

Perrysburg Schools

November 4, 2014 Bond Issue

Just the Facts

On November 4, 2014, voters in Perrysburg Schools District will be asked to consider a \$38.9 million bond issue to provide funds for:

- the construction of a 5th and 6th grade school building for 900 students;
- provide safety and security enhancements at our elementary schools;
- construct an auxiliary gym at the High School; and
- upgrade our Junior High, including electrical, classroom/hallway renovations and air conditioning.

Keeping Up with Growth

- The district is overcrowded at the elementary and junior high level.
 - Perrysburg Schools is currently using 20 used portable classrooms and using five classrooms in Maumee City Schools' Union Elementary School to manage the demand for classroom space.
- Since 2001, the district has added 600 students.
 - To put this in perspective, we have added enough students to fill Ft. Meigs Elementary School, which finished the school year with 608 students.
- Annual new single-family construction is currently averaging between 40-50 homes per year and is trending upwards.

Fiscal Responsibility

- The Board is unified in wanting to reduce the impact of a bond issue on taxpayers.
- On December 31, 2015, 1.85 mills that are currently being levied from the construction of Ft. Meigs Elementary School, and other district improvements, will expire. This bond issue will not be collected until after January 1, 2016.
- With the 1.85 mills that are retiring, it will be a net increase to taxpayers of 1.09 mills.
- **The increase to the owner of a \$200,000 home will be \$6.36 per month.**
- At the December 6, 2011 meeting where the Strategic Facilities Committee reviewed the five best options, constructing a 5/6 building was the lowest cost option of the five.

Location

- There are almost 1,000 potential new single-family residences zoned in our district, most of which will be located south of I-475 and west of I-75.
- The location of this school will be determined following the passage of the bond issue. There are numerous parcels of property available for purchase in the southwest central corridor of the district that have the attributes desired by the district.

Ten Questions We’re Hearing

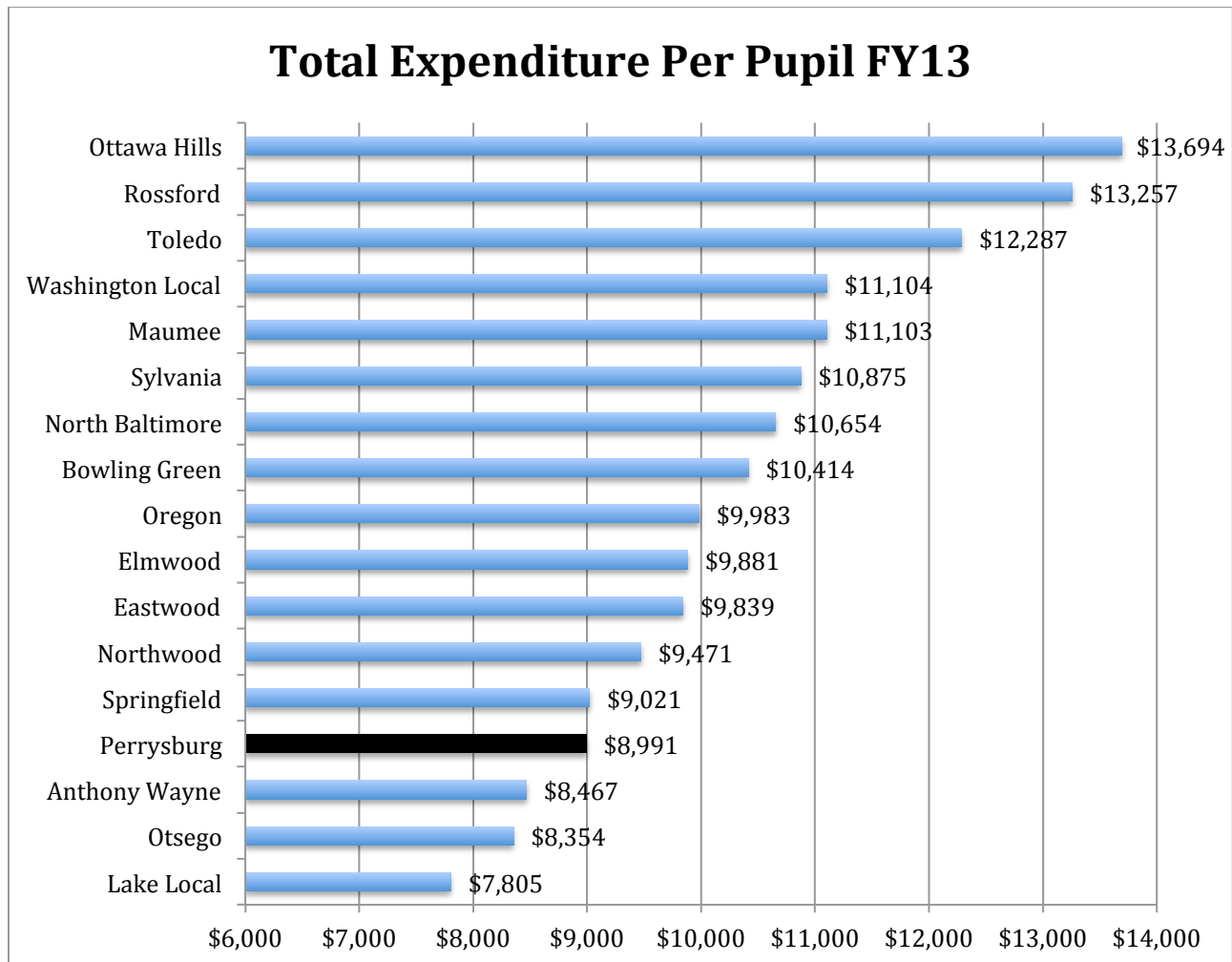
1. If we’re growing, doesn’t that mean the school district gets more money?

