

---

**S&P Global**

Ratings

(/en\_US/web/guest/home)  
**Wilkinsburg Borough School  
District, PA 2017 Outlook Revised  
To Stable On Expected Surplus,  
Improved Budgetary Certainty**

14-Feb-2017 17:41 EST

[View Analyst Contact Information](#)

---

NEW YORK (S&P Global Ratings) Feb. 14, 2017--S&P Global Ratings revised its outlook to stable from negative and assigned its 'BBB' rating to Wilkinsburg Borough School District, Pa.'s series 2017 general obligation (GO) bonds. At the same time, we affirmed our 'BBB' rating on the district's outstanding GO bonds. The outlook is stable.

"Our revised outlook is based on improved certainty in the district's finances, supported by settlement of its teachers' union contract and outstanding litigation over tuition payments with charter schools," said S&P Global Ratings credit analyst Rahul Jain, "as well as what we expect to be the district's first surplus in six years in fiscal 2017 due to changes in its revenues and expenditures structure, which we believe it will maintain over the near term."

The district's full faith and credit GO pledge secures the outstanding GO bonds, subject to the limitations of the Act 1 Index.

We understand that bond proceeds will be used to refund the district's series 2011 GO bonds for net present value savings.

"The stable outlook reflects our opinion that the district will realize a significant surplus in fiscal 2017 resulting in a material improvement to the district's deficit fund balance levels due to increased and sustained support from the Commonwealth, as well as the stabilizing impact on operations from the partnership with Pittsburgh Public Schools," added Mr. Jain. The length of both the partnership and increased level of Basic Education Funding from the commonwealth also provide stability. We do not anticipate changing the district's rating over the next two years.

If the district is able to generate surpluses consistently, supporting a return to positive available reserves, while maintaining enrollment at stable levels and experiencing improvement in local market values, we could raise the rating. . Conversely, if the district's expected surplus does not materialize in fiscal 2017, regardless of whether or not it is due to factors outside of the district's control--including unexpected one-time costs, a change in state aid, rapidly increasing fixed costs, or tuition increases for local charter schools or the partnership with Pittsburgh Public Schools--we could lower the rating.

Certain terms used in this report, particularly certain adjectives used to express our view on rating relevant factors, have specific meanings ascribed to them in our criteria, and should therefore be read in conjunction with such criteria. Please see Ratings Criteria at [www.standardandpoors.com](http://www.standardandpoors.com) for further information. Complete ratings information is available to subscribers of RatingsDirect at [www.globalcreditportal.com](http://www.globalcreditportal.com) and at [www.spcapitaliq.com](http://www.spcapitaliq.com). All ratings affected by this rating action can be found on the S&P Global Ratings' public website at [www.standardandpoors.com](http://www.standardandpoors.com). Use the Ratings search box located in the left column.

Primary Credit Analyst: Rahul Jain, New York 212-438-1202;  
[rahul.jain@spglobal.com](mailto:rahul.jain@spglobal.com) (mailto:[rahul.jain@spglobal.com](mailto:rahul.jain@spglobal.com))

Secondary Contact: Michael J Mooney, New York (1) 212-438-4943;  
[michael.mooney1@spglobal.com](mailto:michael.mooney1@spglobal.com) (mailto:[michael.mooney1@spglobal.com](mailto:michael.mooney1@spglobal.com))

No content (including ratings, credit-related analyses and data, valuations, model, software or other application or output therefrom) or any part thereof (Content) may be modified, reverse engineered, reproduced or distributed in any form by any means, or stored in a database or retrieval system, without the prior written permission of Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC or its affiliates (collectively, S&P). The Content shall not be used for any unlawful or unauthorized purposes. S&P and any third-party providers, as well as their directors, officers, shareholders, employees or agents (collectively S&P Parties) do not guarantee the accuracy, completeness, timeliness or availability of the Content. S&P Parties are not responsible for any errors or omissions (negligent or otherwise), regardless of the cause, for the results obtained from the use of the Content, or for the security or maintenance of any data input by the user. The Content is provided on an "as is" basis. S&P PARTIES DISCLAIM ANY AND ALL EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTIES, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, ANY WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE OR USE, FREEDOM FROM BUGS, SOFTWARE ERRORS OR DEFECTS, THAT THE CONTENT'S FUNCTIONING WILL BE UNINTERRUPTED OR THAT THE CONTENT WILL OPERATE WITH ANY SOFTWARE OR HARDWARE CONFIGURATION. In no event shall S&P Parties be liable to any party for any direct, indirect, incidental, exemplary, compensatory, punitive, special or consequential damages, costs, expenses, legal fees, or losses (including, without limitation, lost income or lost profits and opportunity costs or losses caused by negligence) in connection with any use of the Content even if advised of the possibility of such damages.

