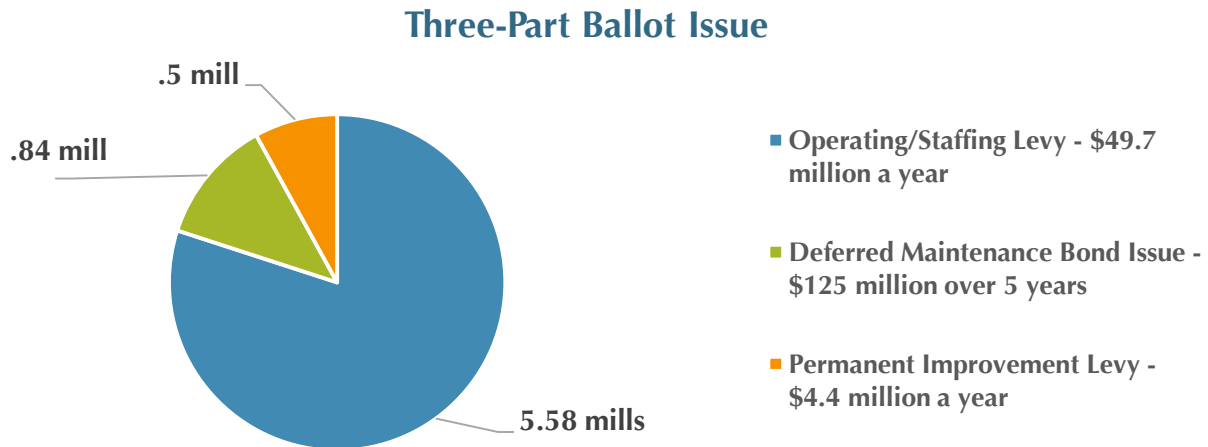


Columbus City Schools Propose Fall 2016 Ballot Issue: A Nonpartisan Fact Sheet

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School Board Proposes Three-Part Ballot Issue



- On July 21, the Columbus Board of Education voted to place a levy on the November 8 ballot worth 6.92 mills. One mill raises \$8.9 million a year.
- The proposed ballot issue has three parts: 1) a proposed 5.58-mill operating/staffing levy would provide more special education intervention specialists, prekindergarten teachers, instructional assistants, social workers, school nurses, and other staff; 2) a proposed 0.84-mill bond issue would address deferred maintenance needs (plumbing, HVAC, safety systems, paving, and roofs); and 3) a proposed 0.5-mill permanent improvement levy would address ongoing repair and replacement needs.

Estimated Financial Impact of 2016 Millage Proposal

Estimated Annual Cost of 2016 Millage Proposal		
Description	Millage	Annual Revenue
Staffing/Operating Levy	5.58 mills	\$49.7 million
Deferred Maintenance Bond Issue	0.84 mills	Issue bonds for \$125 million over 5 years
Permanent Improvement Levy	0.5 mills	\$4.4 million
Total Millage	6.92 mills	
Additional taxpayer cost per \$100,000 home value*		\$242.20
Percent increase in school property tax		17.7%

*1 mill = \$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 is the additional amount that would be added to a homeowner's current annual tax bill. **Note:** The proposed 2013 levy would have raised school property taxes by 24%.

Proposed Increased Staffing over Five Years

- The district reported 8,777 staff in June 2016. The operating levy would phase in 324.5 additional staff for an estimated 3.7 percent increase in staff over five years.

Current Staffing (as of June 1, 2016)	
Staff Description	Number
Teachers	3,917
Classified (e.g., bus drivers, food service & secretaries)	3,107
Substitute Teachers	647
Part-time Hourly	430
Substitute Classified	297
Administrators	292
Substitute Administrators	66
Full-time Hourly	21
Total Staff	8,777

Columbus City Schools Students
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 89% are economically disadvantaged* 17% have a special education need 27% switch schools during the school year or during the summer 15% are enrolled in an English as a Second Language course
<p><i>*Most recent estimate based on USDA calculations. District provides meals at no cost to all students.</i></p>

Proposed Staffing Increase for Next Five Years	
District Rationale	New Staff
Special Education Intervention Specialists: The demand for special education services across all grade levels is growing as more students are identified, many with multiple needs. Many students are educated in a regular classroom.	76
Early Childhood Education/Prekindergarten: The district offers more than 1,700 seats in its prekindergarten programs. Approximately 300 four-year-olds are on a wait list. In response, the district plans to add up to 25 classrooms over the next five years and open an early childhood education center in Linden in October.	41
Instructional Assistants: Will work with teachers in lowest performing schools to reduce adult-to-student ratio and improve student performance.	36.5
Gifted and Talented Instruction: Expand program to serve more students and build skills of all students across the district, particularly those in underrepresented demographics.	34
English as a Second Language Instruction: Students speak more than 106 languages at home. Will add more classrooms with up to 16 teachers and up to 16 instructional aides.	32
Social Workers: Help students, teachers and families address non-academic barriers to academic success.	25
Buildings, Grounds, and Information Technology Staff: Address backlog of infrastructure needs and be proactive in the future with the implementation of a yearly refresh/replacement initiative.	19
Career-Technical Education: District has pledged to double the number of students enrolled in career-technical education courses, most of which offer college credit. Will also enable more middle and high schools to offer career courses on-site.	16
Licensed School Nurses: 70 schools do not have a full-time nurse. To maximize the prompt diagnosis and treatment of health problems, the district is partnering with physical and behavioral health providers, such as Nationwide Children's Hospital.	16
Safety and Security Personnel: Coordinate with principals and teachers to provide a safe learning environment in every school.	10
Teaching and Learning/Academic Services: Provide additional curriculum services to teachers and administrative support at the building level for in-demand programs and schools.	9
Accountability/Internal Auditor: Accountability staff to provide additional oversight to ensure data integrity. Internal Auditor monitors operations.	4
Student Transportation: Adds three dispatchers to assist over 700 bus routes.	3
Human Resources: Strengthen proactive recruitment and retention of staff across all classifications of employees and improve personnel services.	3
Total Increased Staff over Five Years	324.5

Note: More detail will be available soon. Go to www.KidsOhio.org.