

The Cornell School District is among only 12% of WI School Districts that has never held a referendum to exceed the state imposed revenue caps. While this has been good for our taxpayers, it has at times caused struggles financially for the district. We have always found a way to make things work while still providing a high quality education. However, we have no idea how much longer we can continue to do this.

I have frequently written about revenue caps and how we have been capped at a very low rate compared to many districts based upon our spending in 1993. We have had 30 years where we have received less money per student than many other districts! Now, as all of you have seen, inflation is jumping at record rates, yet we can't raise additional revenue to cover the additional expenses. As you talk to our state representatives about school funding for this next biennium, ask them to increase the low revenue limit from \$10,000 to \$11,500. This would put 93% of the school districts in WI within 10% of each other for revenue limit authority per student.

You may think this is a large increase, but remember that the state did not give us any new revenue limit authority the last two years. I've always been proud of how conservative our area of the state is, but our students shouldn't receive less just because we were more frugal in 1993! Again, please promote a revenue limit of \$11,500 in this next state budget for school district revenue limits. Also, when you see someone from Lake Holcombe, congratulate them on being debt free! It is a great feeling!