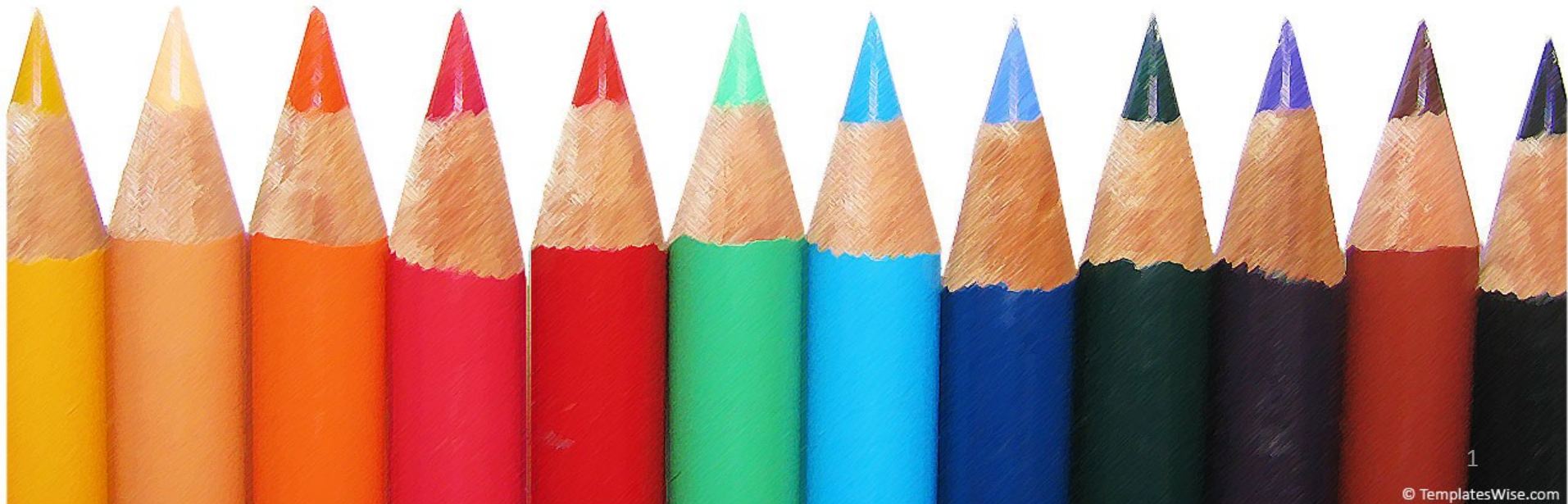


Washington Township School District

2013-2014 Proposed Budget



Washington Township School District Board of Education

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Washington Township School District
The Old Schoolhouse, One East Front Street, Washington, NJ 07882
(908) 689-1119

Committed to Academic Excellence

It is the mission of the Washington Township Public School that each student will be provided with a stimulating environment and opportunities for learning experiences designed to provide the best possible educational opportunity. It is the expectation of the Washington Township School District that all pupils achieve the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards at all grade levels.



WTSD Budget Timeline

October 2012

- Superintendent & Principals begin to plan budget based upon district goals

December 2012

- Business Administrator begins to formulate possible budget scenarios

February 26, 2013

- Governor's Budget Address

February 28, 2013

- State Aid figures released to schools
- Finance committee reviews budget

March 1, 2013

- Proposed 2013-2014 budget is approved by the board and sent to county for approval

March 25, 2013

- Public hearing on budget and final board of education approval

March 27, 2013

- Publication of user-friendly budget

July 1, 2013

- 2013-2014 budget is implemented

Budget Development

- The school's fiscal year runs from July 1 – June 30.
- Each year, budget planning begins in September / October. The state releases state aid figures in late February and the budget is finalized in March.
- The school budget is a plan. While the total budget is a fixed dollar amount, there is some limited flexibility to meet changing needs. However, flexibility in school budgets is constrained by NJ legislation and NJ Department of Education rules.

Budget Development

- The state of New Jersey has strictly defined parameters and formulas which leave school districts with few options.
- As part of the budget process, all proposed school budgets undergo a thorough review by the Executive County Superintendent and the Executive County School Business Administrator to safeguard the financial interests of the constituents.

Budget Priorities Include...

Instruction and
Student Achievement

State & Federal Mandates

Safe & Secure Schools

Efficiency and Savings

Fiscally Sound and
Sustainable

The Proposed Budget Will Permit Us to Maintain all Existing Programming...

- ...keep class sizes at the present level;
- ...continue to offer the following special-area programming:
 - Popular After-School Club Program;
 - Full array of special daily programming, which includes:
 - Health & Physical Education;
 - Library/Media;
 - Computer/Technology;
 - Gifted & Talented/Focused Enrichment;
 - World Language;
 - Art; and
 - Music (Vocal and Instrumental);
- ...hold our 3-week summer school program which includes basic skills instruction and enrichment;
- ...maintain our 5-year cycle of curriculum updates

The Proposed Budget Will Permit Us To Continue Program Enhancements In...

