



Ottawa Hills
Local Schools

COMMUNITY SURVEY
Summary of Findings

April 2020
GLM 20005



3361 EXECUTIVE PARKWAY, SUITE 200 | TOLEDO, OH 43606
TEL 419.534.4700 | WWW.GLM.COM

Ottawa Hills Local Schools

Community Survey

April 2020

Background

On behalf of the Superintendent and School Board, Great Lakes Marketing (GLM) conducted a population survey among Village adults to understand the thoughts and opinions of the community with respect to a variety of issues relevant to the Ottawa Hills Local Schools (OHLS). A similar study was conducted in March 2017 after the failed 2015 levy.

Research Objective

The goals of this study were to provide feedback from the community to allow the Ottawa Hills Board of Education to incorporate the voice of the Village in strategic planning and to provide a baseline of community attitudes for the new leadership.

Methodology

A survey was mailed to at least one adult in each residence in the Village. If the Village or OHLS directory listed a second adult, then both adults were sent a survey packet. The address list was provided by the Village of Ottawa Hills. One questionnaire was included in the survey packet, along with a stamped, pre-addressed GLM return envelope. The survey was also accessible from a website (OHSchoolSurvey.com). The option to take the survey online was promoted in the survey packet mailing as well as through Village and school communications to Village residents.

A total of 3,035 surveys were mailed to Village residents. The population was comprised of:

- Households with two adults listed – Each of the adults was sent their own survey envelope (n=2,432)
- Households with one adult listed – A note was enclosed in the survey envelope offering the opportunity for a second adult to take the survey online (n=435)
- Households with no resident name listed – The survey envelope was addressed to “current resident” (n=168)

Demographics

Response Rate

- 661 residents responded to the survey
 - 535 returned the survey through the postal mail
 - 126 completed the survey online
- The response rate is 23% (based on the number of survey packets successfully delivered)
 - 107 survey packets were returned as undeliverable
- A 23% response rate is an average expected response rate for a one-wave mailing such as this. A goal of this research methodology was to be inclusive. However, in some cases it is possible that households returned one questionnaire to reflect the opinions of both adults.

Responses by Area of Residence

- Mailed survey

43606	68%
43615	32%
- Online survey

43606	65%
43615	33%
No answer	2%

Household Profile

[Households could be in more than one category so the total exceeds 100%]

Empty nester with grown children who attended OHLS	39%
Have a child at Ottawa Hills Junior/Senior High School	28%
Have a child at Ottawa Hills Elementary School	27%
Have preschool-aged children	8%
Empty nester who never had children attend OHLS	7%
Attended OHLS (an alumnus)	6%
Have school-aged children not attending OHLS	3%
Have no children, but plan to start a family	1%
Other responses not listed as a choice	4%

Tenure of residency

Five years or less	26%
Six to ten years	15%
Eleven to fifteen years	11%
Sixteen to twenty years	10%
More than 20 years	38%

Summary of Findings

Level of Agreement with the Following Statements:

[Scale of 1-10 where 10 is strongly agree and 1 is strongly disagree]

	Top-Two Box Agree (9 & 10)	Scores of (7 & 8)	Lower Scores (1-6)	Average
The schools are an asset to the Village .	91%	6%	2%	9.7
Elementary students receive a top-quality educational experience.	78%	16%	3%	9.3
Senior High students receive a top-quality educational experience.	78%	15%	3%	9.3
Junior High students receive a top-quality educational experience.	73%	19%	5%	9.1
The school district's academic results are worth the taxes I pay.	67%	21%	11%	8.7
I receive the correct amount of information from the school district.	52%	28%	19%	8.1
My tax dollars are being used appropriately by the school district.	46%	30%	20%	7.9
I feel connected to the Village .	44%	30%	25%	7.8
I feel connected to the school district .	43%	27%	29%	7.5
I feel the Board of Education is aligned with my vision for the school district.	33%	35%	26%	7.5
I understand how tax dollars are being used in the school district.	37%	30%	30%	7.4
The Board of Education and Village Council have a unified vision for the betterment of Ottawa Hills.	31%	30%	31%	7.3
The Board of Education is transparent.	30%	32%	31%	7.2

Level of Agreement with the Following Statements:

[Scale of 1-10 where 10 is strongly agree and 1 is strongly disagree]

