



# *Columbus City Schools Consider Four Levy Millage Options – Decide by July 21: A Nonpartisan Fact Sheet*

## *School Board Offers Four Levy Millage Options*

- At their June 30 meeting, the School Board voted to accept four out of the six recommended options from the Levy Millage Committee: two options at a cost of 6.92 mills or 7.08 mills before a facility bond issue is added and two options at a cost of 8.42 mills or 8.58 mills after a facility bond issue of 1.5 mills is added. (See chart on back page)
- All four options include an operating levy that provides more social workers, nurses and intervention specialists at a cost of 5.58 mills, a bond issue to address deferred maintenance needs at a cost of 0.84 mills or 1.0 mills (plumbing, HVAC, paving, and roofs), and a permanent improvement levy to address ongoing needs at 0.5 mills. The bond issue at a cost of 0.84 mills would provide about 67 percent of the \$216 million needed for past-due capital improvements over five years; at a cost of 1.0 mills it would provide about 78 percent.
- The proposed facility bond at 1.5 mills includes rebuilding 13 school buildings in all areas of the city, which includes five elementary schools, seven middle schools and Columbus Alternative High School over the next six to eight years.
- The School Board will meet again on July 21 to finalize the November 8 ballot issue. In the meantime, the School Board is seeking public comment on these options. **To voice your opinion, email the district at [enews@columbus.k12.oh.us](mailto:enews@columbus.k12.oh.us).**

## *Proposed Increased Staffing over Five Years*

- The district reports:
  - 8,800 staff in June 2016.
  - All four options would add 324.5 additional staff, representing about a 3.7 percent increase in staff over five years.
  - Staffing increases would include 76 intervention specialists, 41 positions for expanding prekindergarten programs, 34 instructional assistants, 25 social workers, 16 positions in career-technical education, and 16 school nurses.

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## Estimated Cost of Four 2016 Millage Options

Estimated Cost of 2016 Options				
Description	Option 1 Cost	Option 2 Cost	Option 3 Cost	Option 4 Cost
Staffing/Operating Levy	5.58 mills	5.58 mills	5.58 mills	5.58 mills
Deferred Maintenance Bond Issue	0.84 mills	1.0 mills	0.84 mills	1.0 mills
Permanent Improvement Levy	0.5 mills	0.5 mills	0.5 mills	0.5 mills
Facility Bond Issue	0 mills	0 mills	1.5 mills	1.5 mills
<b>Total Millage</b>	<b>6.92 mills</b>	<b>7.08 mills</b>	<b>8.42 mills</b>	<b>8.58 mills</b>
<b>Additional taxpayer cost per \$100,000 home value*</b>	<b>\$242.20</b>	<b>\$247.80</b>	<b>\$294.70</b>	<b>\$300.30</b>
Percent increase in school property tax	17.7%	18.2%	21.6%	22.0%
<p>*1mill = \$35 for every \$100,000 in home value. Current school property tax per \$100,000 home is \$1,365, which includes a 12.5% rollback for owner-occupied homes. The proposed millage options are the additional amounts that would be added to a homeowner's current annual tax bill.  <b>Note:</b> The proposed 2013 levy would have raised school property taxes by 24%.</p>				