

Notes from May 8, 2018 Meeting  
of the  
**Washington Elementary School District**  
**2018 M&O Override Task Force**

Members Present:

Jordan Blair	Angela Budovsky	Jessica Buttles
Tim Cullison	Enoch Davis	Michael Durnavich
Alyssa Glauber	Laura Mintert	Kim Nalette
Katie Piehl	Summer Schaudt	David Velazquez

Facilitator: Cathy Thompson

Welcome and Introductions

- Reviewed the purpose of the task force
- Reviewed norms and decision-making method

Issue:

Should a recommendation be made to the WESD Governing Board to call for a bond election to take place in November 2018?

Decision-Making Process

- **Additional Story** – reviewed additional information that was requested by task force members and recent legislative action
  - Reviewed current year state, local and federal budgets for WESD and how the percent of expenditures break down by type, program, and function
  - Reviewed tax rate trends over the last several years
  - Referencing the recent legislative action that would increase the base support level for school districts, the group discussed what impact that may have on the override
    - Amount available for the override would increase to approximately \$19 million in fiscal year 2020 if student counts remain level
    - Depending on assessed values of homes in the district, the tax rate should be about \$1.47 per \$100 of assessed value - current rate is about \$1.45.

- Recent legislation also made changes to which levy items are listed on the secondary tax rate
    - Currently only bonds and overrides are listed
    - Beginning next fiscal year, the desegregation levy will be moved from the primary levy calculation to the secondary levy calculation as a separate line item
    - This tax will be added to the secondary rate and be deducted from the primary rate.
  - Concerns were discussed about other state agencies not getting more money like school districts and may be negative toward district voter initiatives.
  - Task Force members were concerned about the other initiatives that may be on the ballot in November. They felt that there may be confusion for voters related to these initiatives and the new money that was allocated to school districts recently.
- **Options** – Task Force members identified five different options then evaluated them against the interests and criteria that were developed in a previous meeting
- Option 1 – Call for an override election, but at a lower percentage that would keep the override at the current level.
  - Option 2 – Call for an override election at the full 15% of the Revenue Control Limit.
  - Option 3 – Do not call for an override election and let the current override expire.
  - Option 4 – Defer calling for an override election for one year.
  - Option 5 – Call for an override election, but don't exceed a total of \$18 million

These options are detailed in the “M&O Override Election Recommendation” document including the pros and cons as well as the cost analysis.

### Reflection / Evaluation

- Task Force members were supportive of the manner in which the issue of an override election was evaluated
- They felt that everything was considered and nothing was taken for granted
- Members felt that they had the appropriate data to make the decision to recommend an election
- Members felt that their recommendation was supporting the WESD vision for our students