- Language Arts Literacy
- Mathematics – newly purchased enVisions textbook series
- Re-alignment of our FOSS (Full Option Science System)
- Social Studies – presently reviewing textbook series
- Special Education – funding for a full array of services
 - ★ Preschool Learning Disabled Class
 - ★ Pre-Kindergarten Inclusion class
 - ★ Primary Multiply Disabled class
 - ★ Intermediate Multiply Disabled class
 - ★ Resource and inclusion teachers in both schools

Goals Unique to 2013–2014 Proposed Budget...

- AchieveNJ – (AKA – EE4NJ) -- Full implementation of Effective Educators for New Jersey as mandated by the state
- Building Security – security enhancement of our 3 buildings
- PARCC – the district will move closer to the computer hardware requirements dictated by the NJ Department of Education’s new assessment tool – PARCC (Partnership for the Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers)
- PTAP – provide programming, staff development and other resources to accomplish our Progress Target Action Plan
- Capital Project – replacement of select unit ventilators
- Common Core State Standards – continued implementation of the new standards

Fixed Costs ~94% of Budget

Include mandates from the State and Federal Government

- NJ Core Curriculum Content Standards
- Remote transportation
- No Child Left Behind Waiver Requirements & Race to the Top
- Basic Skills / Supplemental Instruction
- Special Education
- Environmental, Health, and Safety and...

Operational Obligations

- Employee benefits (contractual)
- Property and liability insurance
- Negotiated salaries (contractual)
- Utilities

Discretionary Costs ~6% of Budget

- Extra-curricular activities / Summer programs
- Instruction equipment and supplies
- Classroom furniture
- Technology (hardware & software)
- Janitorial supplies & equipment
- Capital projects
- Non-remote transportation
- Textbooks
- Workbooks

With the 2% cap and increases in fixed costs, it becomes more and more difficult to preserve the items that are considered discretionary but still important to the students and district.

District Initiated Cost Savings

- Purchasing cooperatives for supplies (Hunterdon County ESC), insurance (SAIF), and energy (ACES-gas & electric)
- Shared services for curriculum writing – Warren Hills cluster and others
- Shared Transportation Coordinator with Warren Hills
- Shared transportation contracts/services with WH & others
- High transportation efficiencies
- Shared services with Wash. Twp. – paving, mowing, snow removal, etc.
- E-Rate savings for phone and internet services
- Shared services with Sussex County ESC for non-public OT/PT
- We host a wide array of in-house special education programs – at 99.8% inclusion, we save on tuition, transportation and the other related costs of out-of-district placements
- Grant funding
- District remains open to practical, cost-saving shared service and grant opportunities

Cost Savings Through Legislation

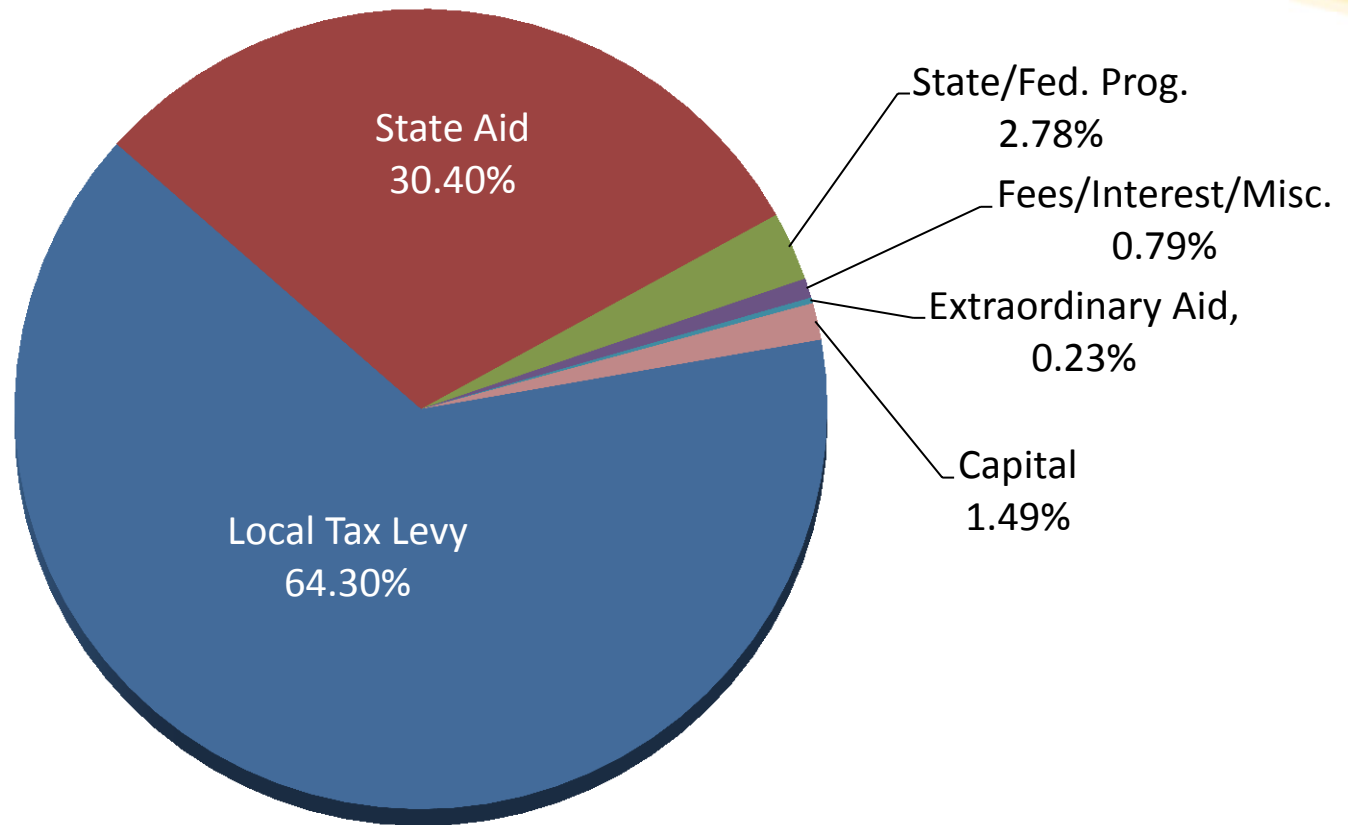
The Legislature has reacted to the pressure of property taxpayers, their own perceptions and the political climate to control school property taxes.

