

State of DCSD

Fall 2023



Excellent Schools Impact Home Values and Economic Development

Culture of Academic Success and High Expectations

- **John Irwin Schools of Excellence Award** (28 schools)
- **Governor's Distinguished Improvement Award** (17 schools)
- DCSD has **higher reading scores** today than pre-pandemic
- The DCSD Class of 2023 earned **\$118 million in scholarships**



Thriving Schools, Thriving Community

Successful Students Contribute to our Workforce and Economy

- DCSD is Expanding of Future-Focused Pathways for College and Career
- DCSD Offers 52 Programs, 22 Industry Certifications, and 14,229 Career and Technical Education Seats



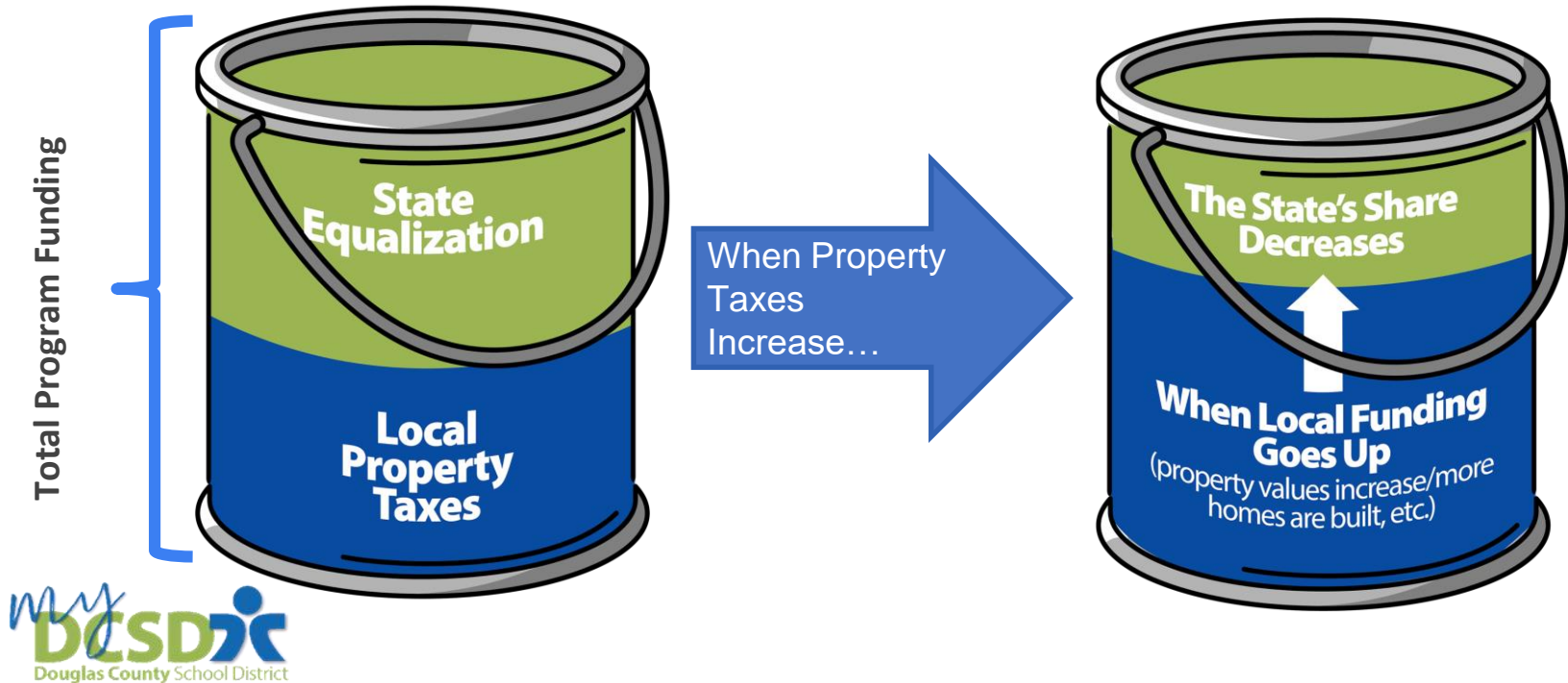
Funding Challenges Continue



DCSD Funding (and local property taxes)