	2020 (n=661)	2017 (n=526)
	Top-Two Box Agree (9 & 10)	Top-Two Box Agree (9 & 10)
The schools are an asset to the Village .	91%	85%
Elementary students receive a top-quality educational experience.	78%	76%
Senior High students receive a top-quality educational experience.	78%	75%
Junior High students receive a top-quality educational experience.	73%	65%
The school district's academic results are worth the taxes I pay.	67%	56%
I receive the correct amount of information from the school district.	52%	46%
My tax dollars are being used appropriately by the school district.	46%	39%
I feel connected to the Village .	44%	38%
I feel connected to the school district .	43%	45%
I feel the Board of Education is aligned with my vision for the school district.	33%	28%
I understand how tax dollars are being used in the school district.	37%	30%
The Board of Education and Village Council have a unified vision for the betterment of Ottawa Hills.	31%	22%
The Board of Education is transparent.	30%	26%

Follow the School District's Facebook Page or Twitter Feed:

	2020 (n=661)	2017 (n=526)
Both Facebook and Twitter	19%	12%
Facebook only	24%	20%
Twitter only	5%	3%
Neither of them	49%	61%
No answer	3%	4%

Preference to Receive School District Communications for the Following Type of Information:

	Email	Social Media	Around These Hills Publication	Website (ohschools.org)	Do Not Want This Information	No Answer
Levy issues	49%	4%	20%	12%	3%	12%
District finances	43%	3%	21%	18%	3%	12%
Support services and programs for students	42%	5%	18%	16%	9%	10%
Students' academic, extracurricular achievements	40%	10%	21%	10%	9%	11%
Performances (music, dance, art, theater)	38%	16%	19%	11%	6%	10%
Athletic (individual and team) achievements	29%	19%	22%	13%	7%	11%
Faculty achievements and honors	27%	14%	25%	18%	7%	10%
Alumni achievements	24%	12%	30%	12%	13%	9%

Interest in Supporting Each Improvement:

[Scale of 1-5 where 5 is fully support and 1 is do not support at all]

	Top-Two Box Support (4 & 5)	In the Middle (3)	Do Not Support (1 & 2)	Average
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT NEEDS				
Upgraded science labs and enhanced educational programs (STEM curriculum, hands-on collaborative learning)	79%	12%	6%	4.2
Improved climate control to make both school buildings conducive to maximum learning opportunities 365 days a year	70%	16%	12%	4.0
A new 21 st century collaborative workspace to support students in grades 7-12 who are performing at all academic levels	57%	23%	15%	3.7
FACULTY AND STAFF NEEDS				
Additional math, science, and English teachers to accommodate smaller class sizes	71%	15%	11%	4.0
Additional special education staff to enhance K-12 student experiences	63%	20%	14%	3.8
Additional counselors to address social/emotional support needs	56%	23%	18%	3.6

Levy Support:

	2020 (n=661)	2017 (n=526)
Would not support any increase to taxes	24%	28%
3.6 mills to 6.0 mills (\$11 to \$18 per month)	43%	41%
6.1 mills to 8.5 mills (\$18 to \$25 per month)	23%	18%
8.6 mills to 10.86 mills (\$25 to \$32 per month)	13%	9%
No answer	5%	4%

- For November 2015 school levy

Voted FOR	41%
Voted AGAINST	27%
Did not vote/was not in the village	22%
Do not recall	9%

Summary Statements and Conclusions

1. Approximately 44% of the respondents have at least one child in either the elementary or high school building, about 48% are empty nesters, and the rest are in a variety of different situations. These percentages confirm the need to communicate using “all village” channels and not just “parent accessed” tools.
2. About 42% of survey respondents who have children in OH schools have lived in the village five years or less. They have not experienced the “long history of success” that empty nesters have experienced. (Only 7% of empty nesters are new within the last five years.)
3. Villagers agree that the schools are a community asset—and believed this almost as strongly in 2017. Even those who did not support the prior levy believe the schools are an asset to the village. (This indicates that any levy message needs to address specific goals rather than a general story about the importance of good schools.)
4. Most (three out of four) believe students receive a top-quality education. An interesting pattern is that those who have students in the schools are less likely to agree that students are getting a top-quality educational experience. For example, 67% of empty nesters rate their agreement a ten out of ten for elementary students compared to 50% for those who have students in the schools. This pattern of about a 20-point spread holds for all three levels (elementary, junior high and high school). Typically, the “experts” in the room when the discussion turns to school matters are the parents. They are the opinion leaders for “all things school related” and need to be a target audience for communications.
5. As might be expected, empty nesters feel less connected to the school district (34% top-two box agreement). However, only 58% of parents with children in the schools have top-two box agreement to this statement. An opportunity exists to strengthen ties with parents. A starting point might be more disclosure of the Board’s vision. (Only 36% of parents have top-two box agreement that the Board is aligned with their vision of the school district.)
6. Those who do not feel their tax dollars are being used appropriately by the District are most negative about statements related to the school board.
7. Compared to the 2017 survey, each factor rated improved or stayed the same. An important variable that did not improve was a feeling of being connected to the schools (43% this year compared to 45% last time for top-two box agreement). A metric that improved notably was “The Board of Education and Village Council have a unified vision for the betterment of Ottawa Hills.” (This improved 9 points from 2017.) “The school district’s academic results are worth the taxes I pay” also improved (up 11 points to 67%).
8. Most respondents would prefer to hear news via email. An important note is that only 3% say they don’t want information about levy issues—so the community is interested in learning about the District’s plans for future levies.
9. More Villagers are following the District’s social media this year relative to 2017. However, about two-thirds of empty nesters do not follow the District’s Facebook or Twitter. And, one-third of the parents with students in the schools do not follow either. This is a reminder that messaging about “good news” may not reach all intended audiences.

