



# KNOW THE FACTS

Ottawa Hills Local Schools will have a 12.9-mill operating levy (which will generate \$2.3 million) on the March, 2024 ballot.

## WHY NOW?

- Increased enrollment.
- Increase in student needs.
- District did not ask for large enough operating levy 2020.
- Cash reserves have been depleted.
- Without a voter approved levy in March the district will need to make \$1.5 million in cuts for the '24-25 school year.

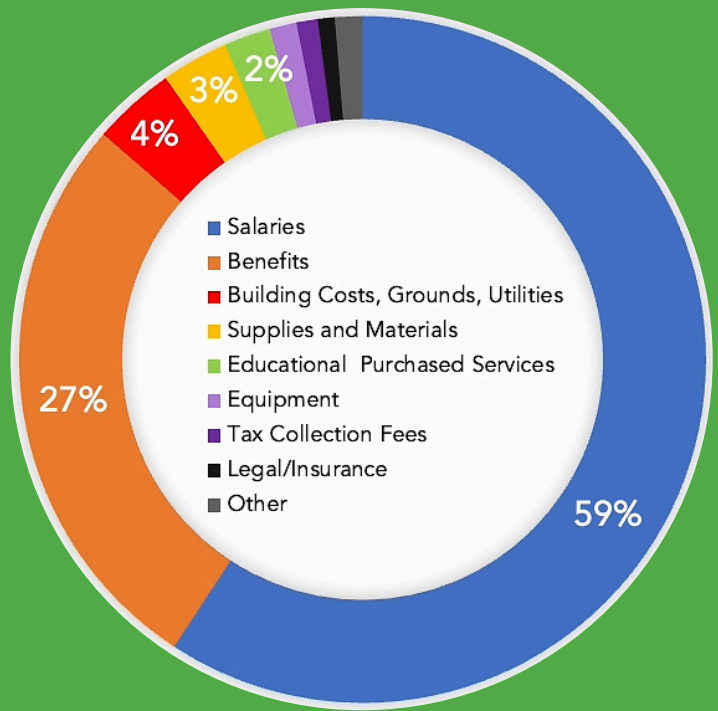
## WHAT HAS THE DISTRICT DONE TO CUT COSTS?

- Cut administrator compensation and eliminated travel.
- Eliminated: communications director, school nurse, one tech support, secretary, two gifted intervention specialists, 1/2 time PE teacher, 1/2 time Spanish teacher, 1/2 time fitness center coordinator, consumer science program and teacher.
- Retirees/resignations not replaced.
- Reorganization of technology department.
- Instructional budget freeze.
- Increased pay-to-play fees.
- Reduction of hourly staffing needs.
- Negotiated health insurance premium reduction.

## WHAT COST SAVINGS ARE PLANNED FOR 2024?

- 0% renewal rate on health care benefits.
- 0% increase in salaries for all staff.
- Administrative staff forgoing 1% bonus from all A's state report card
- Reorganization of treasurer department.
- Reorganization of operations facilitation.
- *Additional cost savings work still in progress...*

## FY '24 Budgeted Operating Expenses



86% of the operating budget pays teachers and staff

Permanent improvement funding (for long term/greater than 5 years improvements/projects) cannot be used for operating expenses.

## ENROLLMENT GROWTH

901 students in 2016

1054 students today

Increased enrollment with increase in student intervention, social-emotional, behavioral, and academic support needs.

State funding provides about \$1,500 per additional student, which only makes up about 15% of our revenue.

## WHAT IS THE ASK?

Ottawa Hills Local Schools is asking for 12.9 mills on the March, 2024 ballot.

## WHAT IS THE COST TO HOMEOWNERS?

About \$38 per month for every \$100,000 assessed value of your home.



## HOW MUCH WILL THIS GENERATE?

Approximately \$2.3 million that will only be used to fund operating expenses.

Public school districts are funded through a combination of state funds, local property taxes, and federal funds.

**House Bill 920 (passed in 1976) adjusts property taxes so that actual taxes collected remains the same based on past approved levies.**

Ottawa Hills has a decades long history of approving requested millages to generate revenue for our school district. Property taxes make up nearly 70% of our revenue.

## HOW CAN YOU FIND YOUR ASSESSED VALUE?

Use the AREIS Summary Values 100% Roll Total to see your assessed value by the Lucas County Auditor



**Financial decisions are made using the Strategic Plan as a guide**

2022-2027

**Ottawa Hills Local Schools Strategic Plan**

A Community-Driven Commitment to Guide the Future of Our Schools



## The 4 Focus Areas

Nuture a Joyful Pursuit of Learning

Create a Lifelong Sense of Belonging

Leverage Partnerships for Transformative Experiences

Support a Comprehensive Approach to Modernization

## Historic Levies Passed in Ottawa Hills

