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Bay Village Board of Education

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September 5, 2012

To Our Fellow Bay Village Citizens:

Re: A plan to extend the useful lives of our buildings for 25 years or more

We want you to know that our school district spends thousands of dollars in operating funds each year replacing roofs, windows, pavement, and other building features that experience regular wear and tear. This practice has kept our buildings in generally good condition for their ages.

However, building mechanical systems like boilers, wiring, plumbing and ventilation require exceptionally large investments. These projects cannot be easily completed on incremental and rotating cycles.

This is why we have approved the placement of a 1.96 mill bond issue on our upcoming November 6 ballot. If passed, the bond issue will raise \$16.8 million, with the bonds paid back over 25 years. The bond issue would cost homeowners about \$5 per month, or \$60 annually, for every \$100,000 of home valuation.

The plan to improve our buildings is based on a study completed by ADA Architects, Inc. of Lakewood, Ohio. We prioritized the recommendations and, to keep the bond issue request as low as possible, we are limiting the plan to two top priority levels of work, which include:

- upgrading heating/ventilation systems for Bay High, Westerly Elementary, Normandy Elementary and Glenview Center for Childcare and Learning, as well as strategically adding air conditioning for some Bay High windowless and high-use areas;
- replacing parts of electrical systems and wiring at Bay High, Westerly, Normandy and Glenview;
- improving lighting with energy-efficient replacements at Bay High, Westerly, Normandy and Glenview;
- modernizing plumbing and rest rooms at Bay High, Westerly and Normandy;
- modernizing science labs at Bay High to meet new academic standards;
- making general repairs/replacements for areas with deteriorating masonry, concrete and asphalt;
- possibly making small additions to Normandy (four classrooms) and Westerly (media center); and
- installing wireless technology for all K-12 grades throughout the district.

It should be noted that specific work completed will ultimately depend upon costs as bids are received, and that priorities could shift if additional facility issues emerge or market conditions change. Some third-priority recommendations may be addressed if funds remain after bids are received for the higher-priority items.

We expect that making these upgrades and renovations now, while interest rates are low, will keep our buildings safe, comfortable and more energy efficient for at least another twenty-five years.

More details can be found on our website at www.bayvillageschools.com/BondIssue, including your Frequently Asked Questions and answers, an online bond issue cost calculator based on your own property value, and the complete architects' recommendations report. We will be including more details in future newsletters, as well.

You are also invited to attend our State of the Schools Presentation on Tuesday, October 2, 7:15 p.m. at Bay Middle School, where an overview of our facilities needs and the plan to address them will be presented.

We believe now is the right time to take advantage of historically low interest rates and prevent the need for more costly repairs or building replacements over possibly the next several decades. Thank you for your consideration of this important issue for our schools.

Sincerely,

Your Bay Village Board of Education:

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