



**School District of Washburn**  
**Resolution in Support of Full Transparency for Taxpayers**  
**Resolution 25-09**

WHEREAS, the Board of Education, administration, educators, staff, parents, and community members of the School District of Washburn are best served when there is full transparency regarding school funding; and

WHEREAS, the State of Wisconsin reduces state aid from the School District of Washburn for students who live in the attendance area but who choose to attend independent charter schools, special education, and voucher schools; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has the authority to levy for the reduced amount of state aid for voucher, special education, and independent charter school payments; and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Legislature has increased the per pupil payment for vouchers by 34.6% for grades K-8, 52.5% for grades 9-12, 26.0% for special education, and 38.1% for independent charter schools since the 2022-23 school year; and

WHEREAS, the increase in voucher, special education, and independent charter school payments is \$71,659 or 35.8% from the 2023-24 school year (\$84,643), and the School District of Washburn did levy \$156,302 for the 2024-25 school year to make up for state aid withheld for vouchers, special education, and independent charter schools; and

WHEREAS, the increase in voucher, special education, and independent charter school transportation costs for the 2023-24 school year (\$27,581.84) and the 2024-25 school year (\$23,838.78) for a total of \$51,420.62 are taken directly from the School District of Washburn's operating budget without any cost to the state-mandated voucher schools; and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Legislature voted to inform Wisconsin property taxpayers regarding the amount each school district levies for voter-approved referenda by including that information on property tax bills; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education strongly advocates and supports transparency in all respects regarding taxpayer dollars,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the School Board of the School District of Washburn requests the City of Washburn and surrounding municipalities in the district's attendance area to include annually on their property tax bills the amount of the School District of Washburn's levy that is for the purpose of capturing the state aid that is withheld from School District of Washburn to fund voucher, special education, independent charter school payment and the transportation costs incurred.



## RESOLUTION in Support of Full Transparency for Taxpayers of State-Mandated School Funding

WHEREAS, the Board of Education, administration, educators, staff, parents, and community members of the Eau Claire Area School District are best served when there is full transparency regarding state-controlled school funding, especially of state-mandated public school funding of private voucher, special education, and independent charter schools; and

WHEREAS, the State of Wisconsin reduces and diverts state aid from the Eau Claire Area School District for students who live in the attendance area but who choose to attend private voucher, special education, and independent charter schools separate from the Eau Claire Area School District; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has the authority to levy for the loss of state aid incurred by the reduced amount of state aid diverted for private voucher, special education, and independent charter school payments; and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Legislature has (1) increased the per pupil payments diverted for private vouchers, special education, and independent charter schools by \$640 resulting in increases of 6.5% for grades K-8, 5.03% for grades 9-12, 4.15% for special education, and 5.46% for independent charter schools for the 2025-2026 school year and (2) provided no additional general state aid in the 2025-2027 Wisconsin State Budget necessitating the Eau Claire Area School District funding the \$325 per pupil (a 2.67% increase for ECASD) increase for the 2025-2026 school year exclusively through property taxes; and

WHEREAS, the increase in private voucher, special education, and independent charter school payments is \$2,637,504 or 22.7% from the 2024-2025 school year (\$11,583,836) for a total loss of \$14,221,340, and the Eau Claire Area School District is levying \$14,221,340 for the 2025-2026 school year to make up for this loss of state aid withheld and diverted for private voucher, special education, and independent charter schools; and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Legislature voted to inform Wisconsin property taxpayers regarding the amount each school district levies for voter-approved referenda necessitated by the loss of state aid diverted for private voucher, special education, and independent charter school payments as well as by an overall lack of state funding for public education by the Wisconsin Legislature by including that information on property tax bills; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education strongly advocates and supports transparency in all respects regarding taxpayer dollars,



## RESOLUTION in Support of Full Transparency for Taxpayers of State-Mandated School Funding

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Eau Claire Area School District requests the City of Eau Claire and surrounding municipalities in the District's attendance area to include annually on their property tax bills the amount of the Eau Claire Area School District levy that is for the purpose of capturing the state aid that is reduced, diverted, and lost from the public Eau Claire Area School District to fund private voucher, special education, and independent charter school payments incurred at the sole expense of the public Eau Claire Area School District.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being all of the members of the School Board of the Eau Claire Area School District, have executed this resolution on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of November 2025.

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Dr. Tim Nordin, President

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Dr. Lori Bica, Vice President

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Jasmine Case

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Jarrett Dement

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Dr. Stephanie Farrar

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Pa Thao

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Erica Zerr