10. Villagers are most willing to support capital improvement needs (upgraded science labs and enhanced educational programs). Even 67% of those who voted against the prior levy would support this. Villagers are least likely to support a collaborative workspace and additional counselors.
11. About 24% of all Villagers say they will not support any levy. This increases to 37% of those who did not support the prior levy. About 18% of those who have children in the schools would not support a levy of any dollar value.
12. About 41% of the sample said they voted for the 2015 levy – which would seem about right given the last levy did not pass. However, only 27% said they voted against the levy—which may be lower than actual (but reflective of the subset of survey responders).

Appendix I

Additional Data Segmentation

Top-Two Box Agree	Tax Dollars are being Used Appropriately by the School District <i>Top-Two Box Percentages</i>	Lower Scores 1 - 6
98%	The schools are an asset to the Village .	77%
90%	Elementary students receive a top-quality educational experience.	59%
94%	Senior High students receive a top-quality educational experience.	54%
87%	Junior High students receive a top-quality educational experience.	54%
96%	The school district's academic results are worth the taxes I pay.	26%
73%	I receive the correct amount of information from the school district.	24%
100%	My tax dollars are being used appropriately by the school district.	0%
62%	I feel connected to the Village .	21%
63%	I feel connected to the school district .	14%
61%	I feel the Board of Education is aligned with my vision for the school district.	8%
62%	I understand how tax dollars are being used in the school district.	17%
53%	The Board of Education and Village Council have a unified vision for the betterment of Ottawa Hills.	11%
52%	The Board of Education is transparent.	8%

Voting Behavior		
Voted for Prior Levy	Top-Two Box Percentages	Voted Against Prior Levy
95%	The schools are an asset to the Village .	86%
80%	Elementary students receive a top-quality educational experience.	75%
83%	Senior High students receive a top-quality educational experience.	73%
75%	Junior High students receive a top-quality educational experience.	67%
75%	The school district's academic results are worth the taxes I pay.	53%
55%	I receive the correct amount of information from the school district.	45%
56%	My tax dollars are being used appropriately by the school district.	32%
49%	I feel connected to the Village .	42%
48%	I feel connected to the school district .	35%
40%	I feel the Board of Education is aligned with my vision for the school district.	23%
48%	I understand how tax dollars are being used in the school district.	29%
32%	The Board of Education and Village Council have a unified vision for the betterment of Ottawa Hills.	24%
35%	The Board of Education is transparent.	22%

	Household Status	
Empty Nester	Top-Two Box Percentages	Have Children at OHLS
90%	The schools are an asset to the Village .	92%
82%	Elementary students receive a top-quality educational experience.	76%
81%	Senior High students receive a top-quality educational experience.	77%
78%	Junior High students receive a top-quality educational experience.	67%
64%	The school district's academic results are worth the taxes I pay.	73%
46%	I receive the correct amount of information from the school district.	62%
47%	My tax dollars are being used appropriately by the school district.	46%
45%	I feel connected to the Village .	45%
34%	I feel connected to the school district .	58%
32%	I feel the Board of Education is aligned with my vision for the school district.	36%
41%	I understand how tax dollars are being used in the school district.	36%
32%	The Board of Education and Village Council have a unified vision for the betterment of Ottawa Hills.	33%
29%	The Board of Education is transparent.	33%

Interest in Supporting Each Improvement:

[Scale of 1-5 where 5 is fully support and 1 is do not support at all]

Would not Support Any Levy	<i>Top-Two Box Percentages</i>	Would Support Levy
<u>CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT NEEDS</u>		
51%	Upgraded science labs and enhanced educational programs (STEM curriculum, hands-on collaborative learning)	89%
39%	Improved climate control to make both school buildings conducive to maximum learning opportunities 365 days a year	81%
24%	A new 21 st century collaborative workspace to support students in grades 7-12 who are performing at all academic levels	69%
<u>FACULTY AND STAFF NEEDS</u>		
43%	Additional math, science, and English teachers to accommodate smaller class sizes	81%
38%	Additional special education staff to enhance K-12 student experiences	72%
27%	Additional counselors to address social/emotional support needs	67%

Appendix II

Comments about Voting for the Levy *(Unedited)*

Comments are shown in groupings based on their answer to their “voting for 2015 school levy” question.

