

From the Superintendent

On September 14, 2009, the Wakefield Board of Education met to set the budget request for the 2009-2010 school year. State statute states that we hold a hearing for the purpose of patrons to give comment. Each year the school is required to set the budget request from the patrons and set the entire budget prior to September 20th. The 2009-2010 total amount of distributions and transfers has been set at \$7,017,401. There are many sources which Wakefield Schools receives revenue. These sources include state, federal, and local funding sources. The total property tax request for 2009-2010 has been set at \$2,106,050 or a decrease of .03% from the 2008-2009 tax request.

The reason for the decrease is related to the 5.93% increase of property valuations for the three counties, Dixon, Wayne, and Thurston, which make up Wakefield Community School. The tax levy for the 2009-2010 school year is \$1.089910 for every \$100 of property valuation or slightly less than last year. The levy is slightly down from last year by less than one cent.

The money collected through state, local, and federal funds will be used to provide the best education possible for the students of Wakefield Community School.

Preschool Question and Answer

I would like to take some time to answer some questions that have arisen from the discussion on the school's preschool.

Q: What would be the advantage of changing the location of the preschool?

A: There are four main reasons for moving the preschool to the elementary site. The first, the preschool and elementary teachers will be able to collaborate easier and more frequently. Second, the preschool students will be able to transition easier from preschool to kindergarten. Third, the preschool will be handicap accessible. Fourth, the preschool students and staff will have more opportunity to work plan common events and activities.

Q: What will the preschool cost?

A: We are considering making the preschool free to parents who reside in the district.

Q: Will it be half day or all day and how many days a week?

A: We are considering having an all day session and half day session for those who wish to have it. We would run five days a week and follow the school calendar.

Q: Is the school closing the Wakefield Family Resource Center?

A: No, the school is relocating the Wakefield School's preschool program to the elementary site. The Wakefield Family Resource Center Board of Directors will decide what happens to the programs currently provided. The school has been a partner, not a sole benefactor.

Q: How can the school change the location of the preschool?

A: Over the past several years, the school has been able to fund its preschool through grants and general funds. The school has been in charge of the preschool since the 2005-2006 school year.

Q: What will happen to the Wakefield Family Resource Center and the services they provide such as daycare?

A: Daycare is a real issue in the City of Wakefield. The school hopes that daycare and afterschool services can continue to be provided. The Wakefield Family Resource Center provides these as a service to the community.

Q: Will transportation be provided to daycares from the preschool?

A: At this time, the school is looking at providing transportation to the all daycares in town.

Q: Why was the preschool located at the Wakefield Family Resource Center?

Q: What is the history of the partnership with Wakefield Community School and the Wakefield Family Resource Center?

Q: What will happen to the partnership with the Wakefield Family Resource Center?

A:

Q: What is Rule 11 and what does it mean for preschool?