When the school district passes a levy, the dollar amount is set during the first year and it cannot collect more. If the population grows, less money is collected from each taxpayer to total the set dollar amount, regardless if it is actually below the actual approved millage. It is capped. The only increase is about \$1,600 per pupil from the state for each student who registers, but the cost to educate a pupil is \$8,991. There is no way for our district to keep up with the steady increase in enrollment except to pass levies that expire every few years then replace it with an adjusted amount.

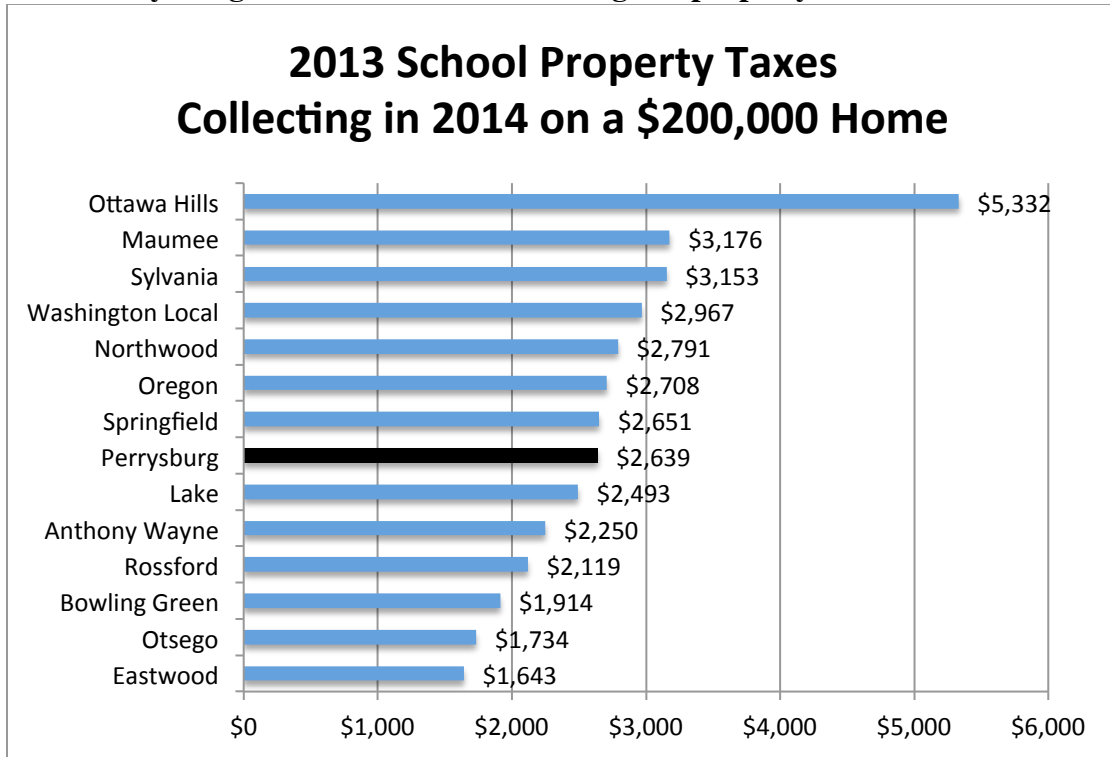
\$1,600 per pupil from the state	\$8,991 cost to educate a student
<u>x 25 new students</u>	<u>x 25 new students</u>
\$40,000 in new funding for the district	\$224,775 total cost to educate new students
-\$184,775 GAP in funding for the new students	