- The tax levy cap set by the state for this year is 2%. This 2% increase is on the prior year's tax levy – not the total budget.
- 2% of \$5,440,521 (2012-2013 tax levy) is \$108,810, bringing the 2013-2014 tax levy to \$5,549,331.
- Legislation adopted in June 2011 is phasing in higher employee contributions toward their own medical premiums. At the end of the 4-year phase-in period, contributions based on each employee's base salary and the level of medical coverage they receive, will be comparable to average private sector benefit contributions.

Cap Adjustments

- In recent years, the state permitted schools and municipalities to increase the tax levy over the 2% cap through specific adjustments and by allowing the carry-over of previous years' un-used cap (banked cap).
- For the 2013-2014 budget, WTSD has \$71,769 in banked cap that we would be permitted to use. This would mean adding \$71,769 to our 2% cap amount of \$108,810.
- In keeping with the intent of the 2% cap legislation and considering the economic hardships many of our taxpayers still face, we opted to NOT use any of our banked cap to levy additional taxes to apply to this year's budget revenue.

2013-2014 Revenues



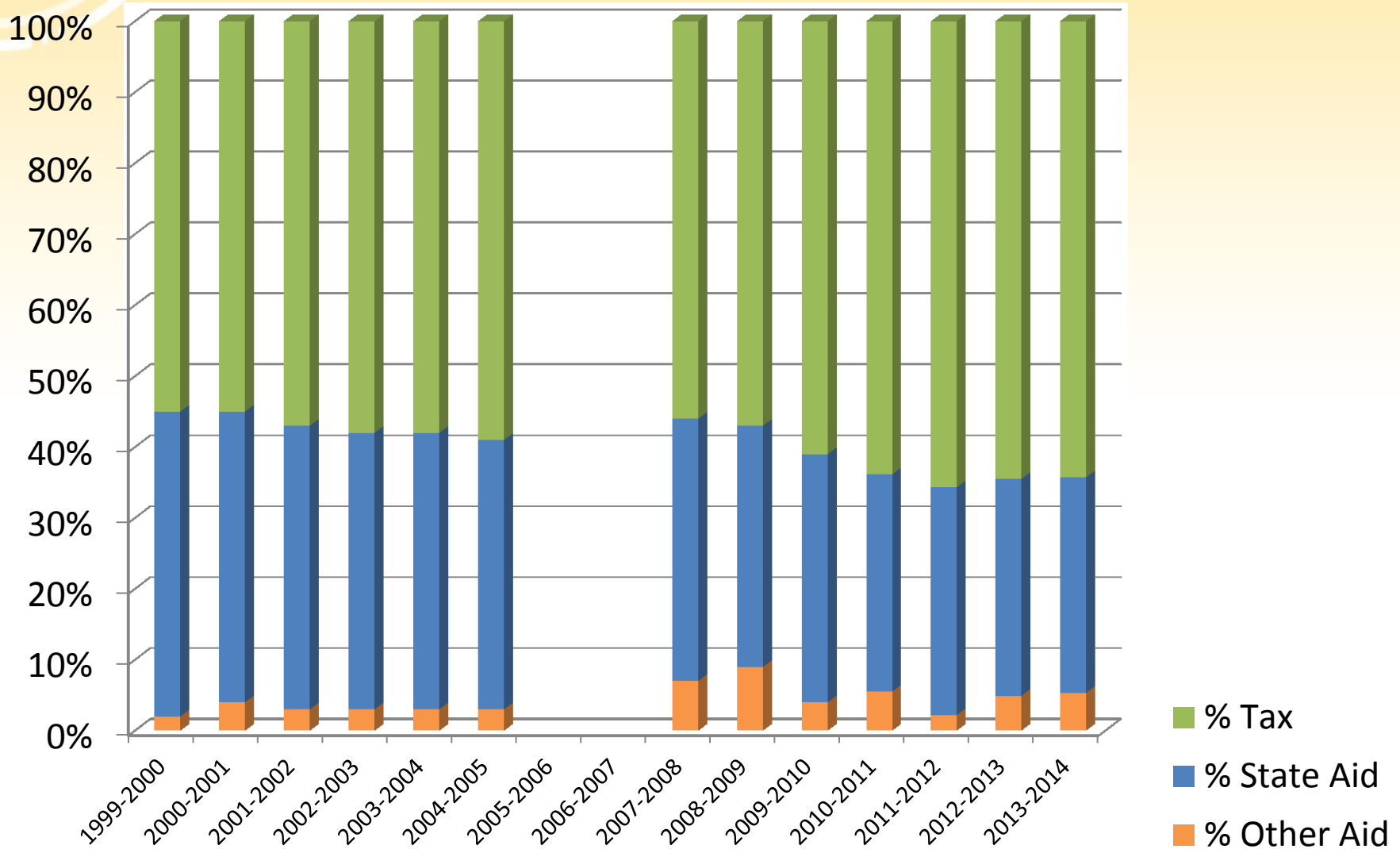
The 1.49% for “Capital” represents \$128,741 to be withdrawn from capital reserve for the replacement of several unit ventilators

