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## Franklin Twp. Schools' Bond Adjustment to Save Taxpayers \$9.6+ million

Franklin Township residents will benefit from a substantial tax reduction, due to a timely re-funding of a bond issue by the Franklin Township Community School Corporation. With the Federal Reserve's reduction of interest rates in response to COVID-19, Franklin Township School officials saw and utilized an opportunity to re-fund \$64.8 million in bonds.

By re-funding the bonds - reducing the interest rate to 1.91 percent - the school corporation has reduced its debt service by \$9,673,464 over the next 13 years, explains Fred McWhorter II, Chief Operating Officer and Treasurer. This entire \$9.6+ million reduction translates to direct tax savings, because state law prohibits schools from generating additional revenue through lower interest rates on bonds. Because schools are permitted to levy taxes only on money owed, a lower interest rate means property owners have a smaller bill to pay. "This lowers the annual payment due, which is paid from property taxes," McWhorter said, adding that the re-funding gives increased flexibility to the school corporation in the future.

## Franklin Twp. Schools at the Forefront of Learning

- FTCSC has 4 Indiana Department of Education Four-Star Schools and 6 IDOE "A" Schools.
- FTCSC is an "A" Corporation, by Indiana Department of Education criteria.
- Franklin Central High School (FCHS) has earned a US News & World Report Silver ranking among "Best High Schools" in America for 8 consecutive years.
- FCHS boasts more than 200 courses, including 32 dual-credit and AP courses, which last year alone enabled students to earn more than 3,000 hours of college credit.
- FCHS offers 64 extracurricular activities, including an award-winning radio and performing arts program.
- Class of 2020 seniors earned more than \$6.7 million in scholarships. Included among these graduates was a Lilly Endowment Scholar, an Indiana Academic All-Star and two National Merit Finalists.



## Moving forward through uncertain times

In launching the 2020-21 school year during a global pandemic, the Franklin Township Community School Corporation has put great effort into providing learning experiences that are academically rigorous while ensuring the safety of staff and students. Our mission remains: "to instill in all students a passion for lifelong learning and to inspire each one to contribute as a responsible citizen to the future of our interconnected world."

Kelly L. Foulk

School Board President

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