

## Frequently Asked Questions

Q1 - Several years ago a levy was approved for the Jr. High School. When will that levy drop off the tax bill?

- The current levy for the Jr. High School (Middle School) will expire in 17 years which occurs in 2034.

Q2 – Is all debt associated with the Crim remodel gone?

- We have no outstanding debt on any elementary facility/building in the district.

Q3 – Does the levy include fixtures (desks, chairs, etc.) or will we use what we have currently?

- The current furniture will be used if in good condition, however furnishings are included in the dollars being requested.

Q4 – How much will it cost to furnish and finish the new buildings?

- The cost of furnishings is included in the dollar amount being requested but we will salvage good to new condition furniture to save costs.

Q5 – Will the current High School Library be demolished in this project?

- Yes.

Q6 – Will the Vo-Ag/FFA program be eliminated?

- Absolutely not! This is one of our sacred programs that provides many opportunities and experiences for our students.

Q7 – How many years will this bond be?

- This bond will be for 37 years.

Q8 – When will the project be completed?

- If the voters approve the bond in November, the estimated time of completion will be approximately 3 years for the elementary building and 3.5 years for the high school. So 2020/21.

Q9 – How many jobs will be lost if the project is approved?

- At this point we do not anticipate much change in regards to staff but if there are any reductions it will be first done through attrition. We are constantly looking at ways to streamline our operations but will still have the same number of students and would anticipate that the staff (teachers, support staff, administrative) numbers will not change.

Q10 – Why are we not taking State money for construction of this project?

- According to State formulas Bowling Green is considered an affluent school district. This is based on our total population (30,000+ even though we know that in regards to permanent residents our population is closer to 18,000) and our property valuation is high due to our district having 118 square miles (much of which is rich farmland). Therefore Bowling Green City Schools qualifies for approximately 11-13% share from the State. However, our position “in

line” is still not on the docket for a co-funded project and could be several years before our time would come. That being said, if we were to accept State money if presented the opportunity, we would hand over jurisdiction to the OFCC to determine decisions regarding the buildings. So in essence they would build the buildings to their specifications thus taking local control away from our district and Board of Education.

Q11 – Have you looked at how much revenue would be generated from the sale of the Conneaut and Kenwood properties?

- At this point we have not gotten any estimates on the value of those properties. We would first, by law, have to offer to sell those buildings to a community or charter school that exist in our community. Seeing that none exist at this time, then the buildings would be demolished and we plan to get input from the homeowners in those areas to make the best decisions regarding any future use of those properties. We will work on getting an estimated value and will update this answer as soon as possible.

Q12 – Will the new buildings accommodate future student growth?

- We are cognizant of the fact that if our tax-payers approve this issue in the Fall then it would be quite some time before we could ask for future consideration in regards to building. With that in mind, we have looked at our projected enrollment growth and have planned for 12 sections at each grade level. Currently, we have 9 or 10 sections in each grade level.

Q13 – Will class sizes increase at the elementary level?

- No. It will help us even class sizes per grade level.

Q14 – What is the life expectancy of the new buildings?

- Our architect would say that the buildings are in the 60 year range but with proper maintenance we could extend the life of those buildings.

Q15 – Do you have common spaces built in for gym, art, music?

- The elementary building is being built with multiple spaces for each to accommodate the number of students.

Q16 – How is the District paying for the addition on the middle school?

- The Board has committed to using permanent improvement dollars already being collected to pay for the much needed addition. This will not impact the tax-payers. Permanent improvement money can only be used for anything with a life value of 5 years or greater. Estimated completion of the new wing would be August of 2018.

Q17 – A great number of parents drop off their students in the morning – what will the logistics of that look like?

- The architect has worked on options to address the traffic flow to accommodate drop off and pick up. It will be our job to inform parents and enforce the guidelines set forth in regards to traffic.

Q18 – Will the costs of demolition be extra or included in the cost of the project?

- The costs associated with the demolition of the buildings are included in the cost of the project.

Q19 – Will the new high school and middle school still be attached?

- Yes, because the renovated spaces will be attached to the new construction of the high school and therefore the access will still exist.

Q20 – Can laws be changed to fund this project with other than property tax?

- At this time no. The legislature would need to change that.

Q21 – Why is now the time to do this project? Could we build in phases?

- The current conditions of our buildings are in dire need of attention. To “kick the can” down the road will make the project more expensive going forward while spending money on the existing buildings. The question has been whether to put “good” money into old buildings and then have to come back to address other issues. The costs of construction have been rising at the rate of 5% annually.

Q22 - Will the buildings be energy efficient and/or LEED certified?

- The Board of Education is committed to all opportunities for energy efficiency or LEED certification.

Q23 – How will senior citizens be able to afford their medications and pay their taxes on this project?

- We understand that there are community members that will have a difficulty with the increase in taxes. This is the difficult part of being in public education and having to ask tax payers for funding. This has been a problem before and since the DeRolph case ruled that Ohio school funding is unconstitutional over 20 years ago. Unfortunately, we have not seen an equitable formula to take the burden off the tax payer. Therefore public schools are still charged with asking their local communities for revenue to meet the ever growing needs and rising costs in education. Please continue to talk to our representatives to find methods other than the tax payer to fund our schools. In the meantime, the Bowling Green City Schools will continue to be fiscally responsible and maximizing the tax dollars entrusted to operate. We will continually look for areas to cut costs and still offer a quality education.

Q24 – How much will my taxes go up for my \$168,000 home (average home price in Bowling Green)?

- A little less than \$357 per year. \$29.75 per month. \$6.87 per week. \$0.98 per day.

Q25 – What are some of the collateral benefits of this project?

- For three years we will have people working on this project that are not Bowling Green residents. While on site, they will purchase gas, food, drink, etc. from our merchants thus helping the local economy. In addition, our hotels could benefit from over-night stays, again helping the local economy. Lastly, the City will be able to collect income tax from the same workers on the project.

Q26 – It seems our taxes are already high. Where do we stand in regards to other school districts in Wood County?

- In comparing to districts either entirely in Wood County or partially in Wood County we are in the middle. Please see the comparative chart below:

School District	Square Miles	Income Tax	Effective Millage (rank)	Res/AG (rank)
Anthony Wayne	74	No	(2)73.78	(6)37.957367
Bowling Green	118	Yes	(7)57.50	(8)28.575635
Eastwood	105	Yes	(14)34.65	(15)21.661215
Elmwood	112	Yes	(13)36.90	(14)21.875494
Fostoria	22	No	(6)60.02	(4)43.157537
Gibsonburg	59	Yes	(9)49.70	(11)23.673679
Lake	37	No	(5)62.59	(5)38.552170
Lakota	127	No	(12)40.00	(12)23.600982
McComb	102	Yes	(15)33.01	(13)22.399217
North Baltimore	37	No	(8)54.90	(7)34.669441
Northwood	8	Yes	(1)82.65	(1)51.992540
Otsego	102	Yes	(10)46.20	(10)25.000027
Patrick Henry	146	Yes	(11)40.63	(9)26.845877
Perrysburg	28	Yes	(3)72.90	(3)44.363796
Rosford	26	No	(4)69.60	(2)50.462360