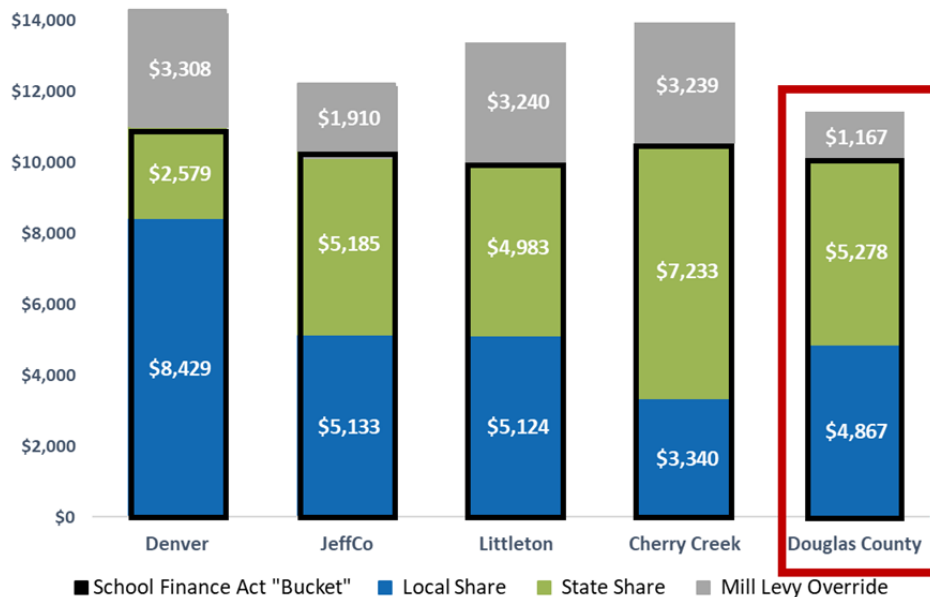
Increased local property taxes DO NOT impact DCSD's Total Funding.

Total Funding is set by the School Finance Act and funded by BOTH local and state taxes.



The Impact of Local Taxes on Comparative Revenue

Comparative Per Pupil Revenue (23-24)



**State and local numbers reflect the 2023-2024 School Year, MLO numbers reflect post 2022 election

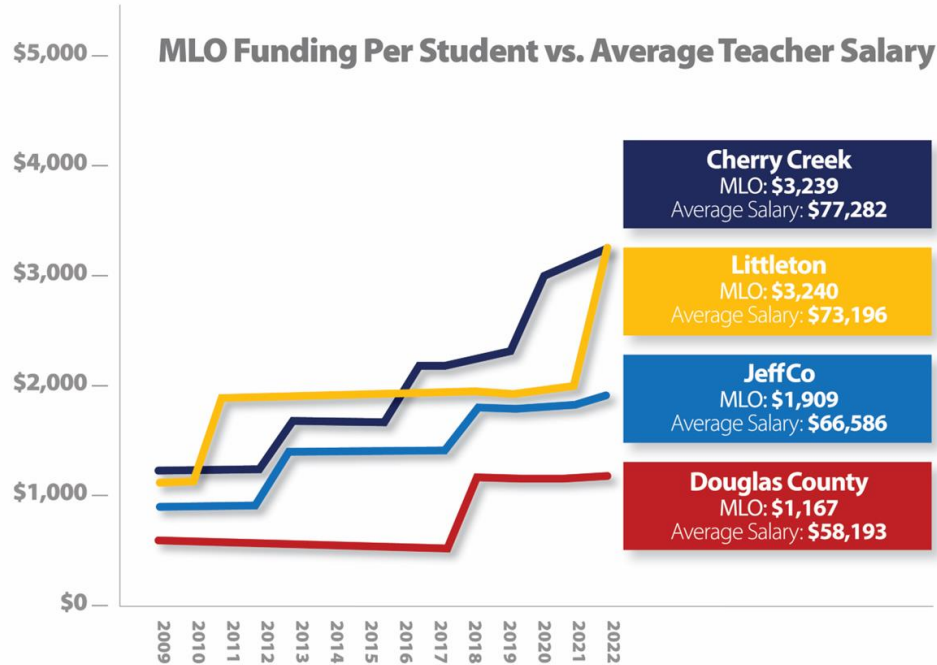


FACT:
Cherry Creek receives
\$2,072
more per student in MLO annually.

equating to a
\$130 million
Funding gap each year.*

*DCSD's 22-23 student count is 63,876.

Compensation, Hiring and Staff Retention Challenges



*MLO per student is total MLO divided by funded pupil count; Average teacher salaries are from CDE data for the 2021-2022 school year.

