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To Our Fellow Bay Village Citizens:

After stretching the last operating levy (passed in 2010) for two years beyond its original projection, and after much study and evaluation of our school district's fiscal needs, our board has voted to place a 5.9 mill operating levy on the November 2016 election ballot.

The 5.9 mills would cost homeowners approximately \$17.21 more per month (about \$207 annually) for each \$100,000 of home valuation. We want to give you this first notification and the rationale behind our decision:

- While our 2010 operating levy was expected to last four years, we were able to extend our levy cycle an additional two years through some aggressive budget management. You will soon be receiving more detailed information on how our cost saving measures have extended the last levy.
- If passed this November, the 5.9 mills would let us maintain our current educational program. However, if we wait until 2017, we would need a higher-millage levy to maintain the same level of service. This is because we do not collect additional revenue until the calendar year following a levy passage, regardless of the month of levy approval.
- The Bay Village school district spends less than average dollars per pupil when compared with other districts in Cuyahoga County – we are 23rd out of 31 districts in spending per pupil and spend \$1,985 less per pupil than the county average. Our teacher salaries average 14th out of the 31 districts in the county, and administrator salaries are also about average. In spite of this, our district meets the highest levels of excellence by state and federal standards and by a wide variety of other measures that bring our schools regional and national recognition.
- Despite being in the bottom third in school spending, Bay Village is 34th out of 80 county taxing districts in tax rates as a percentage of market value. Tax rates here are somewhat higher because our community is more than 95 percent residential (one of the highest proportions of residential property in the state). With little commercial or industrial property to help carry the tax burden, services must be paid for mostly by residents. While 57.8% percent of Bay Village property taxes go to our schools, the rest go to the city (16.54%), county (15.4%), Cuyahoga Community College (4.38%), Metro Parks (3.01%), Library (2.74%) and the Port Authority (0.13%).
- Our schools rely upon local property taxes (no income tax) and the less than 16 percent of our budget that comes from state funding.

We know you may have many additional questions, and we will be announcing a series of public meetings to answer them along with sending more detailed information in the mail. In addition, please check our website at www.bayvillageschools.com where we will be offering an online levy cost calculator and other information over the next several months.

Thank you for all you do for us. It is the ongoing financial and personal support of our residents that makes our school district one of the finest in our state and in our country.

Sincerely,

YOUR BAY VILLAGE BOARD OF EDUCATION:

Amy Huntley, President
Gayatry Jacob-Mosier, Vice President

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Steve Lee
Lisa Priemer