Unedited

WHY DO YOU THINK SOMEONE WOULD VOTE FOR A LEVY?

Those who voted FOR the last school levy

- A levy aims to improve infrastructure that only benefits our students.
- A sound strategic plan accounting for all resources being utilized for priorities, transparent communication of this plan, budgets, priorities, and throughout the process. The community has been engaged and has been a part of crafting these priorities, including the village's diverse communities.
- Agreement that the schools are a critical asset for the community and to assure the school is a top performer in Ohio.
- Appreciation of Ottawa Hill's excellent education.
- Assist the real estate market.
- Because that's generally how positive changes are paid for.
- Because the schools need the money.
- Because they agree that strong schools equal strong communities. They believe in investment in the schools is an investment in our students, in our homes and in our community.
- Because they believe in the needs of the school and/or village.
- Because they trust that the money asked for will be used appropriately on items that are necessary and that they have had input.
- Belief in quality education.
- Children in the schools and maintain property values.
- Children in the schools.
- Clear, incremental improvement. This community is conservative and is uncomfortable with large, quick changes. The last levy was too ambitious and too expensive.
- Confidence in the school's faculty and administration.
- Continued academic success for the district.
- Continued support of our schools. Property values. To support new programs/learning commons.
- Currently have children in school.
- Desire to have the best schools.
- Education of local youth is important to the community.
- Enhance education.
- Every day I hear about air-conditioning from my Jr/HS student!
- Feel like the money would be well spent to improve our schools thus adding value to our property.
- Feel they are getting private school benefits from a public school system. What is good for the school is good for the community.
- For a clear statement of uses and accountability for how the money is spent.
- For a direct impact of the value of our house.
- For reason why you want to live in Ottawa Hills, good school with good community.
- For the benefit of their children or for the benefit of resale on their home.
- For the continued betterment of the schools and overall enhancement of the village.

Unedited

WHY DO YOU THINK SOMEONE WOULD VOTE FOR A LEVY?

Those who voted FOR the last school levy (continued)

- For the improvement of the School System.
- For their kids.
- Good for community, and good for them.
- Good schools.
- Have children in the school system.
- I believe in tax funding for educational/cultural/environmental issues.
- I think it comes down to having students in the school system. It is my personal opinion that residents who do not have students in the school system are less inclined to vote in favor of a levy. This has seemed to happen since I was in high school at Ottawa Hills in the mid to late 90s. I think now that we are having a greater influx of younger families coming to the village again there is more hope for a levy to pass in the coming years.
- I think the community has to be confident that the money is a necessity and that it will be used in a fiscally responsible way.
- If an individual sees any waste or perceived waste in the system, that person will vote against the levy.
- If improvements are justified.
- If it enhances our school services, reputation, results, etc. while still keeping taxes at a reasonable level.
- If it enhances students' learning environment (labs, hands-on experiential learning, field experiences, etc.).
- If schools are using tax dollars appropriately, levy needed to enhance the learning of students, both physical space and academic needs, that's why I vote for the levy!
- If there is a measurable difference.
- If they agree with what the levy specifically covers. If operating expenses, it should be explained how it is being managed to keep costs down.
- If they are a young family who will benefit over the years.
- If they had children in the school system and because they believe the schools are an asset to the village.
- If they see the value and what will be used for in detail. I would support smaller class size!
- If you have children in the school system as well as highly support quality education in the public schools.
- Improve schools, increase home values.
- Improve schools; keep up with the needs of the schools.
- Improved learning conditions, climate control, and small class size.
- Improvement on diverse staff and student body. Understanding how the taxes and finances are utilized for district and village.
- Incremental value!
- Invest in our high-quality schools.
- It benefits everyone!

Unedited

WHY DO YOU THINK SOMEONE WOULD VOTE FOR A LEVY?

