

Revere Bond Issue—Issue 45—November 9, 2016

After an extensive community engagement process that spanned more than a year, the Revere School District made the decision to invest in our deteriorating school buildings. This bond issue will raise \$68.2 million over a 30-year period to build a new high school and new Bath Elementary School while making renovations to Hillcrest Elementary and Revere Middle School. Projections show it will only cost less than \$8 per month per \$100,000 home (appraised value on your Summit County Fiscal Office property card). The annual cost for Issue 45, which is a 4.1-mill, 30-year proposal, would be \$143.50 annually per \$100,000 home. Because an existing 1.59-mill bond issue will end in December, taxpayers will see a “net,” or new, increase of \$87.85 annually, if the issue is approved.

On November 9, 2016—the bond passed overwhelmingly (7,042 in favor and 4,671 against).

Revere, Tallmadge school bonds win

Districts to renovate, build facilities in both communities. Stow-Munroe Falls passes 1.99-mill continuing permanent improvement levy. All three renewals in Summit OK'd

By Katie Byard

Beacon Journal staff writer

Voters in the Tallmadge and Revere school districts Tuesday approved large bond issues for the renovation and construction of school facilities.

Among the five other Summit County school districts with issues on the ballot, only Norton's 1.9-mill continuing operating levy failed.

Matthew Montgomery, superintendent of Revere Local Schools, said students “are the ones who will benefit a great deal from having the new and renovated buildings, which the district has needed for such a long time.”

SCHOOL LEVIES

Voters in the district overwhelmingly approved a 4.1-mill, 30-year proposal to generate \$68.2 million for renovations at Hillcrest Elementary and Revere Middle schools and construction of a new Bath Elementary School and a new Revere High.

“We’ll take a moment or two to celebrate,” Montgomery said, “but quickly get to work on the planning phase for our buildings.”

Property owners will pay \$143.50 annually for each \$100,000 valuation of their

property. Because an existing bond issue will end this year, taxpayers will see a “net,” or new, increase of \$87.85 annually.

Hillcrest Elementary will become a pre-kindergarten through second grade building. Bath Elementary will become home to third through fifth grades.

The district will build a new Bath Elementary and a new high school close to existing schools.

The district also will build a new transportation facility and create additional athletic fields.

REVERE

Issue 45 — A 4.1-mill bond issue to raise \$68 million for constructing, renovating, remodeling, etc. of buildings and facilities.

Yes 7,042 - No 4,671



Tim Militzer (left), Jennifer Reece and Revere High Principal Phil King monitor results on a bond issue Wednesday. | MICHAEL CHRITTON/Akron Beacon Journal

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Community News

Revere issue would fund two new schools

10/20/2016 - West Side Leader

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By Kathleen Folkerth

BATH/RICHFIELD — After more than two years of studying and planning, Revere Local Schools officials are ready to ask voters to support a bond issue to provide funding for new buildings.

District voters — which include those living in Bath, Richfield and parts of West Akron and Copley — will see Issue 45 on the Nov. 8 General Election ballot. According to district officials, the 4.1-mill bond issue would generate \$68.2 million for new construction and improvements to the district's buildings and facilities.

If approved, the cost would be \$143.50 per year for 30 years for every \$100,000 of property value, according to district officials.

Superintendent Matthew Montgomery said if the bond issue passes, the district plans to build new Revere High School and Bath Elementary School buildings, while allowing the district to also renovate and improve Hillcrest Elementary and Revere Middle schools.

Montgomery said the decision to put the proposal forward came after evaluations of the district's buildings by the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission and an architect. The district also conducted a phone survey of district residents, which Montgomery said showed some interesting results.

"We didn't focus it on facilities, but facilities came up as a top concern for our constituents," he said.

The district created two community committees — finance and facilities — and invited interested residents to join. They initially met separately to develop some ideas.

"They came together in January, then numbers were shared and reality set in," Montgomery said. "If we built all new buildings, that far exceeded our debt limitations."

The debt limit for the district is \$79 million, he said, but the committee members felt the district should not plan for a project at that cost. The committees agreed on \$68.2 million, which would allow the district to have some extra debt capacity in case of an unexpected need.

