

**WRITTEN TESTIMONY ON WISCONSIN RURAL SCHOOLS
TO THE SPEAKER'S TASK FORCE ON RURAL SCHOOLS**

**Bill Fisher
Shared Superintendent
Elcho and White Lake School District**

Good Afternoon,

Thank you for giving me the privilege to share with you information about the two small rural school districts that I serve as a shared superintendent. My two school districts are approximately 40 miles apart and are the heart and soul of their respective communities. In addition to sharing me, they also share the following positions:

- ✓ Technology Support
- ✓ Business Education Teacher
- ✓ Vocal Music Teacher
- ✓ Foreign Language Teacher
- ✓ Occupational Therapy
- ✓ Speech
- ✓ Nurse

The two districts combined cover 530 square miles, with a little over 1 student per square mile. Both districts have had to rely on operating referendums to maintain basic programming. The White Lake district has had an operating referendum in place since 2001 and will be seeking another one this April. The Elcho School District recently passed an operating referendum for \$400,000 per year for the next 4 years. Rural schools have unique needs and challenges in the areas of transportation, technology, hiring and retaining teachers, and poverty.

TRANSPORTATION

Buses in the Elcho School District travel approximately 684 miles per day. Our 2013/2014 operating budget is \$4,893,705. Our transportation cost last year was \$405,195, which is a little over 8% of our operating budget. Last year we received just over \$36,000 in transportation aid and \$36,551 in equalization aid.

- Transportation relief would provide additional funds that could be used for teaching and learning

TECHNOLOGY

Community broadband access is needed.

- ITV Classrooms
- Virtual Opportunities
- Personalized Learning

POVERTY

Many of our students come from low income families.

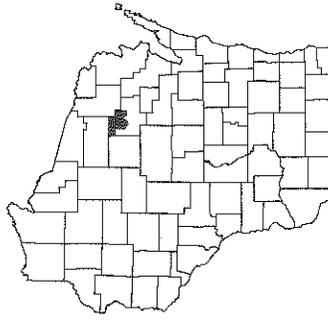
- Resources to address literacy deficiencies

RETAINING TEACHERS

This past year we hired 16 new teachers between my two districts, which is 28% of the combined teaching staff.

- A loan forgiveness program would help attract and retain highly qualified teachers