Those who voted FOR the last school levy (continued)

- It is all about the Ottawa Hills school system. Great schools mean continued property value.
- It is our community's biggest asset. The buildings need upgrades. Good for our property value.
- It supports the school system, which is why we live in Ottawa Hills.
- It's important to have top notch school system, great for students and it upholds the values of our property.
- Keep housing values up, pride in the village keep schools on top of the list for performing schools.
- Keep property values positive or want to provide the best education possible for their kids.
- Keep the schools at the high quality we expect.
- Keeping quality in our schools, not losing ground to other schools.
- Keeps Ottawa Hills a quality community. Holds home values.
- Kids in school benefit.
- Kids in the system.
- Maintain decent quality schools in neighborhood.
- Maintain excellence in school system for their kids and property values.
- Maintain school programs and population. People with kids in school more likely to support levy. Successful schools equate to higher property values.
- My biggest concern for the upcoming levy is to make sure junior and senior high school is air-conditioned for my child with Epilepsy. The classes should be kept under 20 students, especially with kids having disabilities or special education. There should be more teaches available with the increase class sizes.
- My opinion is that people will vote for a levy that includes necessities instead of wants. I hope this is considered in this current climate. I worry about a levy including "nice to haves" like the new collaborative workspace.
- Need the funds.
- Not the right time now!
- OHHS is already a well-funded district but previous attempts at a large increased levy was wrong. If there are needs tell us about them, give us a long-term plan and not all the bells and whistles. Students receive an outstanding education, but costs must be managed.
- Our buildings are aging and having a hard time keeping up with the needs of today's students. Although I think a space where kids can study and collaborate is important, I believe our priority should be: Jr/HS-teaching spaces (labs, appropriate classroom spaces), climate control, safety (new entrance where visitors are admitted into an office area before entering the school), accessibility for disabilities (both buildings). ES- Additional classroom space, safety (new entrance like above)
- Our school district continues to be the highest quality and people purchase homes for that reason.
- Our schools are our biggest assets!
- Out of date, crumbling buildings with no A/C need improvements.
- People who value the school vote for a levy.

Unedited

WHY DO YOU THINK SOMEONE WOULD VOTE FOR A LEVY?

Those who voted FOR the last school levy (continued)

- Personal benefit, people in Ottawa Hills are ultimately looking out for self.
- Pride in the school and the village. Pride in being one of the best schools in the state and the United States. Wanting to continue to upgrade facilities to attract the best families to the village.
- Protect our community values.
- Quality improvements.
- Quality schools are critical for students and critical for our community.
- Repair schools, keeps property values high, best for the students.
- School costs continue to increase.
- School improvements. Road improvements. We pay \$1,600 a month in property taxes living here with no children in the school system. We believe quality education is extremely important to one's success.
- School success helps property values.
- School success helps property values.
- Schools are an asset to the village and home values.
- Schools are heart of the village, why people chose to live in Ottawa Hills.
- Significant enhancement to the experience, put good use of taxes.
- Support for schools.
- Support property value.
- Support school for its needs.
- Support the schools and children.
- The community benefits by having good schools.
- The education of our children is the number one reason I live in the village. In addition, Adam Fineske is my hero.
- The health of schools directly correlates with our property values.
- The only reason for this survey appears to be whether there is support for a school levy. Just keep giving information, we will decide at voting booth.
- The Ottawa Hills school system is first rate. People move to Ottawa Hills for the schools.
- The quality of the schools supports real estate values.
- The school system is why you move to this village, so you want it to be the best it can be.
- The schools are the best investment in the neighborhood.
- The schools are the most important asset in Ottawa Hills. They are the major reason our property values don't drop. People don't move here for 90-year-old homes that need updates and high annual maintenance costs. They move for the schools, without them, we are Old Orchard with excellent municipal services.
- The schools enhance property values.
- There has to be a tie to actual concrete plans. As long as there is, then levies are very supportable.

Unedited

WHY DO YOU THINK SOMEONE WOULD VOTE FOR A LEVY?

Those who voted FOR the last school levy (continued)

