

Pride in Olmsted Schools Levy Committee Meeting
Open Levy Questions
August 18, 2009

Taxation

- Does everyone understand where taxes go?
- Is the community aware of the homestead exemption?
- Where do Olmsted Falls rate in the county
- How does our millage compared to other communities
- Do lower property assessments mean levy will cost homeowners less?
- IF we had passed a 9.9 mill levy would the “extra” money been wasted?

Levy Structure

- Is this a permanent or renewal levy?
- Why all the different levy millage numbers?
- Why is the 6.4 mill levy the right amount/good deal?
- What does passing this levy do for me as a homeowner?
- Explain the difference between an operating levy and a bond issue
- IF the levy passes, how long will it last?
- How long to the next levy?
- Where does the money from the levy go?

District Finances

- What happened to the funding raised through the levy in 2006-07?
- Where will money be spent? Services/Staffing
- Is there a breakdown of current expenses available?
- Where is the surplus of dollars from years ago?
- Why should I support tax increase for migrant families?
- Is it important to cost per pupil compared to other districts or cost per pupil in Olmsted Falls District over time?
- Can budget process become more transparent-how are dollars spent?

Property Values

- How will property values be affected by levy-already decreased during reassessment
- Explain how the reduction in home value will affect homeowners taxes and ultimately district income.
- How does the levy impact property values?

Governmental School Funding

- When will school funding be fixed at the State Level?
- Explain how school funding issues will not be “fixed” in the near future.
- What steps are needed to pressure city and township to further commercial development?

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Community/Educational Impact

- What happens if the levy does not pass?
- What cutbacks if the levy does not pass?
- As a non-school parent, what is the benefit for me to vote for the levy? (i.e property values)
- What is the impact of a no vote? Increase of kids on the street, etc....
- How will levy affect each family
 - With kids
 - Without kids
 - Elderly
 - Future Parents?
- Can we better quantify the impact to each household?
- What is gained or lost economically as a taxpayer, homeowner, renter?

Transportation:

- At the transportation meeting, Dr Hoadley stated HS busing will not return. It is stated differently on the handout. Which is it?

Extra-curriculars:

- What is the justification for cancelling pay to play sports?
- Regarding extra-curriculars activities, why is the pay to play program not an option?
- Why not have pay to play for sports, band, drama, choir, etc....
- Is it possible to initiate pay to play sports instead of cancelling sports?

Staffing

- With a win, will the district get a replacement of lost educators (band, German, etc)
- Why is 30 kids to a classroom bad?
- Explain how faculty and administration are participating in the reduction of district expenses?
- Why have no administrative positions (district and school) been eliminated

Voter Awareness

- Why didn't parents come out?
- Why vote yes now rather than later?
- How does the levy impact me without kids?
- How to handle misinformation on Cleveland.com
- How do we think "outside the box" to get the "non-voter" to become a "yes" voter?
- What are we doing to register voters
 - Alumni
 - Non registered Alumni