS</u> <u>Tax</u> <u>Calculator</u>



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#### Proposed Operating Referendum Tax Rate: \$0.10

Gross Assessed Value	<i>Monthly</i> Tax Impact	<b>Annual</b> Tax Impact
\$100,000	\$2.71	\$32.50
\$150,000	\$5.31	\$63.75
\$200,000	\$7.92	\$95
\$250,000	\$10.52	\$126.25
\$300,000	\$13.13	\$157.50
\$500,000	\$23.54	\$282.50

## Proposed Spending Plan



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#### **Brown County Schools** \$0.10 Operating Referendum



School Operating Referendum Revenue (\$0.09)	\$1,691,000
School Operating Referendum Expenditures	\$1,691,000
<b>Teachers</b> – Increase teacher pay (\$5,000) to elevate teacher compensation to be competitive with neighboring school districts	\$657,000
Non-Certified Staff – Increase noncertified staff pay (5%) to promote staff retention and employee stability for Brown County Schools	\$255,000
<b>Programmatic</b> – The addition of six positions to support student needs in areas of Special Education, Career and Technical Education (Expansion of Eagle Manufacturing and potential Construction), Civic Arts (Theater and Art), and Work-Based Learning	\$423,000
<b>Ed Fund Support</b> – Dollars to sustain the current and future levels of salaries and benefits for Brown County employees	\$356,000
Adult Education Referendum Revenue (\$0.01)	\$188,000
Adult Education Expenditures - Additional operational costs to support programming that is not currently funded by grants	\$188,000
Total Operating Referendum Revenue (\$0.10)	\$1,879,000

# Proposed Spending Plan





The most important action you can take is to **VOTE**. Mark your calendars for May 7, know your polling location, and consider early or absentee voting options to ensure your voice is heard.



BROWN COUNTY SCHOOLS The referendum offers a vital lifeline to our schools, enabling us to reduce class sizes, invest in our educators, and continue building out innovative programming. This is our chance to secure a brighter future for all Brown County students.

> By offering competitive salaries and <sup>†</sup> professional development, we can recruit and retain the best educators, directly impacting the quality of education our children W receive.

A strong school system enhances property values, attracts businesses, and prepares students for successful futures, contributing to the economic vitality and quality of life in Brown County. Every single vote and voice in support of this referendum can help shape a brighter future for Brown County Schools. Together, let's take this step forward for our children, our community, and our shared economic success for the future.

While the tax increase represents a **modest adjustment** to our yearly expenses, the return on investment is substantial—better-equipped schools, improved student performance, and higher property values as our district becomes a more desirable place to live.

## The Ballot Question

PRECINCT COMMITTEEMAN JACKSON 3	UNITED STATES SENATOR Vote For ONE (1) ONLY	COUNTY COMMISSIONER DISTRICT 3	
Vote For ONE (1) ONLY	MARC CARMICHAEL	Vote For ONE (1) ONLY	
DUANE A PARSONS	VALERIE MCCRAY	JUSTIN P SCHWENK	
PRECINCT COMMITTEEMAN JACKSON 4	GOVERNOR Vote For ONE (1) ONLY	COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBER AT LARGE	
Vote For ONE (1) ONLY	TAMIE DIXON-TATUM	Vote For NOT MORE THAN	
LARRY L GARDNER	JENNIFER G MCCORMICK	THREE (3)	
PRECINCT COMMITTEEMAN VAN BUREN 1 Vote For ONE (1) ONLY	UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 9 Vote For ONE (1) ONLY	NO CANDIDATE FILED STATE CONVENTION DELEGATES AT LARGE	
JIM D KEMP	Vote For ONE (1) ONLY	Vote for NOT MORE THAN FIVE (5)	
PRECINCT COMMITTEEMAN	D LIAM DORRIS		
WASHINGTON 1	TIMOTHY (TIM) PECK	JIM OLIVER	
Vote For ONE (1) ONLY	STATE SENATOR DISTRICT 44	NON-PARTISAN	
TED ADAMS MICHAEL J MAGNER	Vote For ONE (1) ONLY	PUBLIC QUESTION	
JOY MARTIN	NO CANDIDATE FILED	FOBLIC QUESTION	
PRECINCT COMMITTEEMAN WASHINGTON 2 Vote For ONE (1) ONLY	STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 62 Vote For ONE (1) ONLY	Shall Brown County Schools increase property taxes paid to schools by homeowners and businesses for eight (8) years immediately following the holding of the referendum for the purpose	
THERESA ANN COBIAN	THOMAS HORROCKS		
STATE CONVENTION DELEGATES AT LARGE Vote for NOT MORE THAN SIX (6)	JUDGE OF THE BROWN CIRCUIT COURT 88TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT Vote For ONE (1) ONLY	of funding the Taxpayer Investment Plan which will include providing for teacher and staff salaries, benefits and programs and funding the Career Resource Center? If this public	
TED ADAMS	NO CANDIDATE FILED	question is approved by the voters, the average property tax	
PEARLETTA BANKS MARK BOWMAN TANNER BOWMAN	COUNTY RECORDER Vote For ONE (1) ONLY	voters, the average property tax paid to schools per year on a residence would increase by 28.16% and the average property tax paid to schools per year on a	
JOSEPH HAVLIN	NO CANDIDATE FILED	business property would increase	
MICHELLE HAVLIN JOY MARTIN BEN PHILLIPS	COUNTY TREASURER Vote For ONE (1) ONLY	by 17.28%. The most recent property tax referendum proposed by the school corporation was held in	
DAWN SLACK	NO CANDIDATE FILED	November, 2022 and failed.	
RYAN SLACK DEMOCRATIC	COUNTY SURVEYOR Vote For ONE (1) ONLY	YES NO	
	DAVID KIMBERLY HARDEN		
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES Vote For ONE (1) ONLY	COUNTY COMMISSIONER DISTRICT 1 Vote For ONE (1) ONLY		
JUSEPH K BIDEN JK			

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#### PUBLIC QUESTION

Shall Brown County Schools increase property taxes paid to schools by homeowners and businesses for eight (8) years immediately following the holding of the referendum for the purpose of funding the Taxpayer Investment Plan which will include providing for teacher and staff salaries, benefits and programs and funding the Career Resource Center? If this public question is approved by the voters, the average property tax paid to schools per year on a residence would increase by 28.16% and the average property tax paid to schools per year on a business property would increase by 17.28%. The most recent property tax referendum proposed by the school corporation was held in November, 2022 and failed.

> YES NO

Call to Action



Scan this QR code to register to vote online or visit indianavoters.in.gov.







Emily Tracy Superintendent

(260)460-7873 etracy@browncountyschools.com We urge you to vote in favor of the referendum. Talk to your neighbors, share the facts, and become an advocate for our schools. Let's unite for a brighter future and **vote** '**Yes**' on **May 7**. Your voice and your vote is crucial.

