

AN ORDER OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE COUNTY OF RITCHIE DIRECTING THE SUBMISSION TO THE VOTERS OF RITCHIE COUNTY AT A SPECIAL ELECTION TO BE HELD NOVEMBER 2, 2019 ALL QUESTIONS CONNECTED WITH THE RENEWAL OF ADDITIONAL LEVIES TO PROVIDE SUFFICIENT FUNDS TO PAY GENERAL CURRENT EXPENSES OF SAID BOARD.

That at a regular meeting of The Board of Education of the County of Ritchie, State of West Virginia (the "Board"), held the 29th day of July 2019, the following order was duly adopted and entered of record, to wit:

After full consideration thereof, the Board, being of the opinion that the levy levels permitted for current expenses authorized by Article 8, Chapter 11 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, will not provide sufficient funds for the payment of the general current expenses of the Board, including the expenses hereinafter set forth, during the fiscal years beginning on July 1, 2020, July 1, 2021, July 1, 2022, July 1, 2023 and July 1, 2024, and having ascertained that the approximate amounts hereinafter shown in excess of amounts raised or to be raised by the regular levies will be needed by the Board during the five (5) fiscal years beginning July 1, 2020, July 1, 2021, July 1, 2022, July 1, 2023 and July 1, 2024, for current expenses, and that the question of increase of such levies should be submitted to the voters of Ritchie County at a special election to be held on November 2, 2019 in accordance with applicable law, hereby adopts this Order and it is hereby ORDERED and DECLARED:

1. The purposes for which additional funds are needed during the ensuing five years and the approximate average annual amount considered necessary for each purpose, subject to variation from year to year as provided herein, are set forth as follows:

<u>PURPOSE FOR WHICH ADDITIONAL FUNDS ARE NEEDED</u>	<u>ANNUAL AMOUNT FOR EACH PURPOSE</u>
A. Free Textbooks and Workbooks (including digital and electronic equivalents) to all students in preschool through and including twelfth grade, and to provide for the purchase of academic software and hardware.	\$230,000
B. Instructional Supplies, Materials and Equipment for the classroom teacher including without limitation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • costs for music instruments, drama, the arts, physical education/ wellness; • costs for technology equipment; • costs for playground equipment; and/or • costs copiers and paper. 	\$95,000
C. Curricular and Extracurricular Activities and Transportation , including without limitation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • costs for transportation for athletic and band events, Career Technical Education, after school programs; and • costs for educational activities including field trips. 	\$75,000

<p>D. Athletic and Band Supports limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • costs for uniforms and equipment; • costs to improve and maintain athletic facilities including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ track resurfacing and replacement; ○ playing surface upgrades; and/or ○ lighting upgrades for the athletic complex. 	\$150,000
<p>E. Career Technical Education (CTE) and local share for the Mid-Ohio Valley Technical Institute (MOVTI)</p>	\$110,000
<p>F. Ritchie County Extension Services (4-H) Support of Educational Activities</p>	\$20,000
<p>G. Maintenance, including, but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cost for maintenance of buildings and grounds; • cost for transportation and maintenance equipment, vehicles, buses, supplies, parts and services; • costs for custodial supplies and equipment; and • costs for utilities. 	\$1,600,000
<p>H. Capital Improvements to buildings for the purpose of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • costs for renovations, remodeling, and/or construction; including but not limited to new construction, bathroom upgrades, interior/exterior lighting, HVAC, flooring, bleachers, gymnasiums; and/or • costs for repair of buildings, grounds, roofs, painting, sidewalks / parking lots. 	\$1,000,000
<p>I. Employee Salaries and Benefits annually, including and limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • professional personnel; • service personnel; and • extra-duty contracts for band and athletics. 	\$2,285,093
<p>J. Dental and Vision Insurance and Health Cost Reimbursement Plan for qualifying Ritchie County School employees for the duration of this excess levy only.</p>	\$207,000
<p>K. School Safety Measures including and limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cost for the Prevention Resource Officer at Ritchie County Middle / High School and a countywide Prevention Resource Officer servicing the elementary schools; • cost for maintaining and improving security camera systems for all school facilities, school buses and access / egress in all school facilities; and/or • cost to support district expanded mental health services and crisis / safety management training. 	\$100,000
TOTAL:	\$5,872,093

As noted above, the amounts set forth above are the average annual amounts for each purpose. The actual amounts for each purpose will likely vary from one fiscal year to the next. If any item in the above-stated purposes is declared unconstitutional or invalid due to judicial or legislative action, then any affected funds will be distributed among the remaining constitutional and valid itemized purposes.

