

*Our Children, Our Community, Our Future!*



# Chagrin Falls Village Exempted School District

*What you need to know to make an informed decision*



***“Children are the world's most valuable resource... and its best hope for the future.”***

John F. Kennedy





# Contents

- Why does the district need a levy?
- Has the district been fiscally responsible?
- What would be the effects of a November levy failure?
- What is the relationship between a strong school district and a vibrant community?

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# *Why does the district need a Levy?*

*Chagrin Falls Exempted Village Schools*

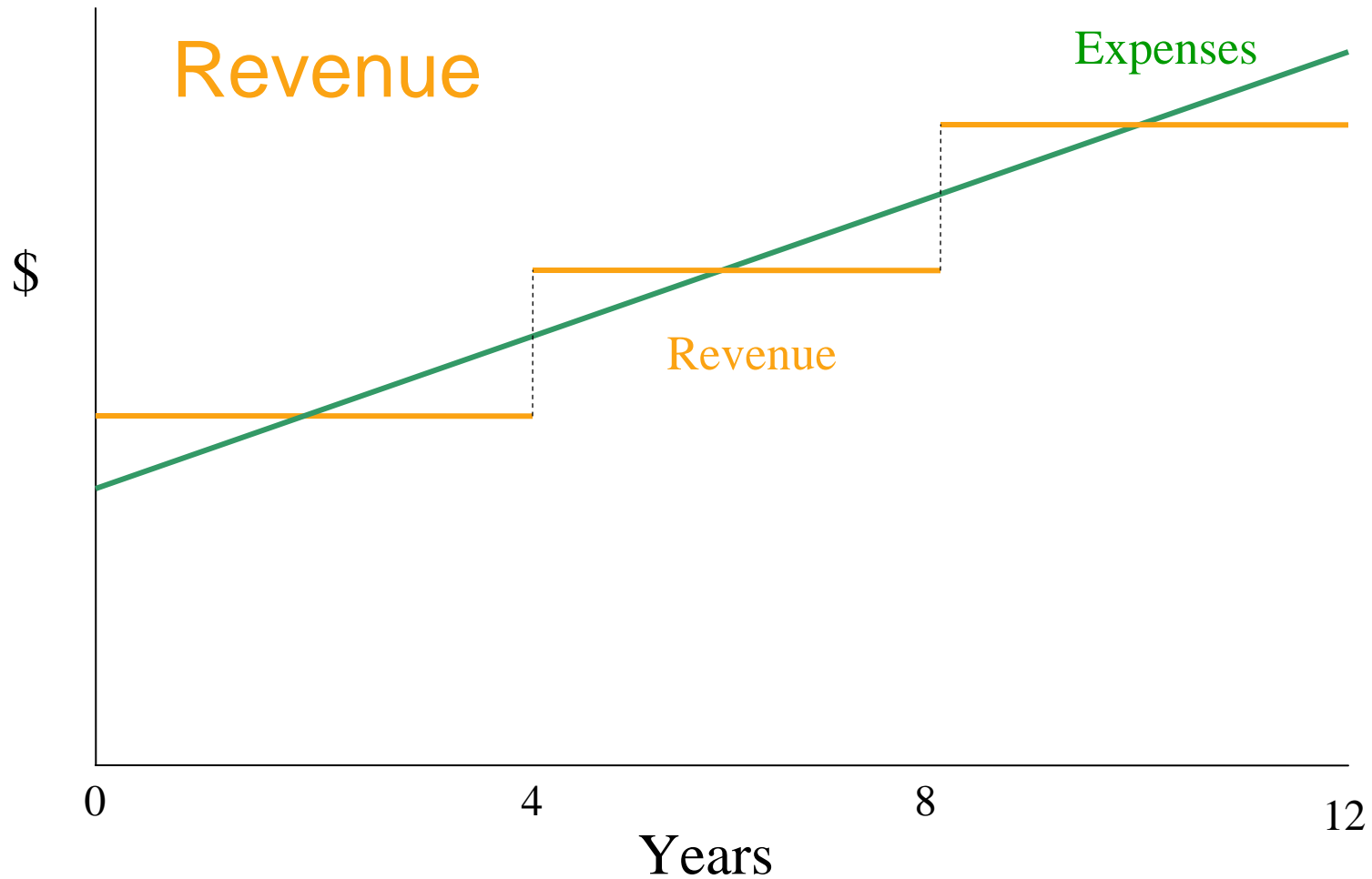


## Why does the district need a levy?

- Due to HB 920, revenues from taxes on existing homes remain flat, while costs continue to rise, until a new levy is passed.
  - New construction/Inside Mills (4.6) are the exceptions to HB 920
- Chagrin implements a four-year levy cycle



