



Dear Friend of Washington Elementary,

As you may have heard, Washington Elementary and the PTO have been actively trying to raise funds to support the purchase of choral (music) risers for the school. The students stand on the risers during music class and during concerts.

Washington Elementary currently does not own any choral risers, despite serving approximately 460 students across seven grade levels. Our annual performance schedule includes December concerts for Kindergarten, 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th grades; spring concerts for Kindergarten, 1st, and 2nd grades; an all school talent show in May; and a 6th-grade graduation performance in June.

For every one of these events, we must borrow seven sets of risers from neighboring schools. This dependence significantly restricts our ability to schedule performances. Custodial teams from multiple buildings must coordinate a complex move order—locating, transporting, loading, unloading, setting up, and then storing the borrowed risers. As a result, we are often forced to schedule up to four concerts in a single day to accommodate limited availability. Owning our own risers would create greater flexibility in performance days and times, helping us maintain our goal of minimizing instructional disruptions by holding concerts primarily on Fridays.

Borrowing risers also becomes increasingly difficult because the schools that lend to us have their own concerts in December and May. Understandably, they must prioritize their needs first, further limiting the dates available to our school.

In addition, the risers we borrow are older, heavy, and cumbersome to assemble. They typically require at least two custodians to set up safely. Modern riser designs are significantly more efficient—they roll on wheels, lock securely, and can be lowered and set up with far less effort. With updated equipment, the music teacher or even trained older students could assist in setup, reducing strain on custodial staff and streamlining event preparation.

Securing our own set of risers would directly improve student performance opportunities, reduce logistical burdens across multiple schools, and ensure safer, more efficient concert preparation for years to come.



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(over to page 2)

RAISING for the RISERS

\$17,000 Goal

We Need Your Support!

Raised so far

**\$1,440 from
No Hassle Fundraiser &
individual donations**

\$300 from Yo-Yo sales

***Make Checks out to
Washington PTO
and mail to:***

Washington PTO
3500 Prais Street
Stevens Point, WI 54481

Cash also accepted

Or Give Online:
washingontigerpto.org



@WashingtonTigerPTO

Thank you!

*Washington Tiger PTO Inc. is
a 501(c)(3) nonprofit
organization.
EIN 92-1261319*

Our vision is to create a thriving, sustainable performance environment where every student has the opportunity to share their learning with confidence, joy, and pride. By equipping Washington Elementary with its own set of modern risers, we will provide a safe, accessible, and professional performance space that elevates both the quality of our concerts and the educational experience behind them.

We envision a school community where music performances are not restricted by borrowed equipment or scheduling limitations, but instead serve as meaningful celebrations of student growth. With reliable risers on site, we can offer more flexible performance times, reduce instructional disruptions, and expand opportunities for family engagement.

Ultimately, our goal is to ensure that all students—across all grade levels—have consistent access to a supportive, well-equipped performance setting that fosters creativity, collaboration, and confidence for years to come.

Please consider making a gift today, and support our concerts, music programs, and memorable experiences for the kids and school community that will be remembered for years to come.

With sincere gratitude,



Hallie Ritchay
Principal



Alli Gostomski
Music Teacher



Allison Swain
PTO President



Tiffany Kania
PTO Vice President



Paul Sinclair
PTO Secretary



Chris Radford
PTO Treasurer

PTO Fundraising Committee

Dax Burroughs
Karly Holland
Eva Donohoo
Cristy Ehlert

