Susan Baskett's Views on Pros and Cons of Annexation

Pros

Ann Arbor Public Schools	Whitmore Lake Community Schools
Ability to acquire new school buildings and other WLCS assets	Ability to keep school community identity and its dents 'close to home' without additional costs
Potential to increase student enrollment from areas immediately surrounding WLCS	WLCS students will benefit from the resources and reputation of being part of the AAPS
Additional funding due to the incentive funds of udent (excluding students enrolled due to "Schools of Choice" option)	Immediate infusion of resources, possibly ng programs previously eliminated due to lack of funding (i.e. AP classes in high school)
Notoriety of saving a near-defunct school district	Increase in staff salaries to be on par with AAPS negotiated contracts (\$1.4M)
· Satisfaction of being benevolent	Health care benefits for Para-professional staff
community (intra-district transfers)	WLCS students will have option of attending ger, more diverse schools in larger Ann Arbor (intra-district transfers)
	· Increased property values
	Economic development (i.e. rental property)
	Beneficiary of AAPS's recent technology bond, w computers, educational software, internet nectivity in schools and administrative offices) without paying anything!
	Increased professional development

Cons

Ann Arbor Public Schools	Whitmore Lake Community Schools
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Agreed to acquire additional buildings and other assets and its maintenance, without any assessments/inspections	· Loss of local governance; non-voting seats on AAPS BoE
Additional funding due to the incentive funds of \$100/student (excluding students enrolled due to "Schools of Choice" option) is not guaranteed sustainability	 WLCS families will not be able to vote for the school board members until 2017
BoE acted without hearing from its constituents	· Recreation Millage and its benefits will disappear
Drains time and focus from new initiatives introduced last year by new Superintendent; potentially diluting the education of current AAPS students	· Will be asked to support future millages
Local taxes will increase without immediate benefit to taxpayers	Potential loss of non-instructional staff (many being WL residents, i.e. bus drivers, food preparation, etc.)
Jeopardizes passage of future millages (WL residents defeated previous millages)	
Spreads benefits of technology bond over more students in broader geographical area	
No public discussion of doing nothing; AAPS may be able to acquire WLCS assets without a tax increase to AAPS tax payers	