

### Why should I vote “YES” for this Levy?

- The current PI Levy ends Dec. 2019. Our community has a long history of supporting our schools and our schools have a long history of providing our children with the best education & opportunities in a frugal & efficient manner. Your support of this levy will continue this legacy. Additionally, your support of this levy will allow the district to utilize a portion of our district general funds keep our children safe by covering the cost of our School Resource Officer.
- Northwestern has been deficit spending for 2 years. The state placed us in “Fiscal Watch” in Dec. 2017. Even with employee RIFs, cost reductions the 5-year forecast predicts our district depleting funds within two years.
- Why now? Now is the time because our historical 5-year PI Levy is up for renewal, we have deficit spent each of the past 2 years, and we have added the additional cost of a School Resource Officer and building security needs.
- The district has some necessary major expenses with our HVAC system repairs and additional failing system replacement costs.
- Steadily increasing costs, combined with inadequate state and federal funds, in addition to numerous unfunded state and federal mandates has resulted in abnormally higher costs with insufficient funding.
- The original millage of this Permanent Improvement property tax voted on in 1989 was 2.8 mills. It is currently at a much lower effective millage of only 1.32 mills for residential & agriculture, which is less than *half* the original effective millage! This PI levy has generated roughly \$240,000 annually. The additional millage will increase this to an estimated \$400,000 total annually.
- Ohio school funding has not kept up with inflation over the past 8 years.

### Will this mean an increase in our taxes?

**YES** - There will be an increase in the taxes presently levied. However, this collection would begin in 2020 and our OSFC Bond Tax is scheduled to expire in 2024.

***PASSING THIS 4.0 MIL LEVY (2.8 MILL RENEWAL & 1.2 MILL ADDITIONAL) WILL ACTUALLY PROVIDE THE NECESSARY FUNDS TO MAINTAIN OUR OUTSTANDING FACILITIES, EQUIPMENT AND PROVIDE THE FUNDING FOR OUR SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER!***

# NORTHWESTERN SCHOOLS

## 2.8 mill renewal with 1.2 mill additional Permanent Improvement Levy Information



Northwestern School District is asking voters to consider passage of a 4.0 mill Permanent Improvement levy (2.8 mill renewal & 1.2 mill additional)

### **Facts**

- ✓ **The district has deficit spent the past two years due to inflationary PI costs that the district general budget has had to commit to shore-up our facility costs.**
- ✓ **We need these funds to catch-up with PI expenses - our revenue has failed to keep pace with inflationary increases.**
- ✓ **This additional 1.2 mills will allow us to continuously employ our School Resource Officer and will allow the district to keep up with costs and needs of our school facilities and equipment.**
- ✓ **The additional levy amount would not begin until Jan., 2020**
- ✓ **This is a 5-year PI levy.**

## Efficiency of Operations

- ✓ Northwestern has been listed as a “smart school” district in the National Knowledge Works “smart schools” efficiency study.
- ✓ American Progress “Efficiency Study”  
This national study of public school efficiency measured school district per pupil cost to educate against the productivity (student outcomes and quality of education) provided by individual school district across the nation. Northwestern has been one of the few listed districts as having the highest productivity rating with the highest achievement, as well as the lowest cost to educate.
- ✓ Why? To fund needed asphalt & sealcoating, HVAC repairs & updates, replacement and repairs of other systems, buses, computers, textbooks, security systems, and support the district’s necessary employment of an SRO.

## History of our Permanent Improvement Levy

- 1974 2.0 mill levy
- 1979 renewal 1.9 mill levy
- 1984 renewal 1.9 mill levy
- 1989 renewal 1.9 mill plus additional .9 mill levy - 2.8 mills total
- 1994 renewal 2.8 mill levy
- 1999 renewal 2.8 mill levy
- 2004 renewal 2.8 mill levy
- 2009 renewal 2.8 mill levy
- 2014 renewal 2.8 mill levy
- **2019 renewal of 2.8 mills with additional 1.2 mills = 4.0 mills total.**

***EVEN OUR EXCEPTIONAL EFFORTS OF INCREASING REVENUE FROM OTHER SOURCES AND REDUCING OUR COSTS IN MANY AREAS CANNOT KEEP UP WITH THE CURRENT FUNDING CRISIS AND CONSTANTLY INCREASING MANDATES.***

## What is a Mill?

A mill is one-tenth of one cent; a monetary unit used in expressing tax rates. A tax rate of 1.0 mill is often expressed at \$1.00 per thousand dollars of tax valuation. The cost of 1 mill on a home valued at \$100,000 is \$35 per year. Know that the assessed property value is 35% of its market value.

## Tax Examples:

The additional 1.2 mills would cost on a \$100,000 home:  
 $\$100,000 \times .35 \times .0012 = \underline{\$42 \text{ annually or } 3.50 \text{ per month}}$

For a \$200,000 home: \$84 per year or \$7 per month

**FYI:** Taxpayers can access how this levy will impact your home by going to the Wayne County Auditor’s Website. Go to the tax tab, then levy tab and it will provide information about what you are currently paying for this and all levies as well as what you will pay for this 1.2 mill increase.

## Why has the effective millage rate decreased?

### Current effective Millage rate of only 1.47 mills

The effective millage rate generally goes down because of increased property values throughout a school district. This means that the collection has a broader tax base so each individual pays less. The Ohio Dept. of Taxation annually adjust this based upon specified changes to the schools tax base, which generally realizes an increased adjustment.

## Community PI Levy Information Discussion:

High School Library 6:00-7:00PM on October 15<sup>th</sup>

**Board Members, Superintendent, Treasurer, and SRO will be available at home football games prior to the game through half-time directly inside of the main entrance past the ticket booths to answer questions and share information about this 4.0 mill PI (Permanent Improvement) Levy.**

***Election Day is November 6<sup>th</sup>: Polls open 6:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.***