Credit-related and other analyses, including ratings, and statements in the Content are statements of opinion as of the date they are expressed and not statements of fact. S&P's opinions, analyses and rating acknowledgment decisions (described below) are not recommendations to purchase, hold, or sell any securities or to make any investment decisions, and do not address the suitability of any security. S&P assumes no obligation to update the Content following publication in any form or format. The Content should not be relied on and is not a substitute for the skill, judgment and experience of the user, its management, employees, advisors and/or clients when making investment and other business decisions. S&P does not act as a fiduciary or an investment advisor except where registered as such. While S&P has obtained information from sources it believes to be reliable, S&P does not perform an audit and undertakes no duty of due diligence or independent verification of any information it receives.

To the extent that regulatory authorities allow a rating agency to acknowledge in one jurisdiction a rating issued in another jurisdiction for certain regulatory purposes, S&P reserves the right to assign, withdraw or suspend such acknowledgment at any time and in its sole discretion. S&P Parties disclaim any duty whatsoever arising out of the assignment, withdrawal or suspension of an acknowledgment as well as any liability for any damage alleged to

have been suffered on account thereof.

S&P keeps certain activities of its business units separate from each other in order to preserve the independence and objectivity of their respective activities. As a result, certain business units of S&P may have information that is not available to other S&P business units. S&P has established policies and procedures to maintain the confidentiality of certain non-public information received in connection with each analytical process.

S&P may receive compensation for its ratings and certain analyses, normally from issuers or underwriters of securities or from obligors. S&P reserves the right to disseminate its opinions and analyses. S&P's public ratings and analyses are made available on its Web sites, [www.standardandpoors.com](http://www.standardandpoors.com) (<http://www.standardandpoors.com>) (free of charge), and [www.ratingsdirect.com](http://www.ratingsdirect.com) (<http://www.ratingsdirect.com>) and [www.globalcreditportal.com](http://www.globalcreditportal.com) (<http://www.globalcreditportal.com>) (subscription), and may be distributed through other means, including via S&P publications and third-party redistributors. Additional information about our ratings fees is available at [www.standardandpoors.com/usratingsfees](http://www.standardandpoors.com/usratingsfees) (<http://www.standardandpoors.com/usratingsfees>).

Any Passwords/user IDs issued by S&P to users are single user-dedicated and may ONLY be used by the individual to whom they have been assigned. No sharing of passwords/user IDs and no simultaneous access via the same password/user ID is permitted. To reprint, translate, or use the data or information other than as provided herein, contact S&P Global Ratings, Client Services, 55 Water Street, New York, NY 10041; (1) 212-438-7280 or by e-mail to: [research\\_request@spglobal.com](mailto:research_request@spglobal.com) ([mailto:research\\_request@spglobal.com](mailto:research_request@spglobal.com)).

[Legal Disclaimers \(/en\\_US/web/guest/regulatory/legal-disclaimers\)](#)

[Careers at S&P Global Ratings \(http://www.spglobal.com/careers\)](#)

[Terms of Use \(/en\\_US/web/guest/regulatory/termsfuse\)](#)

[Privacy and Cookie Notice \(/en\\_US/web/guest/regulatory/privacy-notice\)](#)

Copyright © 2017 Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC. All rights reserved.

Reproduction and distribution of this information in any form is prohibited except with the prior written permission of Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC and its affiliates (together, "S&P"). S&P does not guarantee the accuracy, completeness, timeliness or availability of any information, including ratings, and is not responsible for any errors or omissions (negligent or otherwise), regardless of the cause, or for the results obtained from the use of such information. S&P GIVES NO EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTIES, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, ANY WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE OR USE. S&P shall not be liable for any direct, indirect, incidental, exemplary, compensatory, punitive, special or consequential damages, costs, expenses, legal fees, or losses (including lost income or profits and opportunity costs) in connection with any use of this information, including ratings. S&P ratings are statements of opinions and are not statements of fact or recommendations to purchase hold or sell securities. They do not address the market value of securities or the suitability of securities for investment purposes, and should not be relied on as investment advice. Please read our complete disclaimer here. ([/en\\_US/web/guest/regulatory/legal-disclaimers](#))