

**Public Hearing - Petition Presentation**  
**November 5, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.**

Needs and Conditions

Generally:

- To improve the quality of the educational system.
- To extend the scope of programs to meet individual student needs within an ever-changing society.
- To develop and maintain equitable system of adequately financing public education.
- To improve the utilization and efficiencies of operations.

Enrollment:

- The student population for the high schools in this study will decrease by 86 over the next five years.
- The elementary schools collectively lost 122 students from 2013-14 to 2017-18.
- This loss of students will continue with an additional loss of 158 students projected by 2022-23.
- Combining these districts and making some building assignment adjustments would reduce the overcrowding issue that currently exists in the Watseka Elementary buildings and would increase the usage of the Crescent City Elementary building.
- The student population for the high schools in this study will decrease by 86 over the next five years.

Transportation:

- Student transportation will result in only a total projected additional cost of \$55,292.
- The special education costs should not be impacted nor would the vocational transportation.

Buildings:

- The two communities participating in this study face opposite issues from a building perspective. The elementary buildings in Watseka are all at capacity and are making ongoing adjustments to accommodate the students. Nettie Davis has flooded three times in past ten years. Crescent City has a large building with very small class sizes that is currently at 40% capacity.
- Combining these two district would provide the opportunity to make better use of all facilities in each community and reduce the crowded conditions in Watseka. This would reduce the overcrowding in Wanda Kendall and Glen Raymond and increase the student population in the Crescent City building from 82 to 193 students.

Standards of Recognition

- State Assessment of Student Performance - PARCC ELA data - Iroquois 9 (42%) and Crescent 249 (43%) students performed above state averages.
- Student Attendance Rates - Iroquois 9 - 95% Crescent 249 - 95%
- Graduation Rates - Iroquois 9 - 94% Crescent 249 - N/A
- All schools in both districts received the designation of 'Commendable' on their 2018 Illinois School Report Card.
- Existing special education program will continue. Staffing of programs will need further planning.

- If junior high students from both districts are brought together in one facility, additional electives can be explored such as a survey in Spanish. Current electives in Art, Band, Music, and Technology could continue in a reorganized district.
- Bringing all high school students together will provide increased enrollment in courses and the possibility of offering more courses on a regular basis.
- Incorporate Art in the K-4 curriculum. Certified teachers available.
- More cross curricular projects and hands-on activities could be developed.
- The Choral & Band programs will be enhanced by added enrollments.

Maximum Tax Rates

- Education - 2.92
- Operations & Maintenance - .50
- Transportation - .24
- Health Life Safety - .07

Division of Funds and Assets

	<b>Crescent CUSD #249</b>	<b>Iroquois CUSD #9</b>
Average Daily Attendance	82	880
Evidence Based Funding Revenue	217,288	4,033,542
EBF Revenue/Per Student	2,130	4,583
Total District Expenditures	1,831,227	10,881,637
Operating Expense Per Pupil	11,389	10,301
Assessed Valuation Per Pupil	19,982	92,269
Total Certified Staff (2015-2016)	8	68
Average Teacher's Salary (2015-2016)	Salary assumptions are included.	Salary assumptions are included.
EAV 2015-2016	20,382,009	81,197,198

Incentives - Salary Difference

- By calculating the average salaries of current certified staff members and placing them in the new unit district salary schedule, which is a calculation based on placing the teachers in the highest existing salary schedule from both districts, an estimate of an additional \$77,891 in total salary cost per year is calculated.

- Therefore, over a four-year incentive period approximately \$311,564 should be received in the certified salary differential from ISBE.

#### Existing Debt

- Each district is responsible for their existing debt. Crescent 249 will have no debt payment after this fiscal year. Iroquois 9 has debt payments scheduled unit 2022.

#### Staffing Incentives - Salary Differences

- Total Incentives = \$1,830,440 - It is made up of the following:
  - EBF Difference Incentive = \$510,876
  - Deficit Fund Balance Incentive = -0-
  - \$4,000 Certified Staff Incentive = \$ 1,008,000
  - Salary Difference Incentive = \$311,564
- Funds received in the EBF line item would represent a net loss annually after the four year of incentives expired.
- Amount received in the Salary line item would indicate an additional operational expense after the four years of incentives expired.
- In summary the district after the four year incentive period would experience somewhere around \$300,000 in additional expenditures notwithstanding staffing changes/reductions.

#### Vehicles for Students Transportation

- Crescent 249 owns 1 bus and 5 MPVs
- Iroquois 9 owns 2 buses, leases 8 buses, and owns 1 activity bus

#### Tax Incentive

- Crescent 249 taxpayers, according to the feasibility study, will experience an approximately 25% reduction in the annual property tax assessment from the new combined district.