2. How efficient is the district in its spending?

Perrysburg’s cost per pupil is among the lowest quarter when you look at the districts in Lucas and Wood Counties.

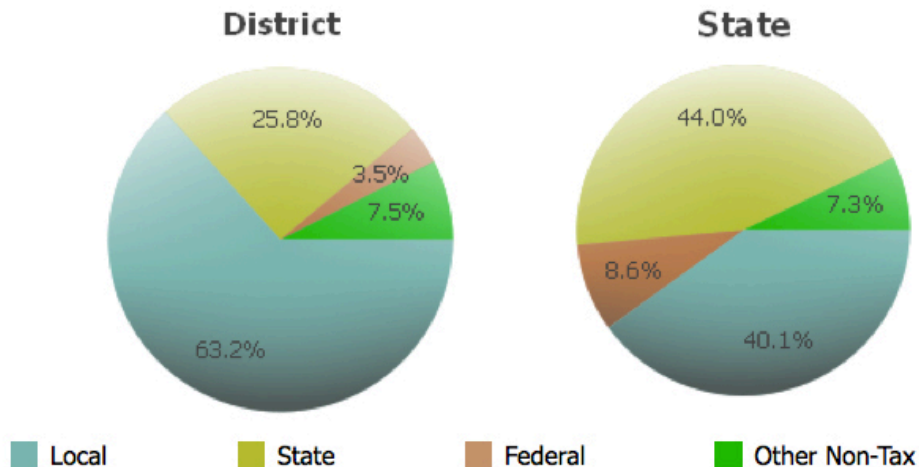


3. Does Perrysburg School District have the highest property taxes in the area?



4. How much funding does Perrysburg receive from the State compared to other districts?

Source of Funds	District		State Total	
Local	\$28,607,325	63.2%	\$7,953,216,862	40.1%
State	\$11,665,353	25.8%	\$8,725,275,316	44.0%
Federal	\$1,584,412	3.5%	\$1,701,436,355	8.6%
Other Non-Tax	\$3,377,281	7.5%	\$1,442,122,710	7.3%
Total	\$45,234,371	100.0%	\$19,822,051,242	100.0%



Source: Ohio Department of Education

5. What is the district's plan for its land used as soccer fields on 199 and Scheider Roads? Why isn't that being used for building the new 5/6 school?

The district does own land at SR 199 and Scheider Rd. The Board purchased it in the late 1990's with the intent to construct a high school there. That proposed high school was ultimately defeated by the voters 3 times. The current high school location came about after those failed elections. The property is still owned by the district and a portion of it is leased to the local soccer clubs and the remainder of the property is leased to a farmer. The district pays no expense for any of the maintenance at that site.

