



Support the Zionsville Facilities & Operations Referendum

Protect Class Sizes— 200 new students annually¹ over the next decade require more classroom space and teachers

- Stop overcrowded classes
- Prevent losing reading, math, science, music and PE specialty teachers & the reduction/elimination of major curriculum such as Project Lead the Way and AP, robotics & languages classes

Protect Property Values— Strong schools = Strong property values

- Reputation of excellent schools increase the value of homes
- When the 2010 referendum failed, Zionsville home values dropped while neighboring home values increased²

Student Population Growth— Schools have NO ROLE in community growth

- a. By state law, school districts do not have a vote on the local Redevelopment Commission; and, therefore have no authority to effect neighborhood development
 - i. The Zionsville School Board testified before the Indiana State Legislature seeking a change in law to allow schools a vote on Redevelopment Commissions and thus able to advocate concerns of community growth and the effect on schools
- b. Zionsville had a net 200-plus students this semester
- c. Voting no will harm our students, harm our community and harm our home values which are directly linked to the reputation of our schools

¹ Indiana Business Research Center. <https://www.zcsstrong.org/October22BoardMeeting/index.html>

² Zillow Group. www.Zillow.com.

Two School Referendums Will Be on the November Ballot

Facilities Referendum

The facilities referendum will provide bonding authority to build a new elementary school, expansion and modifications to the high school, and modifications/improvements to all other schools

- Two elementary **schools are at capacity *today*** and the high school is nearing capacity
- Additional classroom space will protect class sizes, eliminate the need for semi-annual redistricting, and safeguard curriculum

Operating Referendum

The operating referendum will extend the current referendum for 8-years at the exact same rate the present referendum provides

- a. Referendum will protect class sizes from exploding
- b. Funds at least 1/3 of all teachers
- c. 100% of referendum dollars stay in Zionsville to fund teachers

What would have happened in 2015 if the current referendum failed?³

- Class sizes increased all grade levels, significantly (see below for example)
- 120 positions cut & major programs eliminated: specialty teachers for reading, math, science, art, PE as well as STEM, AP, robotics, labs etc.

Remember what actually happened in 2010....⁴

- Cuts were harsh, impactful, and swift
 - 150 positions were eliminated
 - Elimination of Baccalaureate program, elementary specialized teachers: reading, math, science, music & PE. Reduced or eliminated: labs, AP classes, language
- Crowded classes with 40+ students
 - Classes with 21 to 29 students: 249
 - Classes with 30+ students: 223
 - Classes with 35+ students: 45
- Home values declined at time when nearby community prices increased
 - Compelling correlation between strong schools & community

³ ZCS Stakeholder Update, May 2015.

⁴ WTHR. Zionsville, other districts vote down school referendum. Chris Profit. November 3, 2010