

Making *A Difference* for ALL

May 3, 2011 Special Education Millage Renewal





What's the issue?

**Renewal of
0.985 mill for
seven years
for special
education
to help
maintain
programs for
ALL children in
Washtenaw
County public
schools.**



Who is impacted?

Nearly 7,000 students (about 1 in 7) receive special education services.

Most are enrolled in public school districts & charter schools. Some attend parochial schools or registered home schools.

Intended to benefit **ALL** children.

- The renewed funds will help maintain programs for students with special needs.
- That means more funds will be available in the schools' general operating budgets to provide services for **ALL** students.



Why make the request now?

The last special education millage was approved in 2004 for seven years through December 2010.

Why is it needed?

- + Maintain student programs
- + Repeated reductions in school funding
- + Unstable state budget
- = Request to renew millage



What does the millage support?

- Teacher consultants for students with learning disabilities
- Services like speech, physical and occupational therapy
- Special education classroom teachers
- Special education para-educators
- Assistive technology and specialized materials
- Training for teachers, para-educators, bus drivers and families





What does the millage support?

- Prevention of early learning failure
- Programs supporting high expectations for all students
- Special education and general education students learning together
- Increased parent and student participation in educational decisions
- Transition support from school to college, work and adult-life activities



What does the millage support?

- Special Education prepares many individuals with special needs for real-world jobs and careers so they can:
 - support themselves
 - become productive citizens in our community
 - and not have to rely on tax-funded social service programs.

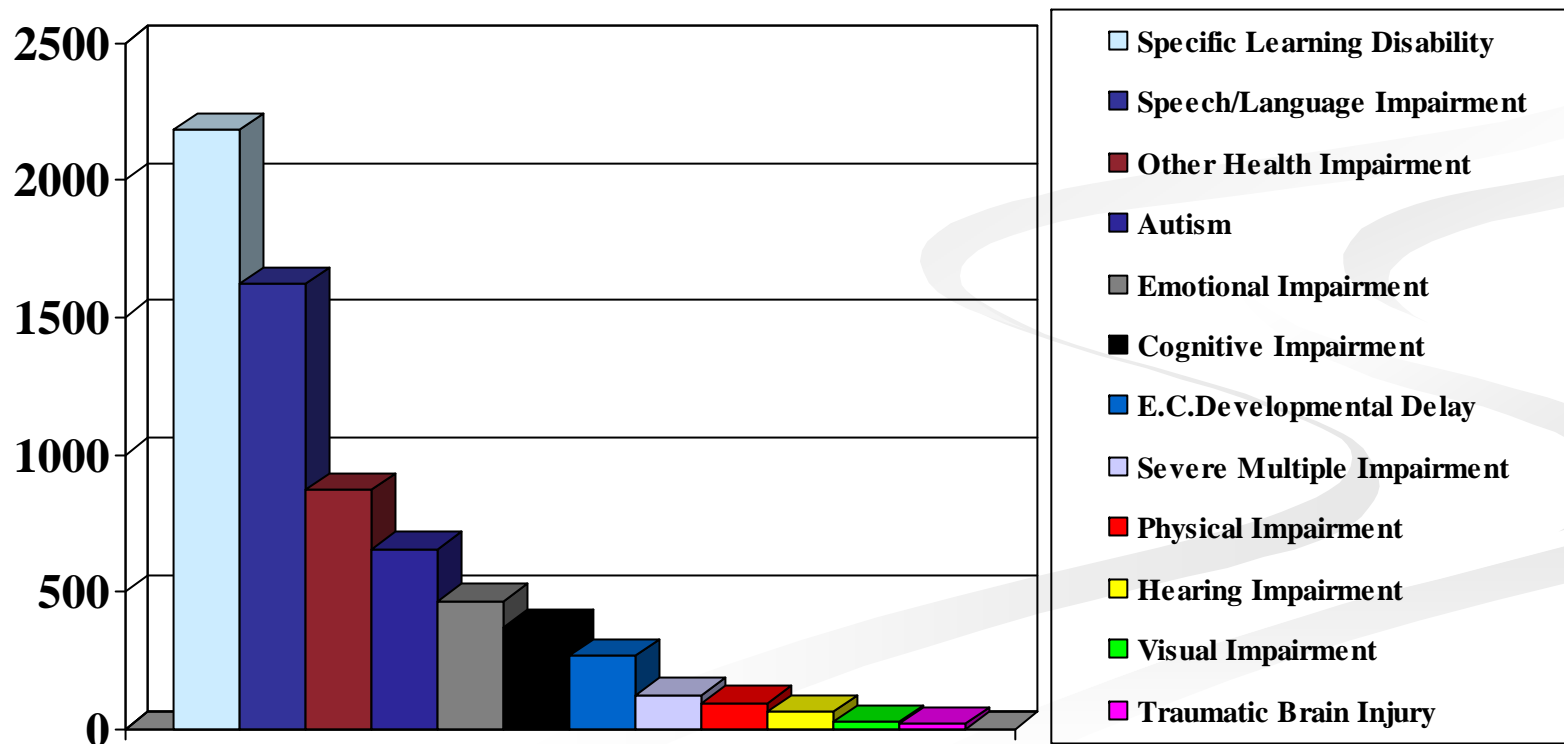


Which students are receiving special education services in Washtenaw County?