Significant growth is not occurring in that area. The largest inventory of parcels recently rezoned from R3 to R4 totals almost 1,000 potential new single family residences in the city, almost all of which will be located south of I-475 and west of I-75. A quick drive around Perrysburg High School will highlight where growth has recently occurred and where it will be happening with two approved developments that, when completely built out, will have over 600 new homes.

The 199 property is located east of I-75. The city is planning on close to 1,000 homes there someday. However, the lack of sewer makes that area less desirable to developers at this time. For the district, there would be considerable cost and some uncertainty as to whether a building there could even be tied into the current city sewer system and what the final costs of running the sewer and tying into the system. There is little doubt that some time in the future when that area is "shovel-ready," the district will need that land for a school building on that side of I-75. Having the land now is an advantage since it will likely be more costly in the future when the market there picks up.

The cost to install sewers and the required pump stations could result in the district spending significantly more than it would to purchase land where the population is growing.

6. Why not expand the Jr. High and serve grades 5-8 there?

Voters twice rejected proposals to add to that building, in 2006 and 2007. Adding 400 more students to that building would be problematic because it already does not have a core to accommodate the current student body, e.g. lunch starts at 10:34 a.m. and ends 1:04 p.m.

7. Why not build on the land where the high school is, move the junior high there and have a more unified campus?

This idea was studied by the Strategic Facilities Committee. PHS currently has 1,500 students. It was built to house 1,600 students (lockers, classrooms, etc.) but it has a core (cafeteria, restrooms, hallways, etc.) to accommodate 2,000 students. We will need to expand PHS in the future. By building a new junior high on that location with a building to accommodate 1,400 - 1,600 students, it would limit the options that we currently have to expand PHS. Also, it led us to the question: how big do we want our junior high? I would argue that 1,400 6-7-8 graders is not ideal. To build that large of a junior high next to an expanding high school leads us to a question, what happens when that PJH building is filled? No room for expansion since we have already built out PHS. So the Board would then need to build a second junior high for 800 to 1,000 kids and then be left with a PJH building at the PHS site that would be underutilized.

8. Why not convert the Commodore Building (Board Office) to a school or build it on that property?

It will not be located at the current Commodore property. The proposed building will need to serve about 900 students; 15-20 acres is recommended for that population size. The Commodore sits on less than 5 acres and has a capacity for 300 students. The Commodore has not been used as a school for 12 years and is not ADA compliant. The cost to rehabilitate the building is high and would not meet the district's needs. A school to accommodate 900 students on that site would not have adequate parking, playground, bus loop or traffic flow, creating a traffic nightmare in town.

9. Why is an auxiliary gymnasium necessary?

PHS Gym Use Example from January-February 2014:

- Gym in use 14 hours per day
- Early/Late hours for students (educational issue)
- When PHS hosts games and contests (girls basketball, boys basketball and wrestling), the gym's hours are reduced significantly due to the event
- Cost of busing students between buildings
- PLAN and AP testing takes place at the Commodore Building because there is no place at PHS to administer these tests

In 1979, voters approved a bond issue to construct a new school (Woodland) and add an auxiliary gym to then 15-year-old high school (now the Jr. High). In 1979, PHS had approximately 945 students (and no Jr. Jackets or similar groups). Today, PHS has nearly 1,600 students.

In the NLL (our athletic league), PHS is the largest school that does not have an auxiliary gym. All NLL schools have auxiliary gyms or additional gyms located on the HS property. (Napoleon HS has a gym and a pool inside the current HS building. Napoleon is now building an oversized gym on the HS grounds connected to other buildings but on that same site.) For a High School, the Ohio School Design Manual will fund up to 7,000 square feet for an auxiliary gym for districts that qualify for Ohio School Facility Commission funding (Perrysburg does not).

10. What are the benefits of the levy for residents who don't have children in the schools?

As a result of the community's continued support over the generations, Perrysburg has remained a destination district. This building program is an investment in the value of your house and in the future of our community. One of the major reasons people move to Perrysburg is because of our schools. Our property values are strong because people want to buy property here. Businesses want to locate where there are good schools.