Primary Funding Sources

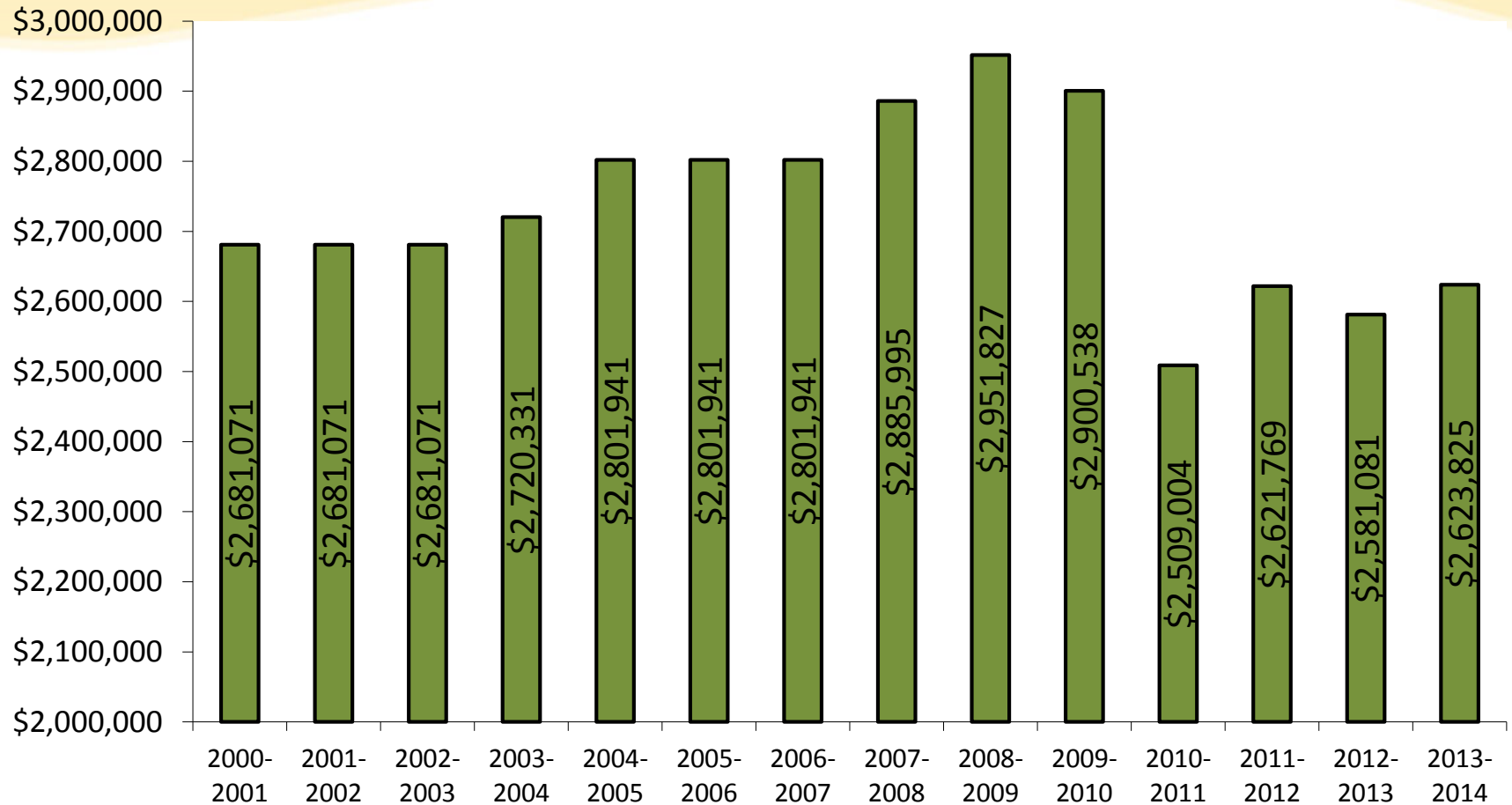


Not shown: State/Federal Prog, Interest & Misc., Extraordinary Aid, Capital

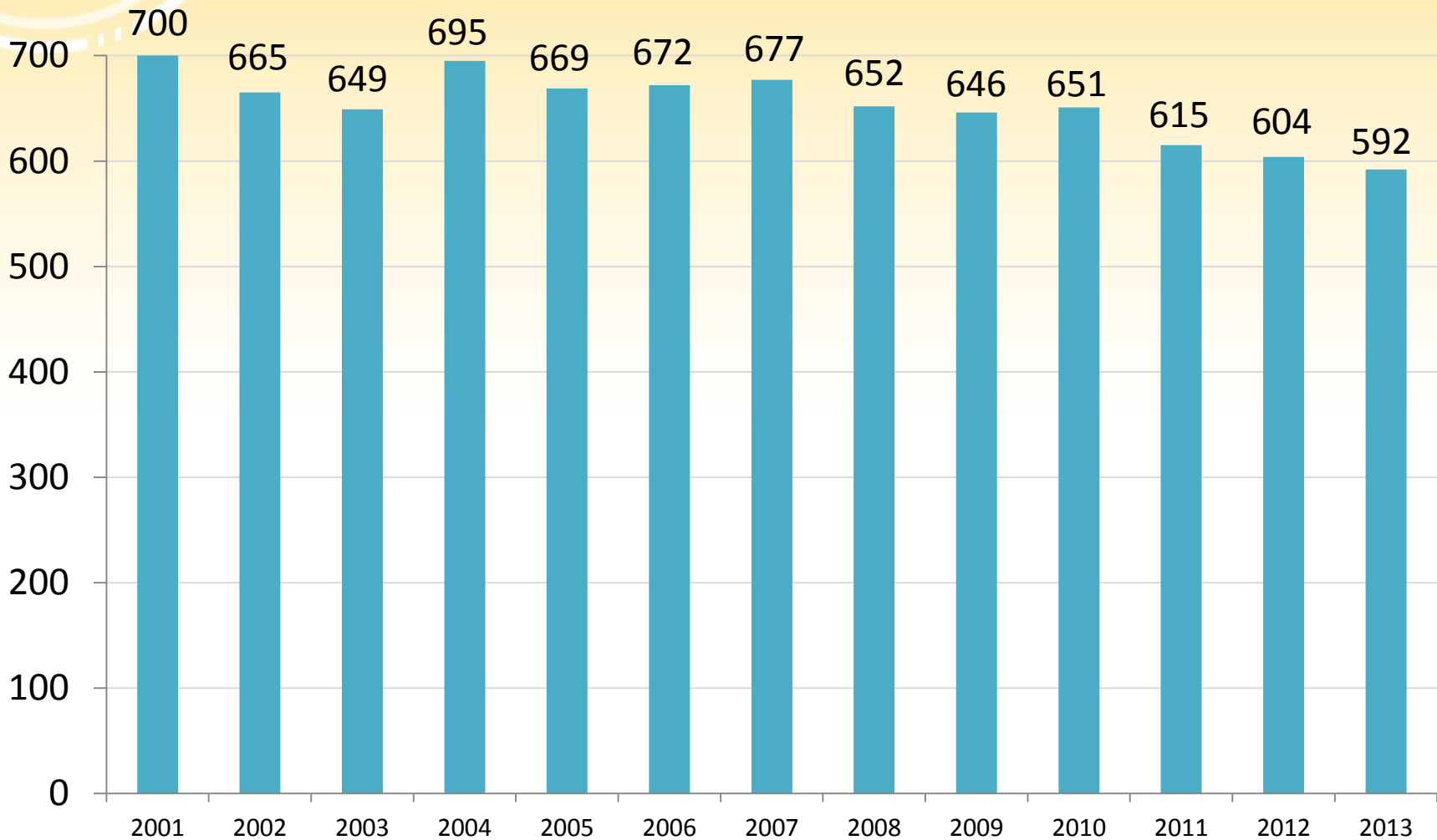
Funding Sources



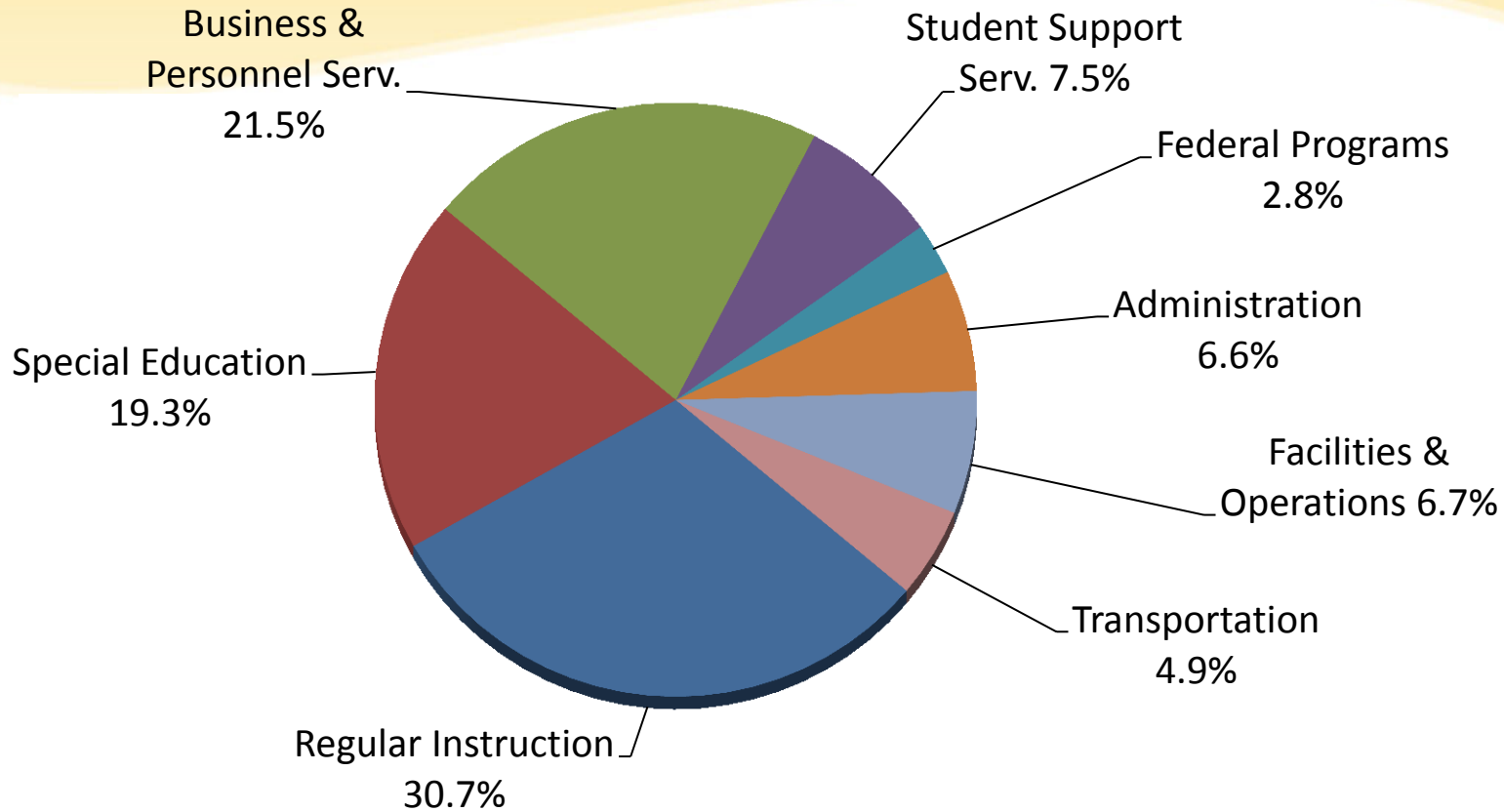
State Aid Snapshot



Enrollment Changes

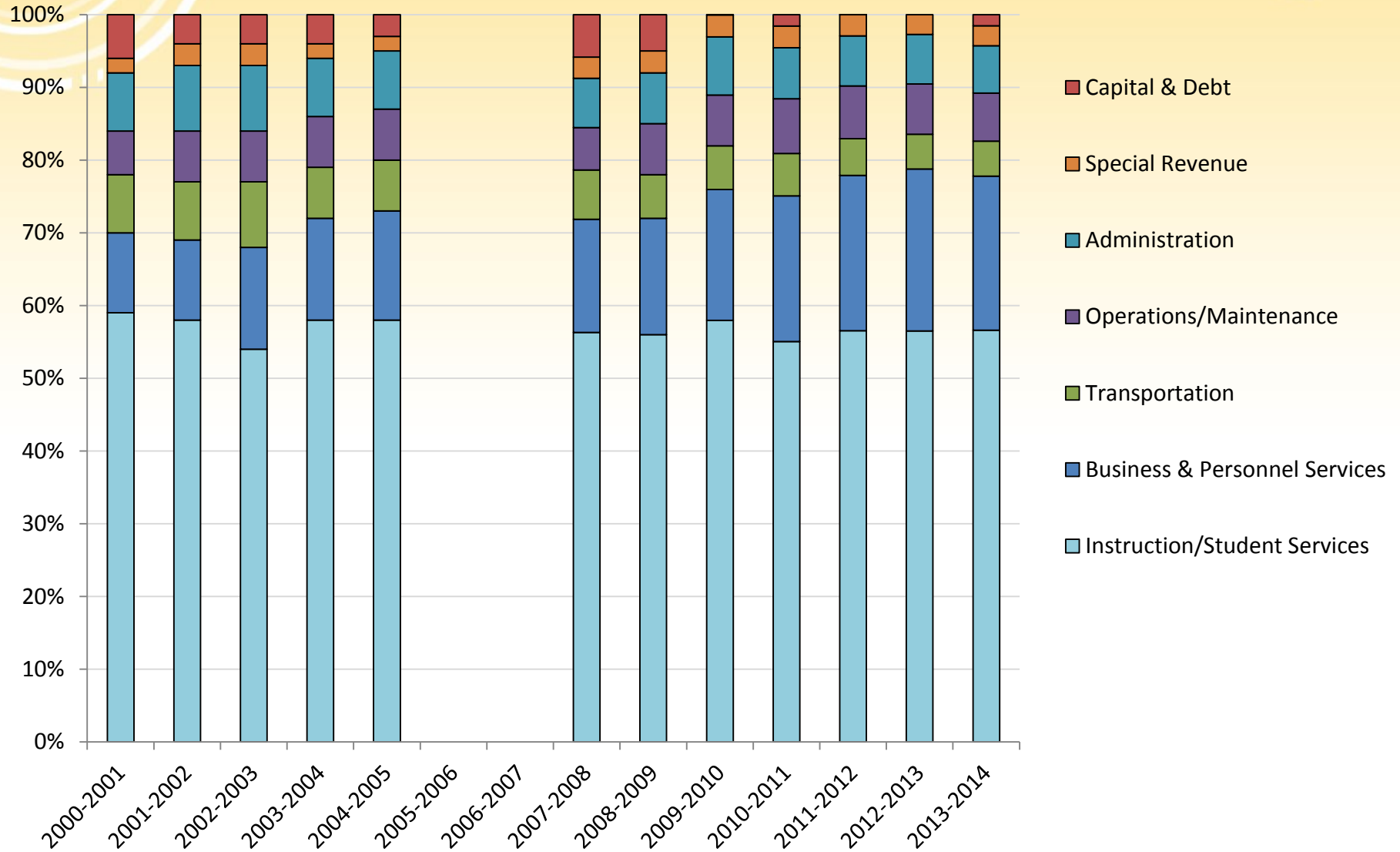


2013-2014 Expenditures



Not shown: \$128,741 from capital reserve to fund unit ventilator replacements

Expenditures as % of Budget



Capital Reserve & Unrestricted Fund Balance

- The capital reserve account allows the board to reserve fund balance to fund future capital projects. This money cannot be used for any other expenses.
- A board resolution is required to withdraw money from the capital reserve account to fund capital projects. Depending on the project, state approval may also be required.
- Deposits to this account can be made during budget adoption or in June.
- The amount of unrestricted fund balance in our budget is capped at \$250,000. The proposed budget has \$247,239 to cover any unanticipated / unbudgeted expenses.

Capital Projects



- Through careful planning and budgeting, the district has been able to fund many improvements to our buildings without going to the voters for additional funds.
- These improvements, along with careful attention and preventative maintenance to our buildings and grounds, have enabled us to enhance the safety, security and comfort of our students while still being good stewards of tax dollars.
- The proposed 2013-2014 budget withdraws \$128,741 from our capital reserve account to replace some unit ventilators that are beginning to fail.
- The district is debt-free with no outstanding bonds.

Budget Comparison...