Elcho School District

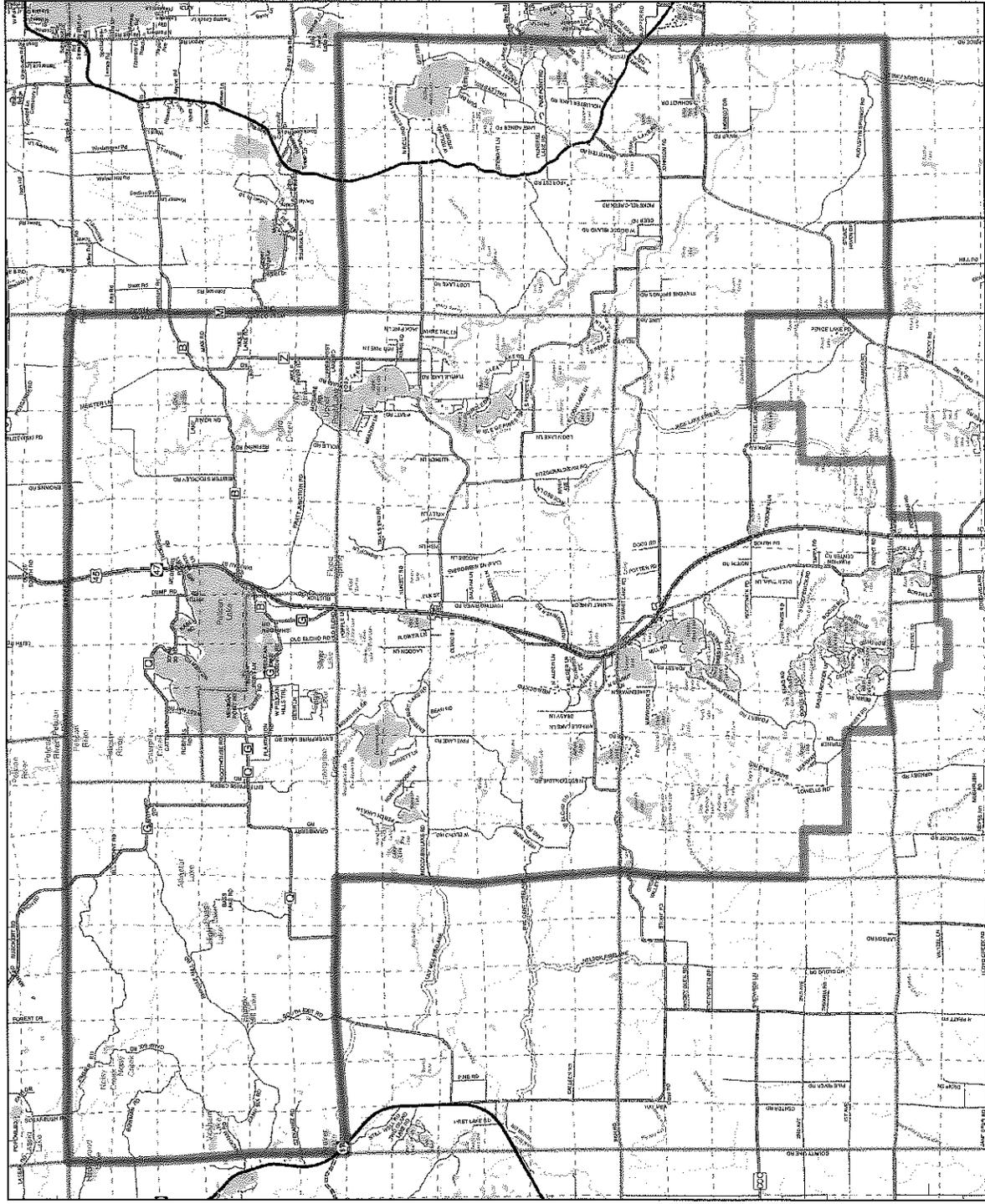


Legend

- School District Boundary
- Minor Civil Divisions
- Section Lines
- US Highways
- State Highways
- County Highways
- Local Roads
- County Forest Roads
- Federal Forest Roads
- Private Roads
- Water



Map Prepared By:
 North Central Wisconsin
 Regional Planning Commission
www.nwrpc.org



