

NAS BOARD OF EDUCATION POINTS FOR OSFC BOND ISSUE FOR NEW SCHOOL:

- 31.5 better than 24 – Spending \$31.5 million for new energy efficient schools is far and away better economic decision vs. \$24 million repairing schools that will continue to deteriorate and require more money down the road to repair, as well as experience increased operating cost every year in the future.
- Estimated annual operating savings of about \$400,000.00 could be realized by consolidating services and operations when moving from three separate school buildings to one.
- We either pass a bond issue to build new schools now or we will come back to the voters in the future with a levy to make permanent improvements to the aging schools. The board views this as a poor investment decision but would be faced with no other alternative.
- The State of Ohio will not provide any funding for remodeling or repairing our four older school buildings.
- The opportunity to receive 38% of the cost for a new school by the State of Ohio is an opportunity that may not be offered again in the future.
- Our goal is to build the new building as close as possible to our existing high school in a campus-type setting.
- It is very important for voters to be aware that an existing bond levy of 2.1 mills will expire in 2016. This means the net increase to a voter in the future is actually only 3.7 mills because of the 2.1 expiring. The net increase of 3.7 mills for a new school means a home value at \$100,000.00 would cost \$113.31 more per year (\$84.98 for those OVER 65 years of age) vs. what they pay today with the existing bond levy in place.
- Another key benefit is that current interest rates are near all-time record low levels. This is a significant benefit when establishing the bond level required funding a new schools project.
- The future status of the four existing old schools will be determined at a later time following review with local government officials and community members.

NAS BOARD OF EDUCATION POINTS ON THE OPERATING LEVY:

- First – we need to be clear that the operating levy is not related to the new school bond levy. This operating levy would be in front of voters regardless of a new school levy. They are two totally separate issues.
- The board has worked with the current administrative team and has aggressively cut over \$1.5 million in expenses over the past two years. Despite these aggressive actions we are faced with funding cuts from both the state and the federal government that we must address.
- With one of the largest school districts in the state with respect to geographic size, our expenses for busing children are significant.
- We must assure efficiency in our operations as well as remain competitive with other school districts as it relates to advancing our technological offerings.
- The board does not view decreased busing or technology offerings as an option for a school district that desires to be second to none.
- Why income vs. property We considered an income tax levy to be a fair method to balance tax payer expenses. We recognize that over 35% of school districts in Ohio utilize an income tax levy, including the other three school districts in Henry County.

NAS Board of Education Members

Larry E. Long, President
Rob Rettig, Vice President
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Tom Weaver
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