- There needs to be a stronger push and better awareness that increased funding for the schools makes them a better place to be, which in turn attracts families that make learning a priority for their kids. Stronger schools = stronger community.
- They are parents of students who are currently enrolled.
- They have children in school and adds value to home.
- They have kids in the school.
- They must feel the money currently being spent is being spent well and that the increase in spending is appropriate and useful.
- They realize our school buildings are out of date and even unsafe in some cases. Spend a day at the high school in late August and feel the temperature inside. Our achievements are not sustainable without adequate building updates.
- They understand the value of our exceptional school system.
- They understand what it will encompass, what benefits will result.
- They want their home to retain its value and want their children to have an excellent education.
- They want their kids to continue to get terrific education and/or they want to keep property values up.
- They were well informed.
- They won't.
- They would vote for a levy to see improvements and growth in the school system.
- To better schools.
- To better the schools, trust and faith in the administration to have the best interest of students and family. Trust is big.
- To continue academic excellence.
- To continue our outstanding school ranking.
- To continue the high performance of our current school system.
- To continue to have top notch education for kids and to bring facilities to the best level as possible. To give the students the best learning environment and attract other to Ottawa Hills.
- To continue to improve the experience for all students in Ottawa Hills and continue to attract people to Ottawa Hills.
- To continue to provide excellent education and educational services, and to keep property values high.
- To either enhance their child's education experience or to have their home values go up due to the school system's success.
- To get air conditioning in the high school, to keep current programs.
- To give back.
- To improve schools.
- To improve the learning environment for our students and help maintain property values.
- To improve, update aging facilities. Invest in new curriculum, technologies, and programs.
- To keep current our top rating. If had children or grandchildren in the system.

Unedited

WHY DO YOU THINK SOMEONE WOULD VOTE FOR A LEVY?

Those who voted FOR the last school levy (continued)

- To keep Ottawa Hills as a village people want to move to and live in. Our schools keep us viable, we have nothing else.
- To keep Ottawa Hills standards. I would like to see smaller elementary class sizes if there's physical space.
- To keep schools in their current excellence status.
- To keep standards high for students, community and housing values.
- To keep the schools at the highest level of academics.
- To keep the school's high ranking so property values stay up.
- To keep up the good reputation of Ottawa Hills Schools.
- To maintain excellent schools.
- To maintain Ottawa Hills reputation of educational excellence which will hopefully draw more people to our community and help maintain or improve our value in our homes and continue to generate taxes for all of the benefits we have as residents of the village.
- To maintain property values.
- To maintain the excellence of Ottawa Hills Schools. The schools continue to draw new families to our community.
- To maintain the high quality of an Ottawa Hills education.
- to maintain the high standards set by Ottawa Hills schools.
- To maintain value in homes and property.
- To make improvements to the physical school buildings and technology upgrades.
- To pay for all of the items that you just listed.
- To promote/sustain academic resources.
- To protect property value.
- To protect the quality education in the village.
- To support children in school.
- To support educational needs of students/buildings.
- To support our schools.
- To support school and community they live in, want to see new services or improvements made.
- To support the community, have kids in school, support education.
- To support the schools and attract young families to invest in the community.
- To support the schools, which are one of the greatest assets of the village. Also, to make improvements to stay in line with other school districts.
- To support the students' needs in the district. To maintain top quality teachers and facilities.
- To update the schools and offer a better environment for learning.
- Too much money eyes per month.
- Transparency with where/what funds will be used for.

Unedited

WHY DO YOU THINK SOMEONE WOULD VOTE FOR A LEVY?

Those who voted FOR the last school levy (continued)

- Unless I knew what the levy was for, I certainly wouldn't and neither would anyone else I know.
- Value in how the tax dollars is being used, trust that school board and school leadership will use the money responsibly.
- Value of education.
- Want a new school for our kids, best programs, new equipment etc.
- Want to support our schools. It is what brings new people to the village. Our greatest asset.
- We moved here for small class sizes. Our child's class has doubled since kindergarten and we routinely hear about how distracting new students in class are, due to behavior. Our family wants smaller class sizes and better support systems in place for students with academic and behavioral needs. We appreciate the goals of a learning lab but see far greater concerns. The basement classrooms are gross and students should not be there. Improvements trump the lab and we do not support it.
- We need a vision for the next 50 to 100 years for our schools and community. We need to address the outdated buildings.
- When it is abundantly clear what the levy will provide. Let's start with the necessities first and additional items as finances allow.
- When they see a direct correlation between improvements to the school and an increase in their home value. People with kids in the school system see value correlated to investments, but people who don't have kids in the school couldn't see the value last time the levy was suggested. Last time the focus appeared to be about capital improvements with very little to no discussion about investments in programs. Bricks and mortar don't inspire people to vote. They need the emotional engagement.
- When they understand the purpose and the need is justified.
- Who created these questions? Make a statement of what and why you are looking at a situation, then ask about my support. Don't ask questions in hopes of getting the answers you want!
- You should always pass a school levy or you are against your community and property.

Unedited

WHY DO YOU THINK SOMEONE WOULD VOTE FOR A LEVY?