- The largest group of students with disabilities in Washtenaw County have a Learning Disability.
- The second largest group of students are eligible as Speech and Language Impaired.
- The remaining students have disabilities that range from mild to severe.

Which students are receiving special education services in Washtenaw County?

November 10, 2010

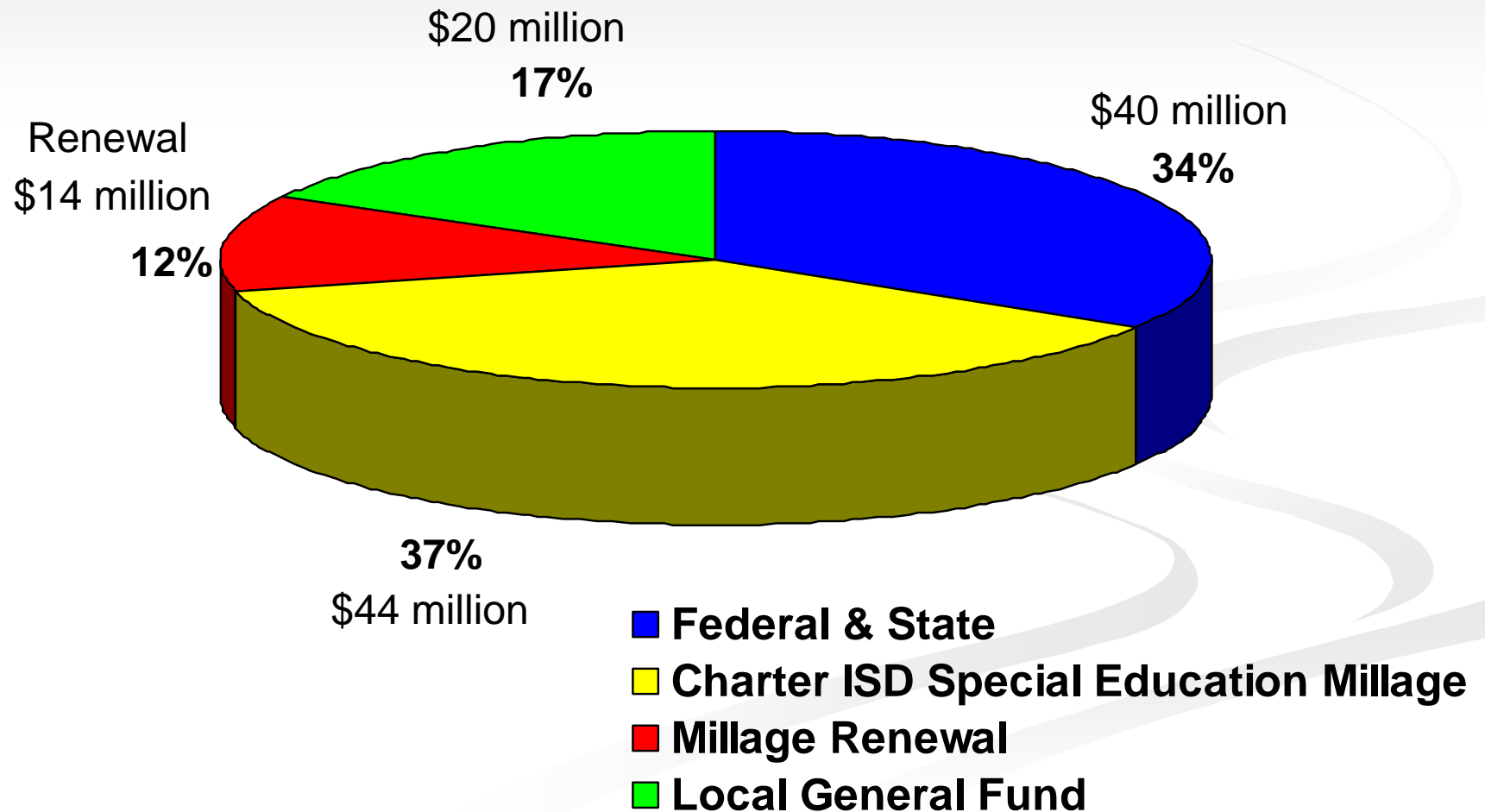




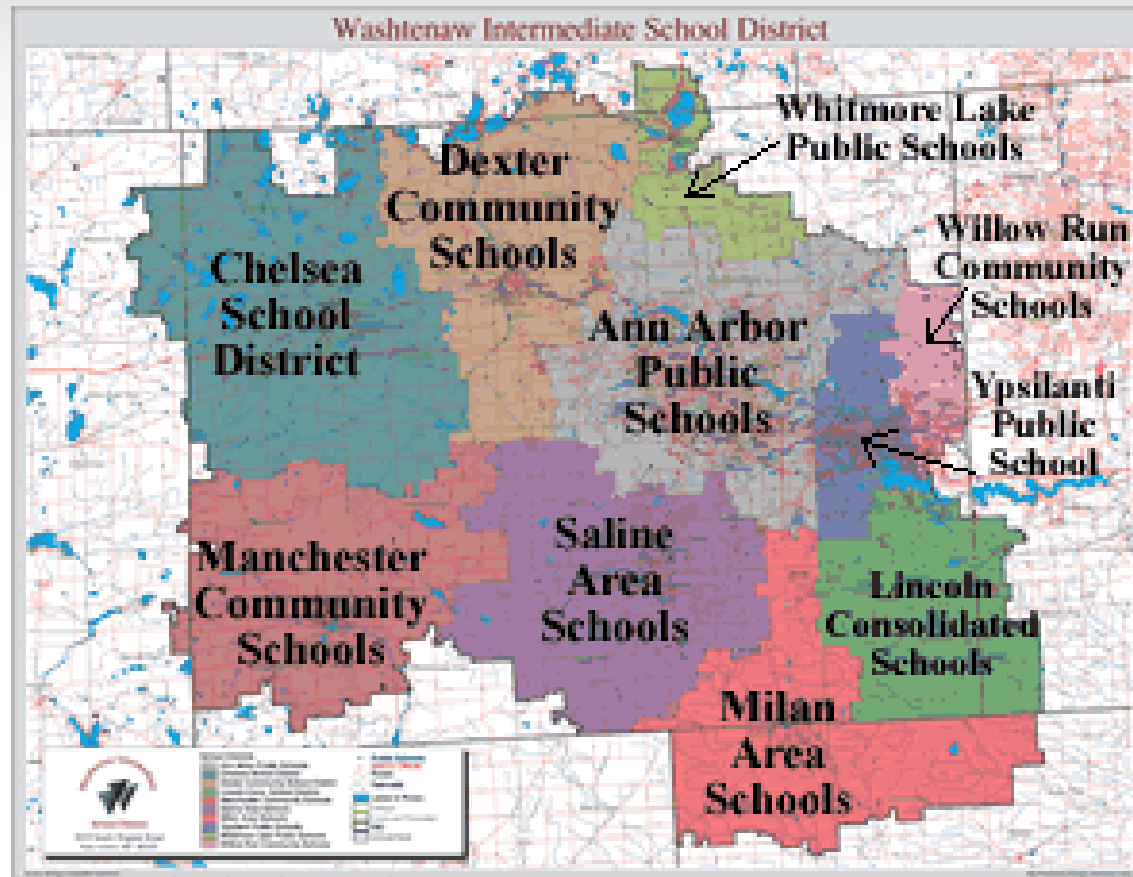
What is the reimbursement for special education programs?

- WISD distributed about \$66 million in 2009-10 to local school districts from Act 18 funds, grants, (including programs operated for the county) and American Recovery and Reinvestment Act money.
- After federal and state dollars, the Special Education fund reimbursed about 80% of the added cost of educating students with disabilities.

How do local school districts pay for special education?



How much revenue does 0.985 mill generate?




0.985 mill levied within the Washtenaw Intermediate School District (WISD) **will generate** approximately **\$14 million** in 2010-11.



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How much will the renewal cost a homeowner?

Home owners will pay no more than what they paid in 2010.

Market Value

\$100,000

\$150,000

\$200,000

Taxable Value

\$ 50,000

\$ 75,000

\$100,000

Cost

\$ 49.25/yr

\$ 73.88/yr

\$ 98.50/yr



Who will vote?

Residents in the school districts of: Ann Arbor, Chelsea, Dexter, Lincoln, Manchester, Milan, Saline, Whitmore Lake, Willow Run and Ypsilanti

When to vote?

Tuesday, May 3, 2011.



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*Please remember to vote on
Tuesday, May 3, 2011.
Thank you.*



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*Special thanks to these students/former students
(and their families)*

*for allowing us to use their images
and*

share their stories in this presentation:

Anna
Austin
Calvin
Carson
Colin
Madeline
Rahman
Sarah

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Want more information?

Call: WISD at (734) 994-8100

Visit: <http://www.wash.k12.mi.us>

Call: Your local superintendent

Visit: Your school district website