White Lake School District

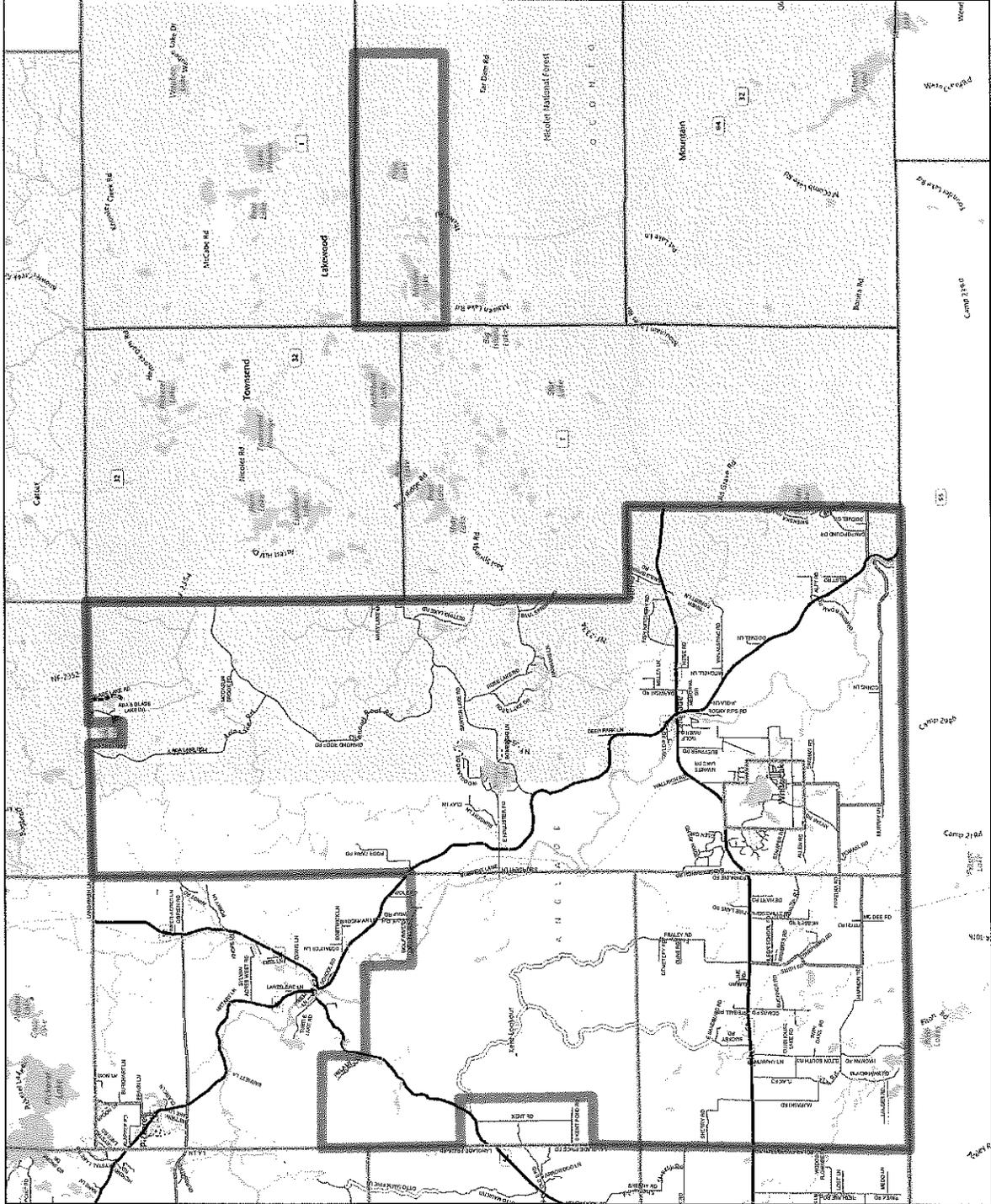


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Course Offering Comparison

(January, 2014)

	Elcho	Eau Claire	Pulaski
Math	Pre-Algebra Consumer Math College Pre-Algebra Algebra I Geometry Algebra II	Algebra I Geometry Accelerated Geometry Algebra II & Trig Accel Alge II & Trig Algebra/Geometry IV Precalculus Accel Precalculus AP Statistics AP Calculus AB & BC	College Prep Alg B ALEKS Alg Math 1 & 1A Math 2 & 2A Math 2 STEM Math 3 College Prep Geom B ALEKS Geom Math 1 Trades (NWTC) College Prep Alg 2 Honors Algebra 2 College Math (NWTC) Statistics AP Statistics Analysis Pre-Calculus PHS-SNC Calculus 1 AP Calculus 1 AB Calculus 1 & 2 AP Calculus 2 BC PHS-UWO Calculus 2 Comp Programming 1 AP Computer Sci
Social Science	Ancient World History Modern World History US History Political Science Psychodynamics Economics	Ancient & Medieval Hist Anthropology AP European History AP Macroeconomics AP Psychology AP US History AP US Gov & Politics Civics & Public Life Comparative Political Systems Criminal Justice History of Philos A & B Mid East-Land of Confl Principles of Economics Psychology Sociology/Social Issues Tolerance & Diversity in	Civics (SS1) World Histroy (SS2) AP Euro History Humanities World Hist US History (SS3) AP US History Sociology Global Issues in Mod World Race, Ethnic, & Diversity Studies Psychology AP Psychology Economics Geography AP Human Geography Contemp American

		America US History Vietnam War World Studies	Society Criminal Justice
English/Language Arts	English 9A & 9B English 10A & 10B English 11A & 11B English 12A & 12B	English 9, 10, 11 & 12 Enriched English 9& 10 AP English – Language & Composition AP English – Lit & Comp Grammar & Usage Journalism I & II Theatre I & II Writing with Style	English 9, 10, 11 AP English 9, 10, 11 Humanities Advanced Eng 10 Reading Workshop Practical English Fresh Reading A & B Literature for Life Study of Media Classic Novel Workplace Writing Creative Writing American Lit English Lit Expository Writing Written Lang Skills Communications Comp for Pub-Beg Comp for Pub-Adv Comp for Pub 2 Analysis of Drama PHS/St. Norbert College English
Science	Physical Science 9 Biology Chemistry I Chemistry II Advanced Biology Physics I & Physics II Human Anatomy & Physiology Intro to Forestry and Ecosystems/Environmental Topics & Global Sciences	Found of Natural Sc II Earth Science or Honors Earth Science Biology or AP Biology Astronomy/Geology Chemistry in Comm Chemistry AP Chemistry Oceanography/Meteoro Physics Biotechnology Botany Environ Science A & B Human Anatomy & Physiology	Lab Science Applications Phys Sci Physics AP Physics Chemistry AP Chemistry Biology AP Biology Earth Science Basic Anatomy Gen Anatomy & Physiology AP Environmental Sci

