

# **THE 4.0 MILL PERMANENT IMPROVEMENT LEVY**



**Continuing to Provide a 21st Century  
Learning and Recreation Center for  
the Lowellville Community**

# WHAT IS A PERMANENT IMPROVEMENT LEVY?

**Ohio Revised Code 5705.01** outlines the allowable use of funds from a Permanent Improvement (P.I.) Levy:

**“Permanent improvement” means any property, asset, or improvement with an estimated life or usefulness of five years or more.**

*\*By law, funds generated from a P.I. Levy CANNOT be used to pay District operating expenses such as employee salaries and benefits.*



# A CAUSE FOR CELEBRATION AND RENEWAL

- 1999 - Lowellville Community passed 2 Bond Issues to construct our beautiful K-12 facility.
- The 4.2-mill bond issues that you passed, was part of a shared vision to create a facility that the children and the community would enjoy. Because of your support, the vision was achieved.
- As of 2022, the millage from these bond issues will be paid off in full.
- November 2, 2021 - Now we are asking you to renew your commitment and protect the promise of a 21st century education for our children and a facility that everybody can enjoy.



# WHY IS A PERMANENT IMPROVEMENT LEVY NEEDED?

- You invested in the community when you passed the Bond issues to build a new K-12 school, now it's important to protect your investment by passing the PI Levy.
- 20 years have passed since the construction of the facility and similar to your homes, aging buildings need ongoing maintenance and repairs.
- The building is at the age whereas a roof replacement is coming due, HVAC replacement and window replacements will be occurring in the near future. Again, this is a way to protect your investment for both the community and you.
- State continues to reduce the support of our schools.



# A FACILITY FOR EVERYONE!

- Because you built a beautiful facility, we have attracted over 50% of our student population from open enrollment (outside the Lowellville boundaries) which has allowed us to operate without a new operating Levy for decades.



- Lowellville School District has many activities and programs for the entire community including:
  - a fitness center
  - senior citizen passes for all athletic events
  - senior citizen luncheons during the winter
  - senior citizen spaghetti dinner in the spring
  - a beautiful safe walking track facility
  - basketball courts
  - picnic facilities and pavilion for outside parties and events
  - playgrounds



## WILL THE NEW LEVY COST YOU MORE?

- The language on the ballot for the Permanent Improvement Levy on the November 2, 2021 ballot calls this an “additional” tax.
- The 4.2-mill bond issues used to construct the Lowellville K-12 facility are expiring.
- The 4-mill Levy that you are being asked to approve will **not** be an additional tax.
- Right now, the cost to an owner of a \$50,000 house is \$17.50 per month. The new Levy will cost the owner of a \$50,000 house \$16.67 per month.



## P.I. LEVY – PROTECTING YOUR INVESTMENT

- The benefits of a P.I. Levy, while practical, can be a challenge to communicate.
- A P.I. Levy does not give us the same image as a brand new building like our 1999 bond issues did.
- Most would agree that the initial purchase of a new home or new car is the exciting part; while the ongoing maintenance and upkeep of these investments is certainly not as fun.
- However, the care and attention of our homes and vehicles is critical to keeping them in good condition.



# AGING FACILITIES REQUIRE IMPROVEMENTS

- While exceptionally well-maintained, our District's aging facilities *will continue to require* costly repairs and improvements.

## DID YOU KNOW?

- The original HVAC system installed during construction of the building in 2002 still operates as the K-12 facility's main source of heating and cooling?
- Many sections of the Lowellville School's roof have been repaired and some replaced.





# HIGH QUALITY MAINTENANCE

- This ongoing care and attention of our school facilities and equipment is provided by our District's hard working and dedicated custodial, grounds and transportation maintenance staff.
- On a daily basis, the Rocket maintenance team ensures that our District's buildings and bus fleet are among the safest and best maintained in the region and state.



**Total Square Footage:**  
Approx. 116,000

**Total School Buses  
in District Fleet: 5**



## EXAMPLES: P.I. PROJECTS

Continued monitoring of facility roof conditions and ongoing repairs/patching have been underway for several years.

Additional replacement and repair work on the facility roof still remains, but the current state of District finances cannot accommodate this large ticket improvement all at once.

Other significant improvement projects in the cue for the facility include continued replacement and upgrades to plumbing, electrical and HVAC systems, as well as the replacement of vintage 2002 exterior doors and windows which are not energy efficient.



## EXAMPLE: FUTURE ASSET EXPENDITURES

- While the priority usage of P.I. funds would be directed toward needs at the facility, future use of P.I. funds could expand to the purchase of school buses.
- The cost of a new school bus today is approximately \$85,000. With the average life of a District school bus being approximately 25 years (or 300,000 miles).
- Continued safety purchases, i.e. cameras, alarm system, student furniture, locks, etc.
- Band uniforms for students to continue the tradition that Lowellville is recognized.
- Technology to maintain student commitment to the one-to-one initiative.
- Improved and replaced track facility (Immediate Need).



# QUESTIONS / CLOSING

- We are here to provide you with all the information needed to make an informed decision.
- Additional community informational events are needed in order to pass this Levy. We need your help!
  - In-home “coffee talks”
  - Door-to-door canvassing
  - Yard sign distribution
  - Literature distribution at community events
  - Get-out-to-vote phone canvassing

**SIGN UP NOW (ASSIGNMENTS)**



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