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## SCHOOLS

DOVER HIGH SCHOOL 520 North Walnut Street PRINCIPAL Teresa Alberts 330-364-7148 ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL Brooke Grafe

330-364-7147 ATHLETIC DIRECTOR Tim McCrate Athletic Director 330-364-7143

DOVER MIDDLE SCHOOL 2131 North Wooster Ave PRINCIPAL Jack Edwards 330-364-7121

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL Kurt Reveal 330-364-7121

DOVER AVENUE ELEMENTARY 125 West 13<sup>th</sup> Street PRINCIPAL Reneé Sattler 330-364-7117

EAST ELEMENTARY 325 Betscher Avenue PRINCIPAL Zach Zesiger 330-364-7114

SOUTH ELEMENTARY 280 East Shafer Avenue PRINCIPAL Tracie Murphy 330-364-7111

## **Dover City Schools** 219 West Sixth Street Dover, Ohio 44622

January 15, 2019

Dear Dover Families:

I am writing to you about an important action that our Board of Education has taken regarding the future financial stability of our schools. Last night, the Board of Education took the initial steps necessary to place an operating levy on the ballot. This request will cost taxpayers less than the levy proposed in November 2018 while providing enough funding to maintain the excellence we value in our schools. Election day is May 7, 2019.

If approved, the new levy will generate \$2,631,975, and it will cost property owners \$20.13 per month per \$100,000 of property value. Funding from the levy will be used for day-to-day operations.

The district will make the budget reductions outlined in November, but this does not eliminate the need for additional funding. In addition, we listened to the taxpayers. We understand how incredibly burdensome any tax increase can be to our hard-working community. So, we went back to the drawing board and revised our request. Projecting our current budget reduction savings over several years, along with potential long-term efficiencies from the elementary reconfiguration plan, allows us to lower this request.

In Ohio, we have two options for funding schools: state funds or local taxes. While managing significant reductions in state funding levels, our district has maintained a lean budget, spending less per pupil than other area schools and 22 percent per student below the state average. It has been 10 years since Dover's last new operating levy, and only four new operating levies have been passed in the past 30 years.

We cannot run our schools any leaner than we have been for the past decade. The district needs additional resources now, or we could be facing more reductions and financial instability in the near future.

Please join me in sharing the importance of this crucial request with your local family, friends and neighbors. As always, if you have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Carla Berney

Carla Birney, Superintendent

## A Distinguished History and a Dynamic Future