

WHEREAS, the set aside into Fund 177 has now increased to four cents (.04 ¢) on the county property tax rate; and

WHEREAS, Maryville City Schools currently serve approximately thirty percent (30%) of the students enrolled in public schools in Blount County; and

WHEREAS, Maryville City Schools should accordingly receive approximately thirty percent (30%) of any funds allocated to schools by Blount County Commission; and

WHEREAS, the Maryville Board of Education understands and appreciates that Heritage High School and William Blount High School are in desperate need of renovation and repair; and

WHEREAS, the Blount County School System has requested the Blount County Commission fund the renovations to these high schools by adding millions of dollars annually to Fund 177, so such funds would not be shared with the two (2) City school systems but retained entirely by the Blount County School System; and

WHEREAS, Maryville Board of Education understands that Blount County Schools made a presentation to Blount County Commission's Education Committee on February 5, 2019, where five (5) funding options offered for the renovations at the County high schools were discussed and four (4) of the options involved using Fund 177 to avoid equitable distribution of dollars with the two (2) City School Systems; and

WHEREAS, any standard property tax increase for Blount County will be applicable to all residents and businesses including those residents and businesses located in the City of Maryville and the City of Alcoa; and

WHEREAS, State law currently provides a fair way for counties to raise funds for schools without sharing with municipal school districts within their boundaries by providing the tax