# Ohio House Bill 920 Challenge: Matching Expenses to





# Why does the district need a levy?

- Rapidly rising costs in healthcare, transportation, insurance, and utilities
- Maintain best practice student-teacher ratios
- Reductions in other sources of revenues
  - Loss in revenue from deregulation of utility companies
  - Loss in personal tangible property tax (HB 66)
- Unfunded Mandates
  - The Ohio Core
  - Rising special education costs

## Four-Year Levy Cycle Projections

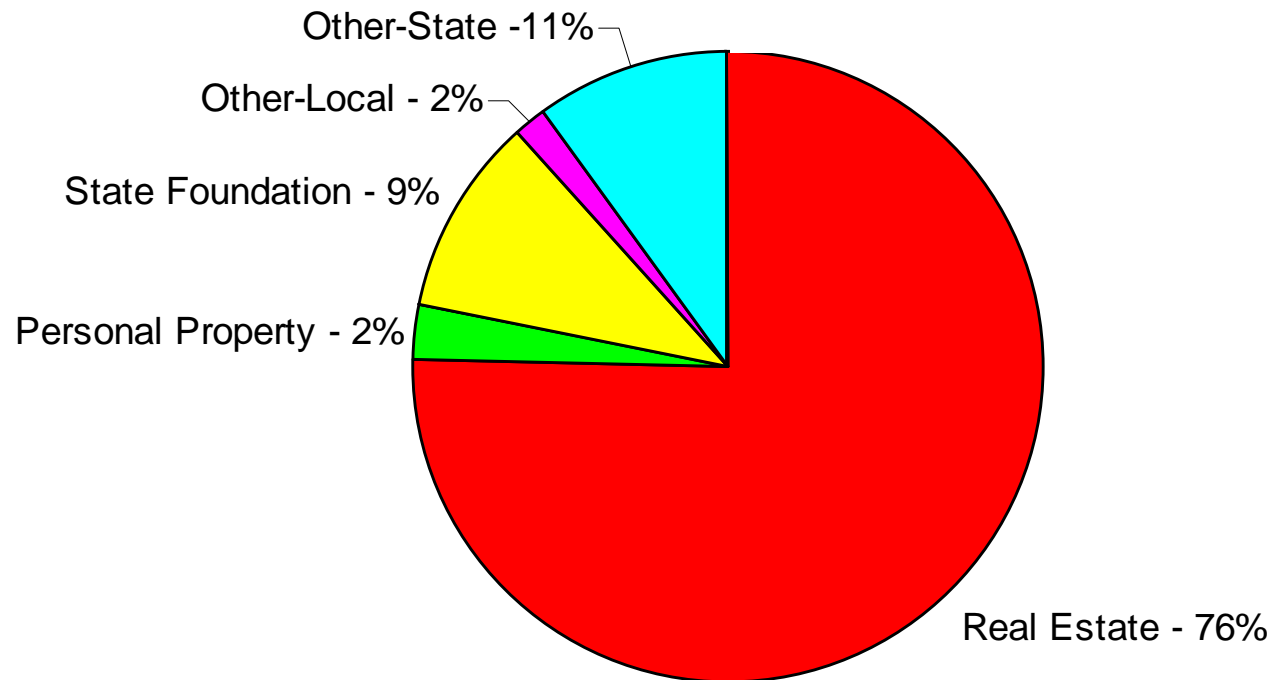
	07/08	08/09	09/10	10/11
<b>Revenue</b>	\$20,110,000	\$20,260,000	\$20,480,000	\$20,690,000
<b>Expenditures</b>	\$20,183,015	\$23,155,200	\$ 24,037,144	\$25,140,060
<b>7.9 Mill Levy Revenue</b>	\$1,872,000	\$3,744,000	\$3,744,000	\$3,744,000
<b>% of Change of Expenditures</b>	<b>- 3.5%</b>	<b>14.7%</b>	<b>3.8%</b>	<b>4.6%</b>
<b>% of Change of Revenue w/ Levy</b>	<b>7.2%</b>	<b>9.2%</b>	<b>0.9%</b>	<b>0.9%</b>