2. The total amount necessary to carry out the above purposes over five fiscal years, after making reasonable allowances for uncollected taxes and shrinkage, is \$29,360,765 or the average sum of \$5,872,093 annually. The actual amounts budgeted, as well as the amounts spent, for each purpose and in aggregate, likely will vary from one fiscal year to the next depending on the realized tax collections and the needs of the Ritchie County School District, as determined by the Board with respect to each fiscal year. If the amounts budgeted by the Board for a specific purpose or purposes for a fiscal year are not able to be spent entirely in such fiscal year, then the unspent amount shall be carried over and spent on such specific purpose or purposes in subsequent fiscal years.

3. The separate and aggregate assessed valuation of each class of taxable property within Ritchie County for the assessment year 2019 is as follows:

Class I	\$0
Class II	\$247,621,802
Class III	\$872,912,654
Class IV	\$65,548,668
TOTAL	\$1,186,083,124

4. The proposed additional rate of levies in cents for each \$100 of value on each class of property within Ritchie County for the fiscal years beginning July 1, 2020, July 1, 2021, July 1, 2022, July 1, 2023, and July 1, 2024 is as follows:

Class I Property	14.92 cents
Class II Property	29.84 cents
Class III Property	59.68 cents
Class IV Property	59.68 cents

5. If authorized by the voters, the additional levies shall apply to the fiscal years beginning **July 1, 2020, July 1, 2021, July 1, 2022, July 1, 2023, and July 1, 2024.**

6. The question of such additional levies shall be submitted to a vote at a special election to be held in Ritchie County, West Virginia on the 2nd day of November 2019.

7. The Board will not issue bonds in connection with the approval of the proposed increased levy.

8. If additional State, Federal, private or other special funds become available to provide funding for any of the above-stated purposes, or if surplus funds are generated due to increased assessed valuations, then in either case the Board shall be authorized and empowered to expend at the end of each fiscal year, during the term of the levies, the surplus (if any) in excess of the amount needed for any of the above-stated purposes for the enrichment, supplementation and advancement of all educational programs in Ritchie County, and other purposes pertinent to the operation of Ritchie County Schools, in the discretion of the Board. Such

additional or surplus funds may be used either in substitution for or in addition to the funds obtained from the excess levy.

9. In the event that the actual amount collected is less than the approximate annual amounts allocated for the above-stated purposes for any one or more fiscal years, the Board is hereby authorized and empowered to determine in its discretion (i) which one or more of the above-stated purposes shall be reduced for each such fiscal year and (ii) the amount of each such reduction for such fiscal year; provided, however, that the total of all such reductions shall not exceed the amount of such collection shortfall each year and; provided, further, that if any such reduction for one or more of the above-state purposes is necessary, the funds allocated for Purpose (I) Employee Salaries and Benefits, (A) Free Textbooks and Workbooks (B) Instructional Supplies, Materials and Equipment set forth in the chart above shall be the last purpose considered by the Board for a reduction in funds in the event of a shortfall.

10. The special election shall be conducted by paper ballots in accordance with applicable law. All other provisions of the laws concerning excess levies and/or special elections shall apply as far as they are applicable. The costs of such special election shall be borne by the Board. Accordingly, the Secretary of The Board is hereby authorized and directed to acquire and furnish to election officials all proper election supplies, and attend to the publication requirements of Section 11 of this Order, and to do all things necessary to present the question proposed by this Order to the voters in the Ritchie County School District at the above-referenced special election.

11. Notice calling for the special election shall be given by the publication of this Order in *Ritchie Gazette & The Cairo Standard* and *The Pennsboro News*, newspapers of general circulation in Ritchie County, West Virginia, as qualified by the West Virginia Secretary of State.

12. The official ballot to be used in the election herein provided shall be in form as follows:

*****BEGINNING OF FORM OF BALLOT*****

OFFICIAL BALLOT

Special Election to Authorize Renewal
of Additional Levies According to the Order of
The Board of Education of the County of Ritchie
Adopted and Entered on July 22, 2019

Special election to authorize additional levies (the "Excess Levy") for the fiscal years beginning July 1, 2020, July 1, 2021, July 1, 2022, July 1, 2023, and July 1, 2024 in the approximate amount of \$5,872,093 annually for the purpose of the payment of the general current expenses of The Board of Education of the County of Ritchie (the "Board"), as more particularly described below.

The approximate average annual amount considered necessary for each purpose, subject to variation from year to year as provided herein, is set forth as follows:

PURPOSE FOR WHICH ADDITIONAL FUNDS ARE NEEDED	ANNUAL AMOUNT FOR EACH PURPOSE
A. Free Textbooks and Workbooks (including digital and electronic equivalents) to all students in preschool through and including twelfth grade, and to provide for the purchase of academic software and hardware.	\$230,000
B. Instructional Supplies, Materials and Equipment for the classroom teacher including without limitation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • costs for music instruments, drama, the arts, physical education/ wellness; • costs for technology equipment; • costs for playground equipment; and/or • costs copiers and paper. 	\$95,000
C. Curricular and Extracurricular Activities and Transportation , including without limitation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • costs for transportation for athletic and band events, Career Technical Education, after school programs; and • costs for educational activities including field trips. 	\$75,000
D. Athletic and Band Supports limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • costs for uniforms and equipment; • costs to improve and maintain athletic facilities including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ track resurfacing and replacement; ○ playing surface upgrades; and/or ○ lighting upgrades for the athletic complex. 	\$150,000
E. Career Technical Education (CTE) and local share for the Mid-Ohio Valley Technical Institute (MOVTI)	\$110,000
F. Ritchie County Extension Services (4-H) Support of Educational Activities	\$20,000
G. Maintenance , including, but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cost for maintenance of buildings and grounds; • cost for transportation and maintenance equipment, vehicles, buses, supplies, parts and services; • costs for custodial supplies and equipment; and • costs for utilities. 	\$1,600,000
H. Capital Improvements to buildings for the purpose of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • costs for renovations, remodeling, and/or construction; including but not limited to new construction, bathroom upgrades, interior/exterior lighting, HVAC, flooring, bleachers, gymnasiums; and/or • costs for repair of buildings, grounds, roofs, painting, sidewalks / parking lots. 	\$1,000,000

I. Employee Salaries and Benefits annually, including and limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • professional personnel; • service personnel; and • extra-duty contracts for band and athletics. 	\$2,285,093
J. Dental and Vision Insurance and Health Cost Reimbursement Plan for qualifying Ritchie County School employees for the duration of this excess levy only.	\$207,000
K. School Safety Measures including and limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cost for the Prevention Resource Officer at Ritchie County Middle / High School and a countywide Prevention Resource Officer servicing the elementary schools; • cost for maintaining and improving security camera systems for all school facilities, school buses and access / egress in all school facilities; and/or • cost to support district expanded mental health services and crisis / safety management training. 	\$100,000
TOTAL:	\$5,872,093

As noted above, the amounts set forth above are the average annual amounts for each purpose. The actual amounts for each purpose will likely vary from one fiscal year to the next. If any item in the above-stated purposes is declared unconstitutional or invalid due to judicial or legislative action, then any affected funds will be distributed among the remaining constitutional and valid itemized purposes.

That the proposed additional rate of levy, in cents per \$100 of assessed value on each class of property, is as follows:

Class I Property	14.92 Cents
Class II Property	29.84 Cents
Class III Property	59.68 Cents
Class IV Property	59.68 Cents

The Board will not issue bonds in connection with the approval of the proposed increased levy.

If additional State, Federal, private or other special funds become available to provide funding for any of the above-stated purposes, or if surplus funds are generated due to increased assessed valuations, then in either case the Board shall be authorized and empowered to expend at the end of each fiscal year, during the term of the levies, the surplus (if any) in excess of the amount needed for any of the above-stated purposes for the enrichment, supplementation and advancement of all educational programs in Ritchie County, and other purposes pertinent to the operation of Ritchie County Schools, in the discretion of the Board. Such additional or surplus funds may be used either in substitution for or in addition to the funds obtained from the excess levy.

In the event that the actual amount collected is less than the approximate annual amounts allocated for the above-stated purposes for any one or more fiscal years, the Board is hereby authorized and empowered to determine in its discretion (i) which one or more of the above-stated purposes shall be reduced

for each such fiscal year and (ii) the amount of each such reduction for such fiscal year; provided, however, that the total of all such reductions shall not exceed the amount of such collection shortfall each year and; provided, further, that if any such reduction for one or more of the above-state purposes is necessary, the funds allocated for Purpose (I) Employee Salaries and Benefits, (A) Free Textbooks and Workbooks (B) Instructional Supplies, Materials and Equipment set forth in the chart above shall be the last purpose considered by the Board for a reduction in funds in the event of a shortfall.

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS

Those favoring the renewal of the additional levies shall darken the oval after "FOR THE LEVIES". Those against such levies shall darken the oval after "AGAINST THE LEVIES".

VOTE BELOW

FOR THE LEVIES ◦

AGAINST THE LEVIES ◦

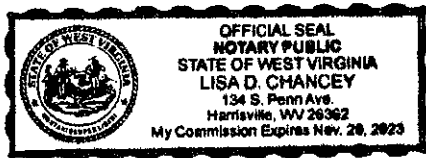
*****END OF FORM OF BALLOT*****

14. Absentee ballots shall be applied for, obtained from and returned to the Clerk of the County Commission of the County of Ritchie, and said Clerk is hereby appointed the agent for the Board to perform all duties relating to absentee ballots in the special election.

15. The registration of voters and the use of the registration booths shall be governed by the permanent registration law of the State of West Virginia and the Board hereby adopts the registration list of Ritchie County as the official registration list of the school district for this special election.

[Signature page follows this page.]

Adopted and entered on this 29 day of July, 2019.



[SEAL]

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE
COUNTY OF RITCHIE

Joie Jackson
President

ATTEST:

Lisa D. Chancey
Secretary