		AP Physics: Mechanics AP Physics: Magnetism	
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Art	Applied Arts Beyond Applied Arts	Combined Visual Arts Commercial Art I Commercial Art II Drawing I Drawing II Jewelry/Sculpture I Jewelry/Sculpture II Painting I Painting II Pottery/Sculpture I Pottery/Sculpture II 2-D Specialized Art I 2-D Specialized Art II Advanced Studio Art 3-D Specialized Art I 3-D Specialized Art II	Art Fundamentals Art & Design Advanced Art Functional Design 1A Sculptural Design 1B Design 2 Art Research Photography Adv Photography Art in Society AP Art History
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Business Education	Computer Info Systems I (CIS) Computer Info Systems II (CIS) Accounting I Intro to Business Personal Finance	Accounting I, II, & III Business Intern Class Component Business Intern Work Component Desktop Publishing Digital Applications Entrepreneurship Financial Services Internship Hospitality, Lodging & Tourism Intern Keyboarding Appls Marketing I Marketing II Intern Marketing II Intern Wk Microsoft Office Suite	Business Occupations Business Co-op Job Accounting 1 & 2 Keyboarding/Intro Word Processing Bus Management Computer App 1 & 2 Computer Applications for Business Personal Fincance Business Law Sports & Marketing Entrepreneurship
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		Personal Finance Personal Law Prep for College & Bus Web Design Appl I & II Yearbook I & II	
Foreign/World Language	Spanish I Spanish II	American Sign Lang I & II French I – V German I – V Japanese I – IV Spanish I - V	French 1,2,3 History of France PHS-History of France French Lit & Culture PHS-UWGB French Lit & Culture Spanish 1,2,3,4,5 PHS-UWGB Spanish 5
Music Department	Senior High Band Senior High Choir General Music	Band Entry Level Concert Intermed Level Concert Advanced Concert Bd Adv Lev 1 Concert Band Entry Level Jazz Intermed Level Jazz Adv Level Jazz Orchestra (Eagle, Concert, Advanced) Vocal Music Entry Level Men (Choir) Intermed Level Choir Upper Level Choir Intermed Level Show Adv Show Choir Adv Vocal Jazz General Music Adv Music Theory	Symphonic Band Concert Band Wind Ensemble Jazz Ensemble Concert Choir Treble Choir Men's Choir Music Theory Chamber Choir Combined Wind Ensemble & Concert Choir Music Technology AP Music Theory
Physical Education	Health Education Physical Education Net/Racket Games Team Sports Fitness & Weight Training Leisure & Lifetime Activities	Health 9 Wellness in the 21 st Century Level I & II PE Early Bird Junior PE Individual/Dual Sports Recreational Sports/Act Team Sports Strength & Condit I & II WSI/LGT	Lifetime Activities Team Challenge Freshmen PE Fit for Life Athletic Performance (Fall & Spring) Individual/Dual Sports Combination Sports Leadership Class Senior PE Summer School PE

			Health
Technology Education	Residential Construction Shielded Metal Arc Welding/Manufact II Woodworking Processes I Woodworking Processes II Woodworking Process III Graphic Design Intro to Auto/Small Engines	Electricity & Electronics Digital Electronics Intro to Engineering Architectural Design Pre-Engineering (CAD) Principals of Engineering Comp Integ Manufact Eng & Design Develop Photography I & II Printing & Graphics I, II & III Metals/Welding I, II & III Construction I & II Woodworking I & II Recreational Small Engine Vehicle Care Auto Mechanics I & II Entertainment Tech Aviation Computer Hardware Operating Systems Web I-XHTML & CSS Networking Fundament Cartoon Animation Web Game Design Video Game Develop Auto Collision Internship Auto Tech Internship Drafting & Design: Arch Drafting & Design: Engin Graphics Arts – Printing Info Tech: Computer Sci Tech Intern Work Exper	Comp Aided Drafting Intro to Engin Design Principles of Engin Civil Engin & Arch Comp Integr Manufact Digital Electronics Engin Design/Develop Architecture Graphic Commun Residential Wiring Electronics 1 Metal Process 1, 2, 3 Metal Ext Learn Block Residential Constructn Wood Technics 1, 2, 3 Wood Technics Ext Learning Block Automotive Mech Sm Engine Tech Auto Tech Beginner Home Maint Exploring Tech Applied Tech Co-op Class Applied Tech Co-op Job Cisco Networking 1,2,3,4 Web Page Design 3-D Animation
Agriculture & Natural Resources		Horticulture I Agriculture & Natural Resources Internship Agriculture & Natural Resources Intern Work Component Small Animals Veterinary Science I Veterinary Science II Wildlife Management I Wildlife Management II	Biotechnology Sm Animal Vet Sci 1 Sm Animal Vet Sci 2 Animal Sci 1 Lrg Animal Vet Sci Ag Engineering & Diesel Mech Adv Ag Engineering & Diesel Mech Agribusiness Co-Op Class

			Agribusiness Co-Op Job Horticulture Ag Mechanization & Constr Ag Bus Management Ag Products & Processing Floriculture/Landscape Zoology & Wildlife Sci Marine Bio Aquaculture AP Enviro Sci
Family and Consumer Science		Apparel & Interior Design Careers with Children Culinary I & II Families First FACS Internship Financial Fitness Food Science Health Services Intern Health Science Occupat Hospitality, Lodg & Tourism Intern Parents and Children World Cuisines	Independent Living Fam Foods & Wellness Adv Foods Food Science Culinary Arts 1 & 2 Housing & Interior Design Fashion Design & Construction Family Futures Child Adol Dvlpmnt Intro to Educ Practices Health Occup 1 & 2 Medical Terminology FACE Occup Co-op FACE Co-op Job