The district's projects would be completely locally funded, officials said. Some districts receive state funding for building projects, but Revere was eligible for just 1 percent through that program, Treasurer David Forrest said.

"They do round that up to 5 percent, but to be eligible there are a number of things you need to incorporate in the buildings," said Forrest.

Plans call for building the two new schools close to the schools on the current school grounds so students would not have to be moved during construction. The existing buildings would be razed after new construction is complete.

As for the renovations at Hillcrest and the middle school, Montgomery said that will enable the district to improve security and add fire suppression systems. One thing that won't be added to the old schools, however, is air conditioning.

"It came down to dollars and cents," Montgomery said. "In the current plan, there's not money in the budget to cover air conditioning for those two buildings."

Air conditioning would have cost about another \$10 million, he said, but he doesn't rule out that those improvements could come in the future.

"The board is looking at a phase two to use permanent improvement funds to engage in a second phase of the project," he said.

In addition, the district plans to move third grade from Hillcrest to the new Bath Elementary School building.

The time is right for the district to consider new buildings and renovations, Montgomery said. Bath Elementary was built in 1923 and it was added onto in 1952 and 1967. The high school was built in 1951 and has had six additions over the years.

Hillcrest was built in 1957 and was added onto in 1963 and 1994, while the middle school was built in 1960 and added onto in 1965 and 1994.

Montgomery said this year is a good time to ask voters to support the issue because a previously approved bond issue expires this year. Residents are currently paying \$55.65 for every \$100,000 in property valuation for that issue. If the new bond issue passes, property owners would be paying a net increase of \$87.85 annually per \$100,000 of value, Forrest said.

Should the bond issue not pass in November, Montgomery believes the district would remain steadfast in its belief that it's the right plan for the district.

"Our plan B is plan A," he said. "If it goes down, you'll see the plan A on the ballot [again]. We're sticking with the plan that's best for kids."

If the issue is successful, the district would get to work quickly, Montgomery said.

"When it passes in November, we will start planning immediately for the programming of those buildings," he said. "It will take about six months to get drawings ready, and renovations can start as early as summer of 2017. The new buildings we project at three years."

FACTS (Families and Community Together for Schools) is the community group supporting the bond issue with a campaign. The organization's website, wearerevere.com, includes information about the bond issue.

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Revere district, community in need of new school buildings

 reverelantern.com/opinion/2016/10/28/revere-district-community-in-need-of-new-school-buildings/

Staff Editorial

October 28, 2016

Filed under Opinion

On the November 2016 ballot, members of the Richfield and Bath community will find Bond Issue 45, a proposal for many updates to the Revere District, including a new high school.

Revere Local Schools has educated the public about Issue 45 and how it will benefit the community. The proposal includes plans to tear down and rebuild Revere High School as well as Bath Elementary School and to build new baseball and softball fields along with three new practice fields in the land adjacent to Hillcrest Elementary School. There are also plans to renovate both Hillcrest Elementary and Revere Middle School. The Revere third graders will move to Bath Elementary, and the preschool program at Bath will transfer to Hillcrest. This will help alleviate some of the overcrowding at Hillcrest.

Revere does have four functioning buildings, so some may think that building two new ones, along with additional renovations, would waste money and resources. The supposedly outdated facilities have not hindered the academic performance of the Revere students and the district still ranks well. With all the construction and renovations that will need to occur, is it necessary that the Revere Local School District build new schools?

Because Revere High School was constructed in 1951, it makes sense that the district should receive an update—and deservedly so. The community vetoed a similar proposal about eight years ago, and even then the updates and new facilities were more than needed. Students who would have benefited from new schools back then have been attending outdated and rundown schools for too long. It would be a better and more efficient use of the community's tax dollars to construct two new schools than to continue with the cost of repairs and maintenance for the current buildings. As one of the most outdated schools in the area, Revere High School students deserve a building that will reflect the highly acclaimed academic and athletic performances they accomplish.

