On March 17, 2020 the Bellevue School District will be asking you to RENEW an existing operating levy. This $925,000 emergency operating levy has been in existence since 1991 and was last approved in 2011 for a ten year term. It is once again requested that this renewal be approved at the same rate for another ten year term.

- Due to attrition and conservative financial oversight No New Operating Funds have been received since 2001 from our taxpayers.
- This RENEWAL is critical for the successful continuation of district operations.
- The strong support of the Bellevue community for levy renewals has helped stabilize the school district finances.
- A strong effort has been made by all employees of the school district to be as efficient as possible so we are good stewards of our taxpayer dollars.
- We have worked very hard to have a 10 year history of non-deficit spending with no requests for new operating funds during this time period.

$3 MILLION BOND SAVINGS FOR TAXPAYERS

We are extremely pleased to announce to our taxpayers that we have successfully refinanced a portion of our bond issue in order to save additional tax dollars for our citizens. This measure will result in a $3 million savings to our taxpayers over the life of the bond issue.

The bond issue passed in 2009 gave our students a new elementary school and new middle school. Our high school students are also reaping the benefits of a renovated learning environment due to the savings from low bids and permanent improvement funds. The Ohio School Facilities Commission funded 49% of the project saving our community almost $20 million towards the new buildings.

We are forever grateful to our community for providing these outstanding facilities so the students in Bellevue have high quality educational spaces.

March 17, 2020 Levy RENEWAL NO NEW TAXES REQUESTED

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This entire newsletter is dedicated to a financial update so our citizens can see our history and intent to be as conservative as possible while providing a high quality education to our students. We will be adding new financial updates to our website on a regular basis so please check this out as well.
The district had a large reduction in force in the 2010 Fiscal Year. As we look back over the 10 year history the district has made great strides in keeping a great student to teacher ratio as well as our efficient support services. The graph indicates staffing reductions that take place each year. The numbers represent retirees, jobs absorbed through attrition and also include areas that have needed additional staffing. We have added a social worker, a school resource officer and a workforce development specialist at Bellevue High School, as well as decrease our administrative staff in our technology department by having a Director with two assistants. We strive to be as efficient as possible while maintaining a high quality education for our students.

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**PER PUPIL EXPENSES AND REVENUE IN COMPARISON TO OTHER HURON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICTS**

- **Per Pupil Revenue 2018**
  - Bellevue City
  - Norwalk City
  - Willard City
  - Western Reserve Local (Huron)
  - New London Local
  - Monroeville Local
  - South Central Local

- **Per Pupil Expense 2018**
  - Norwalk City
  - Bellevue City
  - Monroeville Local
  - Western Reserve Local (Huron)
  - Willard City
  - New London Local
  - South Central Local
The Biennial State budget was signed in July 2019. A portion of state funding has been designated to Student Wellness and Success services. Bellevue City School District’s Wellness funding for FY2020 is in the amount of $180,225.00. The District has developed a plan with an emphasis on mental health. Listed below are some of the areas that these funds will help support.

- **Wrap Around and Family Engagement**
- **ROX (Ruling Our Experience) Program** to address social media bullying
- **PAX (K-5 Empowerment and Prevention Program)**
- **School Resource Officer** - Life Skills Curriculum, Prevention K-12, Threat Assessment and Wrap Around
- **Elementary and Middle School Guidance Counselors** – Threat Assessment, Prevention, Wrap Around
- **District Social Worker & Family Engagement Specialist** – programs to assist students and families

School bus funding is primarily utilized through our general fund with a small portion from state funding. The district goal is to keep our fleet of busses as updated as possible. The permanent improvement fund has been a vital resource as we try to purchase at least one bus per year and if funds allow a second bus. Over the past three years we have updated our fleet by 6 new busses. Providing a safe mode of transportation is a priority and the district is diligent that our busses are in good operating condition.

The graph is a representation of Bellevue City Schools Revenue and Expenses. The first three years are actual numbers from fiscal years 2017-2019. The district has had no deficit spending for 10+ years. Fiscal years 2020-2024 show our forecasted revenue and expenses based on historical revenue and predicted spending. The forecasted years all show a much higher expense than revenue. There was an $8.7 million dollar carryover at the end of Fiscal Year 2019. While deficit spending is predicted, the administrative staff works diligently to negate the deficit during the fiscal year. The expenses are often higher in the forecasted years due to the unknown factors of what utilities will look like, an increase of excess costs, rate increases in various items etc. We do foresee in the years 2024 and beyond the possibility of proposing a new operating levy to the community. The district has not asked for new money in operating costs for over 20 years.
Bellevue City Schools

**Vision**
To be the most innovative, student focused public school in Ohio by educating every child, every day with Intent, Integrity and Purpose.

**Mission**
We are committed to a high quality education for all students by providing a rigorous and relevant curriculum, positive relationships with our stakeholders and accountability. Every student will develop the skills and knowledge to succeed in an evolving global society.

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**What’s inside**

- *Bond Savings*
- *Levy Renewal*
- *Financial Update*

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