Those who voted AGAINST the last school levy

- A person sees a clear plan to address a real issue at an appropriate cost.
- A plan should be specific and directed towards kids and the academic/extracurricular settings. The plan should be fiscally responsible. The community should have input. The financial status of the school district should be transparent.
- Additional funding needed and justified. The last one was a big money grab, too big.
- Additional help with students who don't fit and end up going to TSA or other schools.
- Awareness in program needs. Specific needs designated. Possible options: Plan A includes xyz, plan B includes abc & xyz.
- Because it pertains to them/their children.
- Because leaders are very transparent with current and projected budgets. Smoke and mirrors don't work. Account for every single dollar and make it clear. What improvements and what are the exact budget cost, how many new staff, etc.
- Because the old superintendent is gone.
- Because they believe the school is making good decisions about how they allocate resources.
- Because they have school age children and their taxes are lower.
- Belief in schools and understand and support needs. Not feel needs are frivolous. Keep, attain #1 state and on national lists. Stay ahead on programs. Keep solid on all and retain and build on arts and science.
- Believe the intended use of funds is important and a good value.
- Better facilities.
- Building maintenance.
- Children at the schools.
- Children in school.
- Clear and transparent goals of what will be added. Update multi-purpose room, backstage area of theater, new collaborative area, safety items for keeping the kids safe.
- Clear information about the projected use for something really necessary (like climate country).
- Clear plan of what the funds will be used for with guarantee of consistent communication of spending throughout levy years.
- Climate control in the JH/HS. State of the art, flexible learning center. Smaller classes
- Communicating where money is going.
- Education is of primary importance. If I recall the previous levy correctly, a new gym facility was a major component - which I do not support. To me, Academics and Arts Education are of primary importance.
- Emotional support. Appropriate resource allocation.
- Enhancement of already great academics and safety and comfort of those in the schools.
- Enhancing and developing educational programs. Programs focused on supporting the students and teachers. Teacher to student ratio. Increase the learning environment to maintain appropriate temp and classroom atmosphere. Regarding the atmosphere: move classrooms out of the basement.

Unedited

WHY DO YOU THINK SOMEONE WOULD VOTE FOR A LEVY?

Those who voted AGAINST the last school levy (continued)

- For improvements to the schools.
- Goals are clear and there are not a large number of improvements.
- Greatly impacts their child or have strong feelings towards the levy due to personal experience.
- Has to be transparency and trust and reasonable. If the levy is specific and going toward something truly needed and useful that will propel us forward, then there's no reason not to vote for it.
- Have children projected or currently in the system.
- I believe in the schools.
- I believe someone would vote for the levy if they could usually see the need for the levy. People want to know how voting for a levy will improve their life and/or the life of the community.
- I don't.
- I have no idea!!
- I think most people with past or current children in the district would be FOR a levy if it was clear how much it would cost per month/year and if the resident was able to clearly visualize where the money is being spent.
- I think someone would vote for a levy, because they are supportive of the education system making capital improvements, technology improvements, and staff improvements. STEM and the arts need to be vastly improved at Ottawa Hills local schools to catch up with where the world is heading. As society becomes more globalized, the school curriculum needs to adapt. It takes money to institute improvements such as smaller classroom sizes and that is why I think someone would vote for a levy.
- I would only vote for a levy that enhances educational and academic experiences and opportunities or that funds necessary capital improvements. I will vote against any levy that includes elective or 'nice to have' improvements.
- I would vote for any amount of the levy if the school were more transparent about how current funds are used and exactly what the additional funds would be used for (nothing more, nothing less). I would want to see exact budgets for current operating costs and then see the proposed. I would want to see estimated capital expenses (with illustrations) and exact number of new staff and/or resources, including a timeline of when they would be hired/implemented. Be willing to negotiate on priorities.
- I would vote for our levy.
- If it enhances the student experience. Gained notoriety to the district.
- If it is an affordable tax increase that will directly benefit the students.
- If it were well thought out and clearly presented with the thought process of what was and was not included. Explain how the items were selected and the plan for getting it done, and how long before another levy.
- If it would benefit students directly and not add additional administrators who are not in the classroom.
- If the amounts are reasonable and there is a recommended reason.
- If the children are younger than 10 years of age and the children would benefit from changes.
- If the information presented shows a clear need and an effort to not waste money. New and important initiatives to make Ottawa Hills competitive.

Unedited

WHY DO YOU THINK SOMEONE WOULD VOTE FOR A LEVY?

