

Referendum Facts



How Will the Referendum Help?

The Referendum would provide \$850,000 of funds to sustain Ripon school operations in each of the next six years. The School Board is asking the community to support staff positions which are helping students recover from the learning loss and the social-emotional impact of COVID. The District will still seek cost-saving measures, new grant revenue, and shifting to self-funded medical insurance to address the budget gap.

Why is the Referendum Needed?

Ripon faces a gap in funding due to a three-year freeze in state revenue. The School Board temporarily addressed the freeze in revenue with one-time federal revenue from the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) grants. Now those funds are expiring, and it is unlikely new revenue increases for the 2023-2024 school year will match typical annual cost-of-living increases over the prior three-year period.

WHAT IF THE REFERENDUM IS NOT APPROVED?

Roughly 73% of the District's operating expenditures are staffing costs. RASD would balance its budget by reducing positions, including classroom teachers, reading interventionists, behavior interventionists, and pupil support staff positions, which are helping the District individualize instruction. Students in elementary schools would be impacted the most because learning gaps and social emotional needs are greatest in our youngest students. With a passed referendum, the Board looks to retain these staff positions and continue to support extraordinary student achievement.



More Information at
www.ripon.k12.wi.us



School Property Tax Rate Will Still Drop \$0.12 to \$8.17



If a November 2022 referendum is approved, the school property tax rate is projected to **DECREASE** resulting in the **lowest rate in 40 years.**



This is partially possible because of a \$13.9 million City of Ripon TID district closing. The closing of the tax shelter in the business park allows the District's tax levy to be spread over new property value.



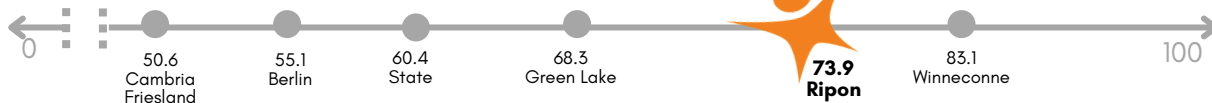
State legislature provided taxpayers additional tax relief for the 2022-2023 school year. Projected increases in state equalization aid will lower property taxes, but not increase revenue for schools.

Ripon Area School District: How We Compare

Ripon is a high achieving - low spending district when compared to the state and 26 area school districts*

Student Achievement

- Ripon is #3 out of 26 districts
- 22% higher than state average



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Cost Per Pupil

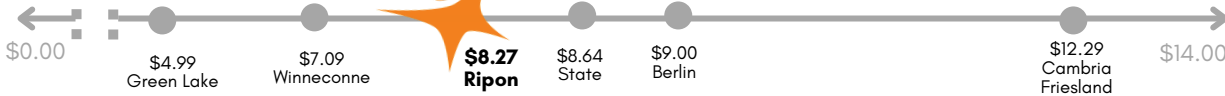
- Ripon is 2nd lowest of 26 districts
- US average in 2018 - \$13,139



bit.ly/3Dkwlpj

Tax (Mill) 57% lower than 1992

- Ripon is 4.3% lower than state
- Lowest rate in 40 years



bit.ly/3z5xfcz

* The 26 area districts include: Beaver Dam, Berlin, Cambria-Friesland, Campbellsport, Fond du Lac, Green Lake, Lomira, Markesan, Mayville, Montello, Neenah, New Holstein, North Fond du Lac, Oakfield, Omro, Oshkosh, Pardeeville, Princeton, Randolph, Rosendale-Brandon, Waupun, Wautoma, Westfield, Wild Rose, Winneconne

RHS



RMS



Murray Park



Quest



Other facts about the Ripon Area School District

Graduation Rate

91.7 Ripon 2020 Average

90.4 State 2020 Average

Career Planning at RHS

26
Student Paid
Apprenticeships

55%
Graduates with
college credit

433
College Credits
Earned

7

Schools

409,976
square feet
of facilities

the boundaries extend across
117 square miles
10 municipalities
3 counties

High Parent Satisfaction

4.15 out of 5.00

clean ... safe ... respectful ... proud

77 | **140** | **12**

teachers | support staff | admin

High Staff Satisfaction

3.80 out of 5.00

purposeful ... collaborative ... professional