- The average year-to-year increase in revenue for the four year levy is 4.55% per year. The initial increases are necessary to preserve quality education, return to 2006/07 staffing levels, fairly compensate staff and build a cash reserve.
- The initial 14.7% increase in expenditures reflects a return of 1.2 million in cuts from last spring. The average over-all change is 4.9% per year.



## Revenues - FY2007

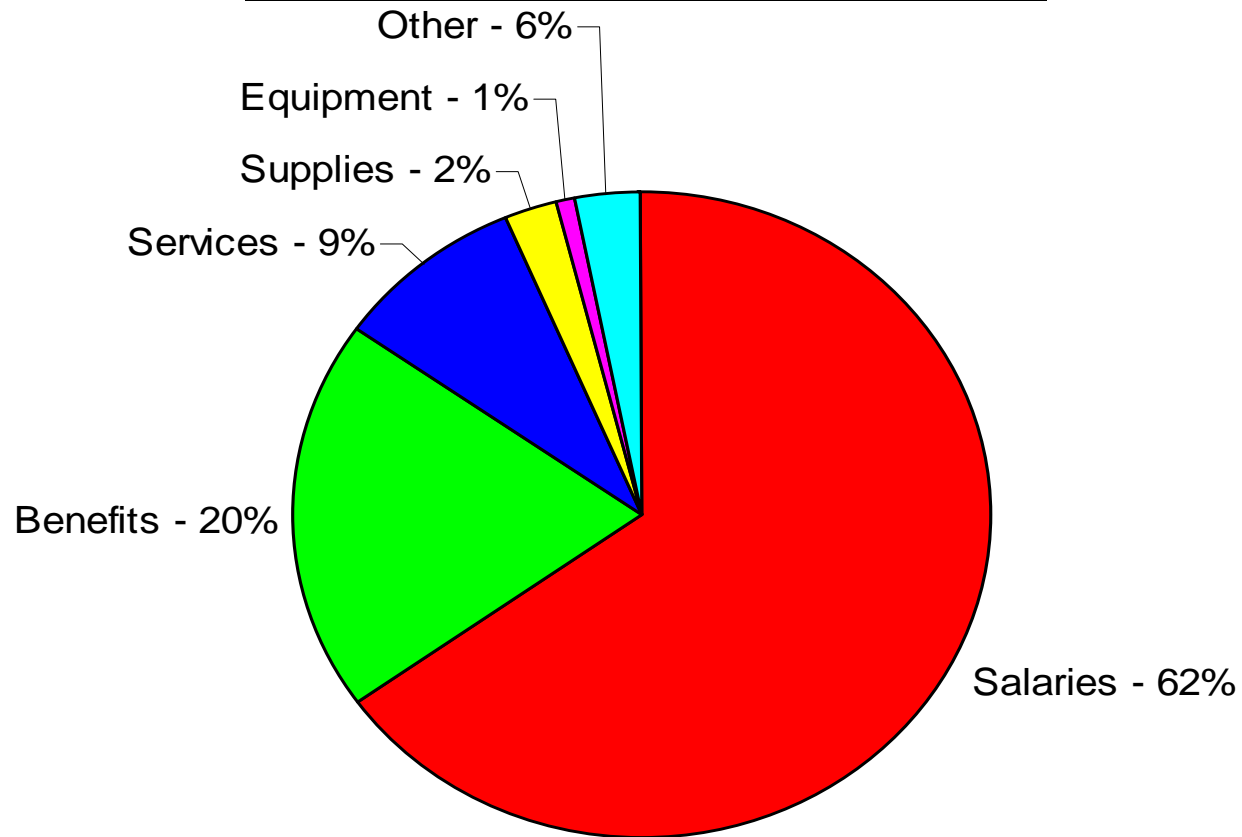
\$20,516,500





## Expenditures - FY2007

\$20,919,679





# Necessary Millage

- To meet the district's needs through Fiscal Year 2011 (four years), the necessary millage for this operating levy is 7.9 mills.



# How much will a 7.9 mill operating levy cost you?

<b>Market Value</b>	<b>\$100,000</b>
	<b>X 35%</b>
<b>Assessed Value</b>	<b>\$ 35,000</b>
<b>Requested Millage – 7.9 mills</b>	<b>.0079</b>
<b>Additional Tax</b>	<b>\$ 277</b>
<b>Less: Rollback/Homestead</b>	<b>\$ 35</b>
<b><i>Total New Annual Cost</i></b>	<b>\$ 242</b>
<b><i>Total New Monthly Cost</i></b>	<b>\$ 20</b>

***SENIOR CITIZENS receive the Homestead Rollback average about \$400.00***

**Collections begin in January, 2008**

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*Has the district been fiscally responsible?*

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# How does Chagrin Falls Compare Fiscally?

- Spending per pupil is below, as much as 40% below, other neighboring school districts