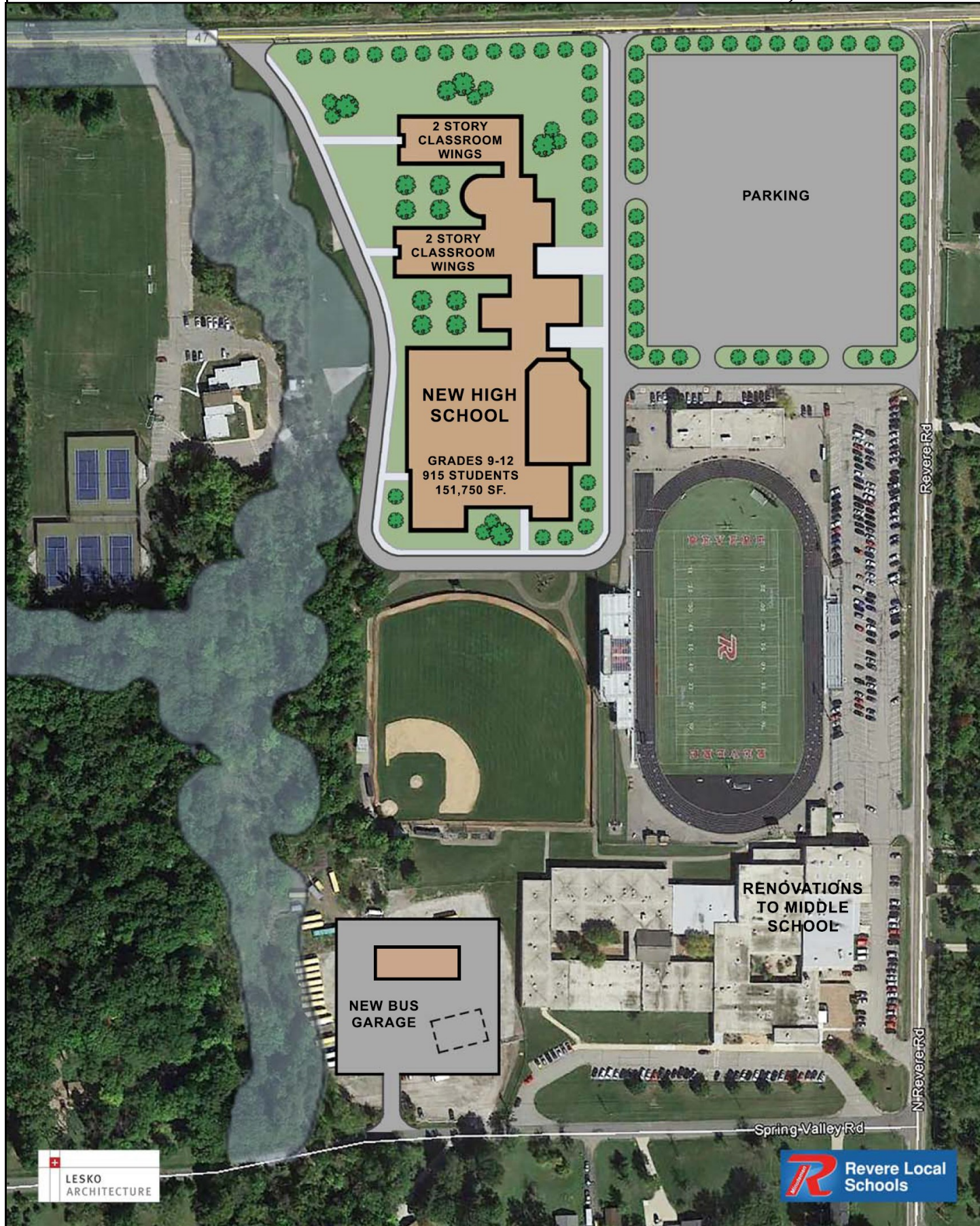
The Revere community has put together a committee, Families and Community Together for Schools (FACTS), which is in charge of educating the public about Issue 45. Revere Superintendent Matthew Montgomery explained that this group has been raising awareness about the issue and why Revere Schools would benefit from it.

"The most important thing is it's going to change the way we offer a learning environment for our students. It's time we make an environment more suited to today's learners," Montgomery said.

Voting for Issue 45 will benefit not only the Revere District, but the entire Richfield and Bath community. Having a nicer school to offer would greatly increase the values of properties in the area, which is something that would benefit everyone.

It is time for the Revere Local School District's outsides to reflect the hardworking students and teachers inside.

Revere Bond Issue—Issue 45—November 1, 2016



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