



# School District of Weyauwega-Fremont

Board of Education Office  
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Friday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021

RE: Joint Finance Committee Information – Education Funding

Dear Chairmen and Joint Finance Committee Members,

Education has changed considerably over the past decade and will continue to change for years to come due to the pandemic. This past year has been not only difficult for all of us, it also has created many challenges in trying to educate our students. Even though this past year has been demanding, there has been a lot of positive change as well and I am confident that schools will continue to rise to this challenge and be stronger than ever in the future.

The Weyauwega-Fremont School District is a rural district with a decreasing enrollment of 793 students. In the past decade, the District has gone from over 1000 students to under 800. In addition, we have out dated facilities that are in desperate need of repair. I am here today to advocate for not only my school, but also all the other schools and students in the great State of Wisconsin. Here are some aspects of the Governor’s proposed budget that will help our district continue to deliver a top notch education.

## 1. Special Education Cost

This district strongly supports an increase in special education reimbursement aid for all districts. Currently, we invest \$1,097,655 in aidable special education cost this school year. \$272,681 of that aid comes from the state for our special education costs. Therefore, our district will need to transfer \$849,978 from our Fund 10 general fund to our Fund 27 for the remainder of the district’s special education services.

## 2. Categorical Aid increase

As a school district that has a decreasing enrollment, we are very aware of every FTE that comes into and goes out of our district. We have taken many steps locally to market our school and make us a destination district. The proposed addition to categorical aid for the next several school years will help to increase our budget by the following:

- 2021 – 2022 \$200 increase = \$206,750
- 2022 – 2023 \$204 increase = \$413,500

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**District Mission Statement:** Creating a foundation of excellence for success in tomorrow’s world.  
**District Vision Statement:** Commitment to Achievement.



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This aid increase will allow us to continue to expand our College and Career Courses, Youth Options and Apprenticeships, STEAM programs and options, and curriculum upgrades and resources.

### 3. Student Enrollment for calculating aid

Due to the decrease of summer school enrollment and the September FTE this year, the Weyauwega-Fremont School District will drop a total of 37 FTE for the 2020 – 2021 school year. Allowing for a one year exemption in the three year rolling average will help to reduce the negative impact on our district.

Thank you for taking the time to listen and providing us the opportunity to advocate for our district and our students. We know the budget process is not easy and that you cannot grant everyone everything they want, however investing in schools and kids is truly going to have the most impact on the future of Wisconsin and our country. Please let me know if you have any questions or if you need anything from me.

Sincerely,

Phillip S. Tubbs and the School District of Weyauwega-Fremont  
Email: [ptubbs@wfsd.k12.wi.us](mailto:ptubbs@wfsd.k12.wi.us)

Enclosures: Actual Expenses from Cares 1 and Actual and Projected Expenses from Cares 2.

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