

**Tuition Increase Impact on West Plains K-8 Rural Schools**



The West Plains R-7 School District recently released information regarding a proposed increase in tuition costs for the surrounding K-8 school districts. **According to West Plains Superintendent, Dr. Lori Wilson, districts can expect a “minimum 5% increase, each year, over the next 5 years to reach the actual amount of tuition calculated: \$9,723.45”.**

For the current 2020-2021 school year, the tuition rate is \$8,108.65 per student. Based on current enrollment for each respective school district, the information in the table below reflects:

- An estimation of the increase in tuition costs of \$405.43 per student per year above each prior year (*italicized numbers*)
- Total amount of tuition paid to West Plains R-7 School District

These are the **minimum** amounts described by Dr. Wilson over the next five years, and the actual amounts may be significantly higher.

School	Current	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026	
Fairview	\$ 1,094,667.75	<i>\$ 54,733.05</i>	<i>\$ 54,733.05</i>	<i>\$ 54,733.05</i>	<i>\$ 54,733.05</i>	<i>\$ 54,733.05</i>	<b>Total Estimated Tuition Paid to West Plains R-7 Over the Next 5 Years</b>
		\$ 1,149,400.80	\$ 1,204,133.85	\$ 1,258,866.90	\$ 1,313,599.95	\$ 1,368,333.00	
Glenwood	\$ 842,571.60	<i>\$ 42,164.72</i>	<i>\$ 42,164.72</i>	<i>\$ 42,164.72</i>	<i>\$ 42,164.72</i>	<i>\$ 42,164.72</i>	
		\$ 884,736.32	\$ 926,901.04	\$ 969,065.76	\$ 1,011,230.48	\$ 1,053,395.20	
Howell Valley	\$ 583,822.80	<i>\$ 29,190.96</i>	<i>\$ 29,190.96</i>	<i>\$ 29,190.96</i>	<i>\$ 29,190.96</i>	<i>\$ 29,190.96</i>	
		\$ 613,013.76	\$ 642,204.72	\$ 671,395.68	\$ 700,586.64	\$ 729,777.60	
Junction Hill	\$ 535,170.90	<i>\$ 26,758.38</i>	<i>\$ 26,758.38</i>	<i>\$ 26,758.38</i>	<i>\$ 26,758.38</i>	<i>\$ 26,758.38</i>	
		\$ 561,929.28	\$ 588,687.66	\$ 615,446.04	\$ 642,204.42	\$ 668,962.80	
Richards	\$ 956,820.70	<i>\$ 47,841.04</i>	<i>\$ 47,841.04</i>	<i>\$ 47,841.04</i>	<i>\$ 47,841.04</i>	<i>\$ 47,841.04</i>	
		\$ 1,004,661.74	\$ 1,052,502.78	\$ 1,100,343.82	\$ 1,148,184.86	\$ 1,196,025.90	
<b>Total</b>	\$4,013,053.75	<i>\$ 200,688.15</i>	<i>\$ 401,376.30</i>	<i>\$ 602,064.45</i>	<i>\$ 802,752.60</i>	<i>\$ 1,003,440.75</i>	<b>\$ 3,010,322.25</b>
		\$ 4,213,741.90	\$ 4,414,430.05	\$ 4,615,118.20	\$ 4,815,806.35	\$ 5,016,494.50	<b>\$ 23,075,591.00</b>

The total amount of tuition paid to West Plains R-7 School District over the next 5 years will be approximately **\$23,075,591.00**. The increase of \$405.43 per student per year amounts to an increase of **\$3,010,322.25** over 5 years.

**This proposed tuition increase will result in one or more of the following:**

- 1) K-8 district tax levy increases, 2) cuts to K-8 programs, 3) financial distress leading to dissolution/consolidation**