

WICKLIFFE CITY SCHOOLS

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Board of Education: Katie Ball • Carl Marine • Donald J. Marn • Daniel J. Thomeier • Gail Willis

August 22, 2019

Dear Fellow Wickliffe Citizens,

In July 2019, the Board of Education approved a resolution to place a bond issue on the November 2019 ballot to build a new PK-12 campus for the Wickliffe City School District. Our schools are among the oldest in Lake County. Wickliffe Middle School is 99 years old, Wickliffe Elementary School is 97 years old, and Wickliffe High School is 62 years. It is becoming increasingly difficult to operate the buildings and the district is now spending significant funds maintaining the buildings. In addition, research demonstrates that new facilities improve teaching and learning. New facilities with improved safety and security, air quality, lighting, temperature control, flexible space, state of the art technology, and improved performing arts and athletic spaces impact student learning positively.

The Facilities Committee focused on four guiding principles to develop the master plan: that the new facility be: (1) State of the art, (2) Safe and sustainable, (3) Serve as a community hub that will be accessed by all, and (4) Encourage collaboration and flexibility for students and teachers.

As a Board, we take seriously our fiduciary responsibility to the community and after much research, study, and community input, we have determined that it is necessary to replace our aging schools, take advantage of the OFCC state share, and ask you to partner with us to make this investment in our children and community now and for generations into the future.

The total cost of the bond issue is \$59.9 million. The total bond issue equates to 11.47 mills and includes a .5 mill maintenance levy, a requirement of the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission (OFCC). The monthly cost on \$100,000.00 of a home value is \$33.45. For eligible senior citizens that cost is \$25.09 per month. For your information, we qualified for a state share of 18% of OFCC basic cost, so we are eligible for a reimbursement from the state of approximately \$8.6 million if the bond issue passes.

The time is now to provide a great opportunity for our children, our district, and the entire community. There will be many opportunities to learn more about the need in the coming months; please consider this your invitation to participate in the many activities we have planned. If you have questions, please contact Mr. Spiccia or the Bond Issue Chairs Mr. Steve Bittance and Mrs. Heather Miller.

Thank you,



Gail Willis, President



Carl Marine, Vice President



Katie Ball, Member



Don Marn, Member



Dan Thomeier, Member



Generations of Pride