- Growth in spending per pupil is less than the rate of inflation since 1995
- Consistently rated one of Ohio's top school systems

# Expenditures Per Pupil, EXCELLENT School Districts

<u>DISTRICT</u>	<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>1995</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>% Change</u>
Strongsville	Cuyahoga	5,635	10,376	84.1%
Olmsted Falls	Cuyahoga	5,243	9,624	83.6%
Orange	Cuyahoga	10,139	17,518	72.8%
North Olmsted	Cuyahoga	6,361	10,919	71.7%
North Royalton	Cuyahoga	5,613	9,019	60.7%
Westlake	Cuyahoga	6,914	10,955	58.4%
Kenston	Geauga	6,350	9,910	56.1%
Cuyahoga Heights	Cuyahoga	11,615	17,811	53.4%
Bay Village	Cuyahoga	6,642	10,181	53.3%
Chardon	Geauga	5,407	8,130	50.4%
<b>Chagrin Falls</b>	<b>Cuyahoga</b>	<b>7,235</b>	<b>10,746</b>	<b>48.5%</b>
Brecksville	Cuyahoga	6,712	9,862	46.9%
Solon	Cuyahoga	7,660	11,125	45.2%
Mayfield	Cuyahoga	8,319	12,052	44.9%
Rocky River	Cuyahoga	7,388	10,612	43.6%
West Geauga	Geauga	6,279	9,009	43.5%
Berkshire	Geauga	5,385	7,343	36.4%
Independence	Cuyahoga	9,340	12,573	34.6%
Beachwood	Cuyahoga	13,573	17,368	28.0%

Source: Ohio Dept of Education

Average increase: 51.7%

CPI: 49.2%

Chagrin increase 48.5%



# Teacher's Salary/Experience

- Chagrin Falls base teacher salary is ranked **#7** out of the 10 area public schools
- 73% of our teachers hold a Master's Degree or higher, and 5 teachers are National Board Certified
- The average years of experience for teachers in the Chagrin Falls School District is 15 years.