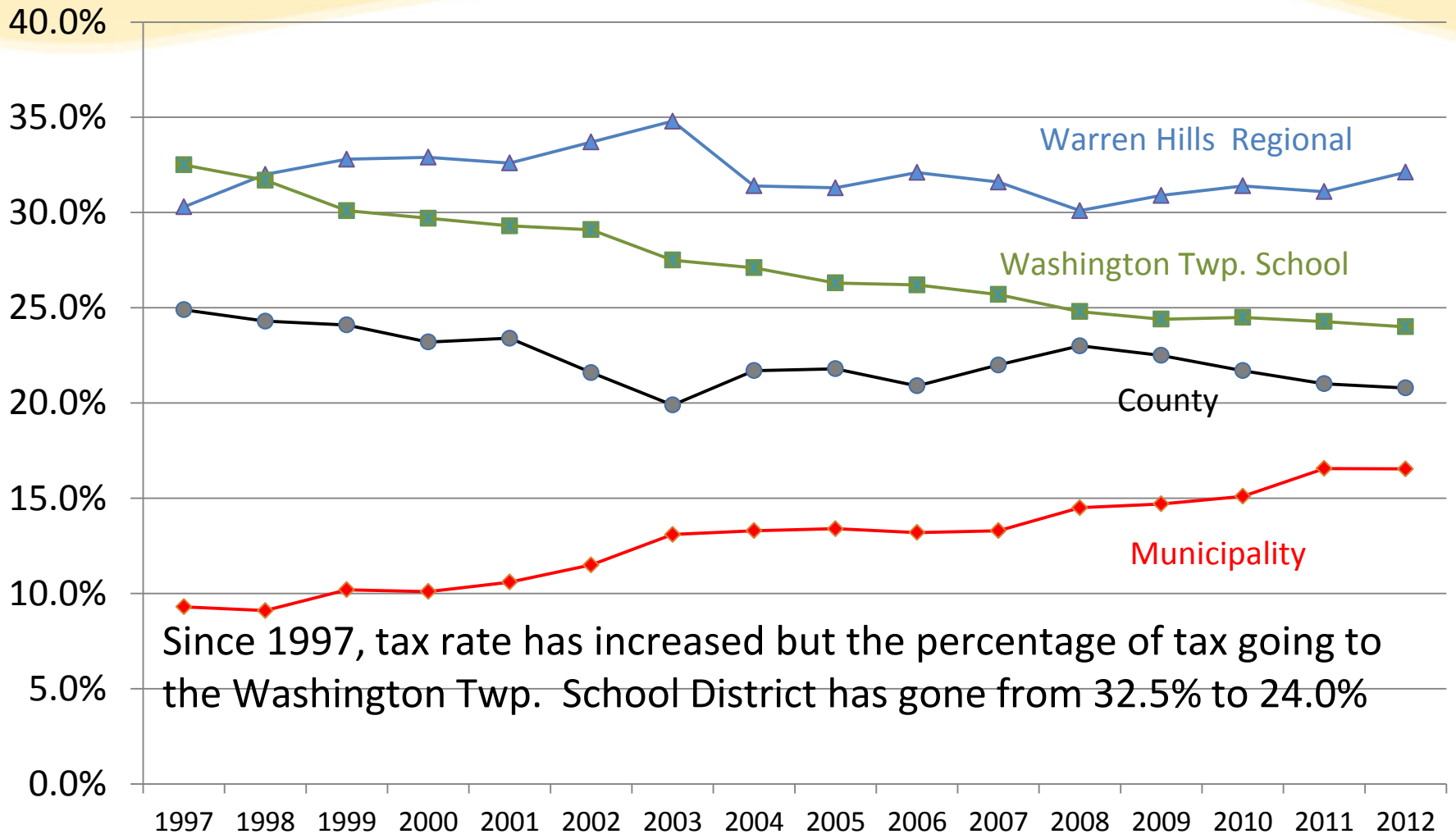
Budget line 1000	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014
Current Expense (excludes capital expenditures)	\$7,996,620	\$7,890,826	\$7,967,868	\$7,768,141	\$8,040,815	\$8,264,266	\$8,261,641
Dollar Change		(105,794)	\$77,042	(\$199,727)	\$272,674	\$223,451	(\$2,225)
Percent Change		(1.3%)	0.98%	(2.51%)	3.51%	2.78%	(0.03%)
Cumulative Percent Change			(0.36%)	(2.86%)	0.55%	3.35%	3.31%

Changes in the Tax Rate Since 2003–2004

	2003 2004	2004 2005	2005 2006	2006 2007	2007 2008	2008 2009	2009 2010	2010 2011	2011 2012	2012 2013	2013 2014 projected
Tax Rate Per \$100	71.8¢	70.0¢	70.2¢	74.0¢	76.5¢	73.4¢	74.3¢	77.1¢	78.0¢	80.1¢	81.6¢
Change Per \$100		-1.8¢	0.2¢	3.8¢	2.5¢	-3.1¢	1.1¢	2.8¢	0.9¢	2.0¢	1.5¢

Overall change in tax rate since the 2003-2004 school year = 9.8¢

Washington Township School District Tax as a Percent of the Total Tax Bill



Proposed Tax Increase

Tax Levy (portion of budget paid by taxes) = Tax Rate
(Municipality's Total Assessment / \$100)

$$\frac{\$5,549,331}{\$680,267,141 / 100} = \$0.816 = 81.6 \text{ ¢ or a } 1.5\text{¢ increase over } 2012\text{-}2013$$

For a home assessed at	Monthly Increase	Annual Increase
\$100,000	\$1.25	\$15
\$200,000	\$2.50	\$30
\$300,000	\$3.75	\$45



Questions?



- Call or Email Mr. Roger Jinks, Superintendent of Schools
(908) 689-1119 ext. 602 rjinks@washtwpsd.org
- Call or Email Mrs. Jean Flynn, School Business Administrator
(908) 689-1119 ext. 606 jflynn@washtwpsd.org
- Visit our website at washtwpsd.org

Thank You!