Douglas County starting teacher pay (23-24):

\$45,209

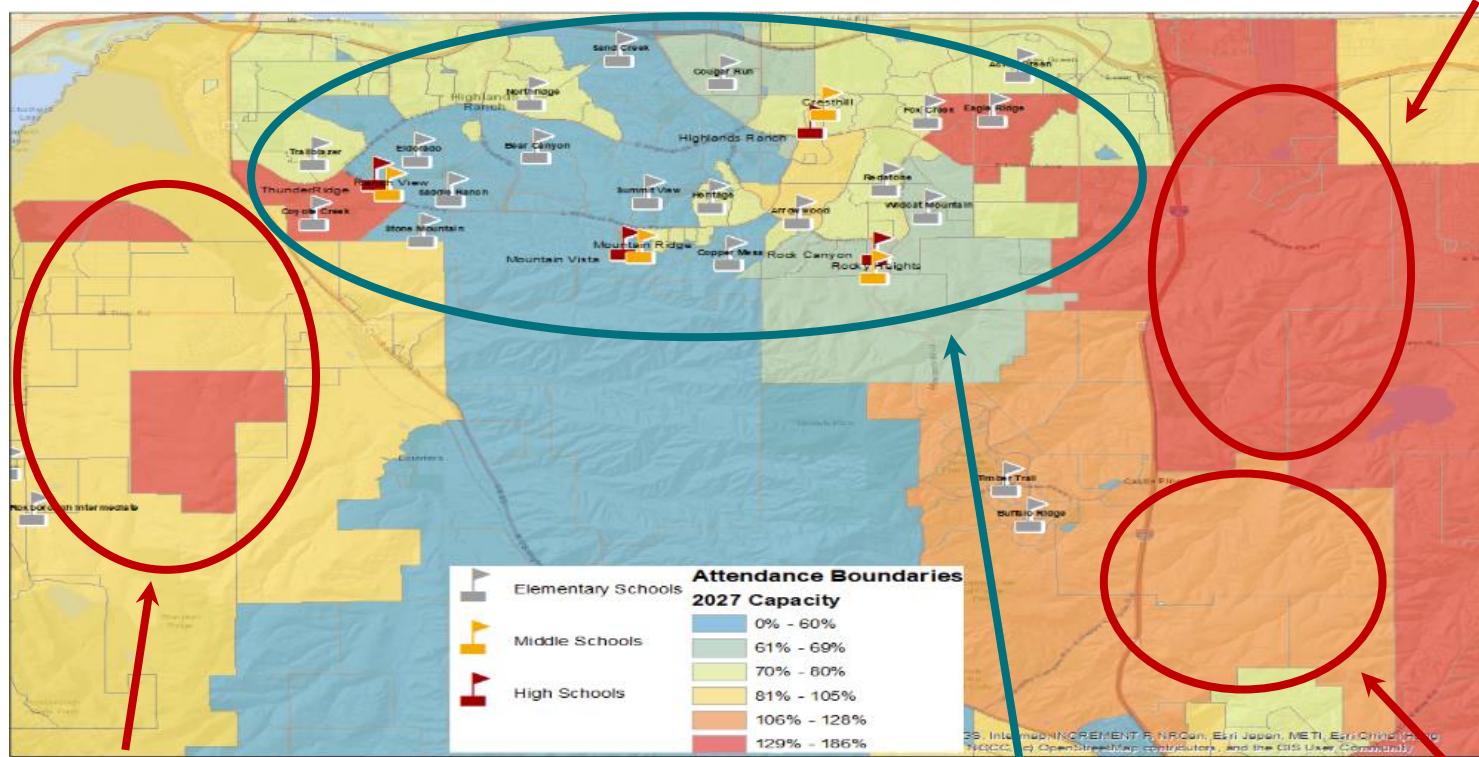
1-Bedroom apartment in Douglas County:

\$1,665+/mo



Growing New Communities are School Deserts

Ridgegate East
(8,000 future homes)



Sterling Ranch/Solstice
(13,000 homes, 16% built)

Highlands Ranch
(38,000 homes)

The Canyons
(5,000 homes, 18% built)

Board Initiated Ballot Measures Summary

- **\$66 Million Mill Levy Override** to pay teachers and staff more competitively and to increase security support for our schools.
- **\$484 Million Bond** to expand career and technical education opportunities, perform safety and security upgrades, and to ensure safe and adequate learning environments for students and staff.
- **Net Impact to Taxpayers** if both initiatives pass is an additional \$20 per year per \$100K in home value*

**compared to what taxpayers currently pay and assuming a 35% increase in assessed values*

Arguments For and Against

| Arguments <u>For</u> the Ballot Issues: | Arguments <u>Against</u> the Ballot Issues: |
|--|--|
| <p>A MLO/Bond would enable the school district to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Retain and Attract Excellent Teachers and Staff by increasing pay to be more competitive with neighboring school districts.• Increase and Maintain Safety and Security with additional support such as School Resource Officers and implementing school safety and security upgrades.• Provide Additional Trades and Career and Technical Education Opportunities for Students to further set students up for success after high school.• Update, Maintain, and Construct Educational Facilities as described in the school district's bond plan to ensure safe and adequate learning spaces and to reduce overcrowding. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The MLO/Bond would increase property taxes by \$200 per year for a one million dollar home.• Assessed property values are on the rise in Douglas County resulting in upcoming property tax increases.• The Mill Levy Override does not have a sunset.• The Bond would create additional debt service for the school district. |



Questions?