# Ohio Graduation Test

## #1 – State of Ohio - 2007

<u>TEST</u>	<u>STATE AVERAGE</u>	<u>CHAGRIN</u>
	% PASSING	% PASSING
<b>WRITING</b>	89%	<b>100%</b>
<b>READING</b>	87%	<b>99%</b>
<b>MATH</b>	81%	<b>98%</b>
<b>CITIZENSHIP</b>	76%	<b>97%</b>
<b>SCIENCE</b>	72%	<b>97%</b>



## How are the Chagrin Falls Schools managing expenses and increasing efficiency?

- Participate in group purchasing programs
  - Paper, Office Supplies, Furnishings, Workers Compensation, Insurance (Property/Liability/Fleet)
- Participate in utility consortiums
  - Electricity, Natural Gas
- Offer programs and services within the district, rather than outsourcing to others
  - HVAC, Water testing, small construction



## How are the Chagrin Falls Schools managing expenses and increasing efficiency?

- Cost Containment Committee
  - Increase in insurance co-pays
  - Changed insurance providers netting the district approximately \$175,000 for FY 08
  
- Maintain modest Administrative staff



# Bond Issue Cost Analysis

- The cost of the 2005 bond issue will be offset by the end of 2010 due to:
  - The maturation of bonds from the 1988 construction project(s) (currently collects approximately 1 mill)
  - The refinancing of the bonds from the 1997 construction project(s). (Interest rate reduction from refinancing will save residents approximately .4 mills)



# Bond Issue Cost Analysis

- The total cost of all the capital improvements were completely funded by the 2005 bond issue, and private donations
- No general operating funds were diverted to these projects



# FINANCIAL AUDITS

Each year, the district issues a Comprehensive Annual Financial Report and has consistently had “clean” audits

- The district has received the Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association for the past **seven** years. This is the highest award for financial reporting that a school district can achieve.

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*What would be the effects of  
a November levy failure?*

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# Staffing Reductions

- Total staff reductions in 2006/07
  - 2.7 full-time equivalent teaching positions
  - 22 coaching and advisor positions were cut
  
- Total staff reductions in 2007/08
  - 11.8 full-time equivalent teaching positions
  - .8 administrative position
  - 4 custodial
  - 1 other

## IMPORTANT FACT:

These cuts would have been more severe had the teachers and support staff not agreed to defer their own cost of living increases.



## What would be the effects of a November levy failure?

- \$2.8 million projected deficit forecasted for the 2008/2009 school year
  - Maintain existing cuts of \$1.2 million in 07/08 followed by
  - Additional cuts of \$1.6 million in 08/09
- Staffing cuts to include reduction of teaching staff, support staff positions & class offerings will result in increased class sizes
- Elimination of transportation w/in a two mile radius of each school and no high school transportation



What would be the effects of a November levy failure?

- Significant reduction in extra curricular and co-curricular activities to include athletics
- Increased Pay-to-Participate fees
- Elimination of technology programming and computer replacement program
- Limited funds allocated for general maintenance, repair or improvements



What would be the effects of a November levy failure?

- The current Kindergarten schedule will remain
- Foreign language courses will not be offered until High School



# The need does not go away

- We will lose quality teachers
- Our ability to keep pace with changes in technology will be significantly impacted
- The quality of education offered by Chagrin Falls Schools will be adversely affected

