

**DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE
100 NORTH SENATE AVENUE
IGC-N, ROOM N1058
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204**

IN THE MATTER OF THE REVIEW)
OF PROPOSED LANGUAGE FOR A)
BALLOT QUESTION REGARDING)
METROPOLITAN SCHOOL DISTRICT) **No. 19-024-REF-A**
OF WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP,)
MARION COUNTY)

**FINDINGS AND FINAL DETERMINATION ON PROPOSED QUESTION SUBMITTED
DECEMBER 12, 2019**

1. Metropolitan School District of Washington Township, Marion County (“District”), proposes to place an operating referendum on the ballot for the purpose of establishing a referendum tax levy with a tax rate not to exceed twenty-five cents (\$0.25) per one hundred dollars (\$100) of assessed value.
2. Under Indiana law, voters in the area served by the District will vote in a referendum to approve or deny the District’s proposed tax rate.
3. Indiana law governs the format and wording of the ballot question for the referendum.
4. Under Indiana law, the “question to be submitted to the voters in the referendum **must read as follows**”:

“For the ___ (insert number) calendar year or years immediately following the holding of the referendum, shall the school District impose a property tax rate that does not exceed _____ (insert amount) cents (\$0.____) (insert amount) on each one hundred dollars (\$100) of assessed valuation and that is in addition to all other property taxes imposed by the school District for the purpose of funding _____ (insert short description of purposes)?”
- Indiana Code 20-46-1-10 (emphasis added).
5. The ballot question then must contain three parts:
 - the number of calendar years for which the tax will be in effect;
 - the amount of the tax rate; and
 - the purpose of the funding.
6. The law requires the Department of Local Government Finance (“Department”) to review the language for compliance with IC 20-46-1-10. The Department may either approve or reject the language.

7. On December 12, 2019, the Department received an e-mail from the District presenting the proposed ballot question for the referendum. The Department issued an order on December 19, 2019, rejecting the proposed question and recommending changes. Subsequently, the District submitted a revised proposed question for review. The letter containing the revised language is incorporated by reference into this Order.

Compliance of Language

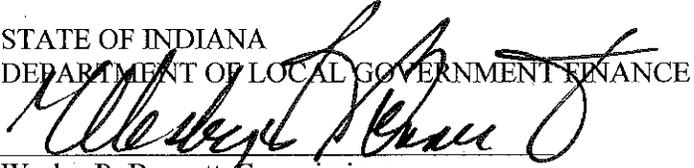
8. The Department must review the proposed language for compliance with IC 20-46-1-10. The Department may either approve or reject the language. The Department determines that the revised language is in compliance with IC 20-46-1-10.

Final Determination

WHEREFORE, based on the above findings and applicable law, the Department finds that the proposed language is in compliance with IC 20-46-1-10 and approves the language as proposed.

Dated this 24th day of December, 2019.

STATE OF INDIANA
DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE


Wesley R. Bennett, Commissioner
Department of Local Government Finance



International Baccalaureate World School District
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www.msdt.k12.in.us

December 20, 2019

Transmitted via e-mail

Mr. Wesley Bennett, Commissioner
Mr. Daniel Shackle
Indiana Department of Local Government Finance
100 North Senate N-1058B
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204
wbennett@dlgf.in.gov
dshackle@dlgf.IN.gov

Re: Metropolitan School District of Washington Township
Certification and Request for Approval of the Local Public Question - REVISED

Dear Mr. Bennett and Mr. Shackle:

Pursuant to Indiana Code 20-46-1-8, enclosed please find a copy of the certified Resolution of the Board of Education of the Metropolitan School District of Washington Township (the "School Corporation") which was adopted on December 11, 2019, pursuant to Indiana Code 20-46-1-8 determining: (i) that the School Corporation cannot carry out its public education duty unless it imposes a referendum tax levy; and (ii) to put a public question on the ballot for such referendum tax levy.

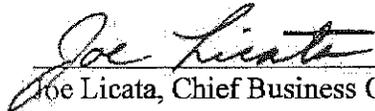
The School Corporation requests that the following REVISED question be reviewed, approved and finally certified to the School Corporation as soon as possible, in order for it to be submitted to the County Election Board and placed on the ballot for the voters at the election held on May 5, 2020, in the following form:

"For the eight (8) calendar years immediately following the holding of the referendum, shall the MSD of Washington Township impose a property tax rate that does not exceed twenty-five cents (\$0.25) on each one hundred dollars (\$100) of assessed valuation and that is in addition to all other property taxes imposed by the School Corporation for the purpose of (a) repealing the existing referendum fund tax rate, and (b) replacing the existing referendum fund tax rate with a new referendum fund tax rate that will provide funding improving student safety, increasing student support services, expanding existing academic support programs and retaining teachers and staff?"

If you need any additional information or have any questions, please feel free to contact me, Joe Licata, Chief Business Officer at (317) 205-3332, extension 77210.

Sincerely,

METROPOLITAN SCHOOL DISTRICT OF
WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP



Joe Licata, Chief Business Officer

cc: Myla Eldridge, Marion County Clerk
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