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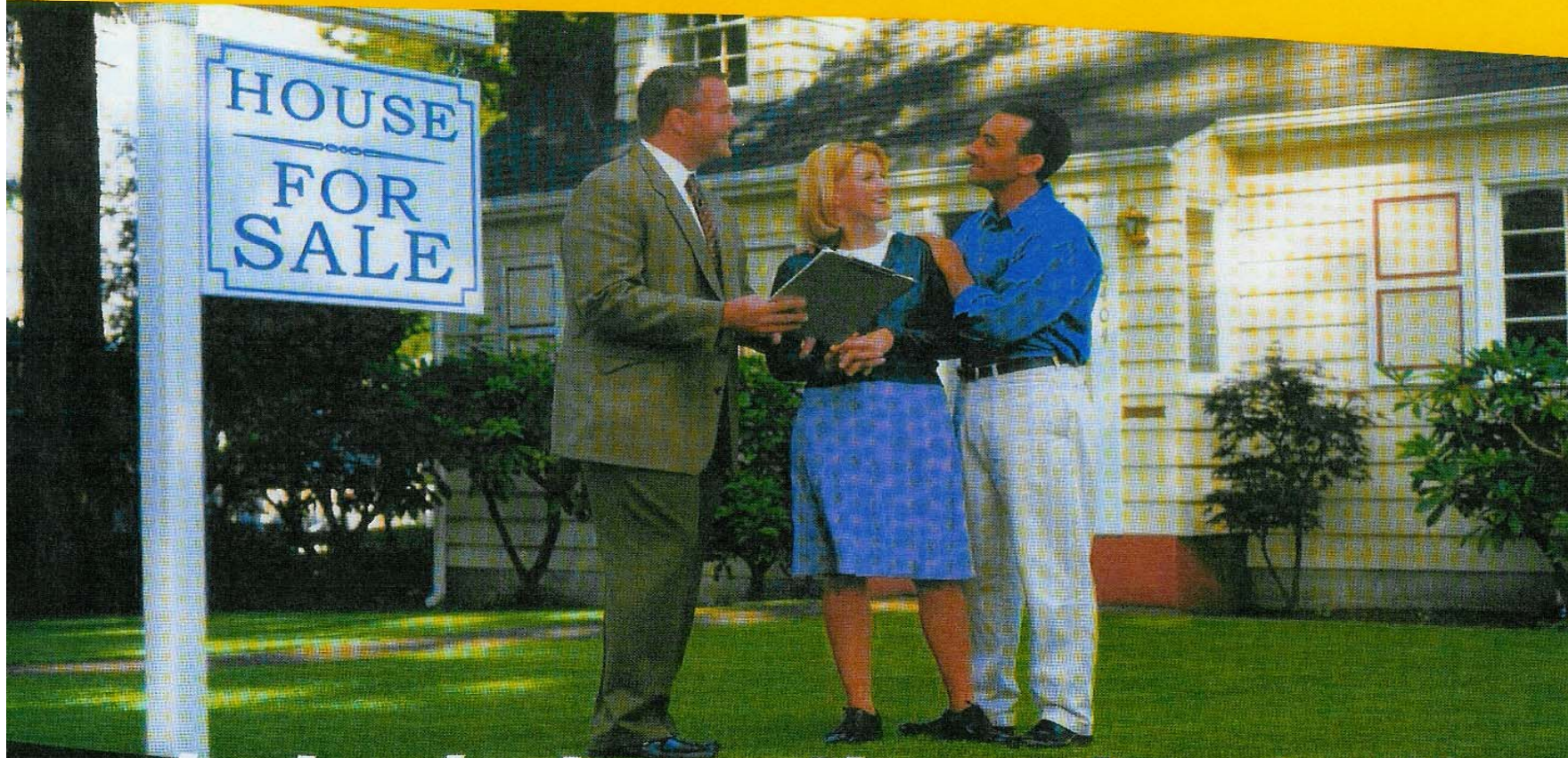
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***We love the house...***



***...but what are the schools like  
around here?***



What is the relationship between a strong school district and a vibrant community?

- Increased property values
- Families move to Chagrin for the schools
- Community pride in our schools
- We are educating the next generation of leaders
- Who else will pay for our children's education?



# Review

- Why does the district need a levy?
- Has the district been fiscally responsible?
- What would be the Effects of November Levy Failure?
- What is the relationship between a strong school district and a vibrant community?



# Vote Yes on November 6 for Our Community, Our Children, Our Future

“Life is no brief candle to me. It is a sort of splendid torch which I have got a hold of for the moment, and I want to make it burn as brightly as possible before handing it on to future generations.”

George Bernard Shaw (1856 - 1950)