Those who voted AGAINST the last school levy (continued)

- If the objectives of the spending are clearly communicated and not frivolous.
- If the schools were lagging in academic progress.
- If there are definite needs in the school, not a broad wish list.
- If they believe the amount is reasonable, is tied to continued good school performance, and is necessary.
- Improve teaching/learning and lower the stress level of students.
- Improve their children's education.
- It has to be reasonable. Don't forget we are one of the top districts in the state with our current facilities, teachers, etc. How much better can we get? It's the teachers and the families that make us, not the buildings.
- It is reasonable.
- It would make a positive change in the school.
- Kids in school.
- Kids in the school doing well, competitive nature, want to be #1.
- Maintain excellence in Ottawa Hills Schools.
- Maintain home values.
- Maintain property values.
- Maintaining enhancing academic standards.
- Make it a measured increase where not everything under the sun gets funded all at once. Maybe even let us have an a la carte option of what we'd find. The last levy was absurd and eroded a lot of trust with its wastefulness.
- Need clear plan to account for existing funds available and any future taxes.
- Needs are obvious, the benefits are obvious, and the ask goes directly towards the need.
- Never, taxes are way too high for the lack of quality.
- Not currently.
- One would have to believe in the amount of the levy being appropriate to the changes that need to be made in the district.
- Property values.
- Put forth limited and well supported improvement needs.
- Really need to understand what improvements are for, what are the needs, not wish list. I would vote for a levy if I understand it.
- Reasonable, realistic improvement to education, not to impress people with fancy buildings.
- School improvement that enhances academics and is necessary or adds value in some way.
- Schools are the most important part of this village. Without them, no one will want to move into such an aging housing stock.
- Security improvements or classroom improvements

Unedited

WHY DO YOU THINK SOMEONE WOULD VOTE FOR A LEVY?

Those who voted AGAINST the last school levy (continued)

- Small increase with accountability and for specific need.
- Smaller levy to address most urgent needs of school.
- Support the schools and teachers to maintain the current level of achievements and function as well as logical enhancements.
- Teacher pay, increase in staff, and security in buildings.
- Tell me you need funds to improve learning, that is not happening now. Performance is decreasing.
- The educational staff has fallen into a state of content. Staff that has been with the system for a long time appears to be looking at an exit strategy. The new teachers that are brought in are sub-par at best.
- The levy should be for a specific and succinct cause. The reason I voted against the last levy was because of the far-reaching nature of changes it proposed, specifically dealing with the Scout House on Kenwood.
- The schools are essential to making Ottawa Hills different from any other neighborhood. They make Ottawa Hills significant.
- The use of it should be transparent, well planned/thought out, sure to be beneficial to the school and all students. If there were less selling it at any cost and more listening to what people actually wanted.
- The value might be there to support academics.
- Their children are in the school, not wanting to find additional fund raisers.
- They don't mind increase in taxes. Do more fundraisers to increase money needed for schools.
- They have children at Ottawa Hills.
- They have children at the school who use the resources or they feel connected to the school. They know exactly what the money is being used for. The people asking for the money recognize that they are asking for a lot.
- They have children in the district. To keep the rank in the top 5 in the state.
- They have extra income and strive for excellence in our community.
- They have kids and moved here for the system.
- They have kids in school, they live in Ottawa Hills and work in the schools.
- They think the system is better than it is. Students success is more a result of parent's expectations.
- To continue program offerings.
- To enhance the learning environment at Ottawa Hills.
- To enhance/maintain the academic excellence of the schools.
- To finance a critical need or under funded program.
- To fix/repair/improve the facilities.
- To improve achievement and opportunity for students and increase property value.
- To improve the school's most pressing needs.
- To keep property value, good schools.
- To maintain school excellence.

Unedited

WHY DO YOU THINK SOMEONE WOULD VOTE FOR A LEVY?

Those who voted AGAINST the last school levy (continued)

- To maintain the excellent school environment we have.
- To prevent decay of the infrastructure.
- To provide Ottawa Hills students with proper environment to learn, good teachers, and facilities. Healthy facilities are important. The mold issue in the basement of the elementary school must be addressed, as well as air conditioning.
- To support academics.
- To support essential needs of school.
- To support higher academic advancement.
- To support improvement needs that they find valuable.
- To support kids.
- To support the district when I think they are being financially responsible.
- We need to stay competitive. We have seen the positive results of supporting our schools and will continue to support our schools for our neighbors and friends.
- Well defined and a reasonable asked amount. Some proof that the monies can only be used for what was defined.
- Well thought out, good plans, explain importance.
- With ample information/explanation about the specific need for an increase, and an emphasis that the increase was moderate in scope and size.
- With the awareness that the school's budget is being used in the best and most efficient way.
- Would like to maintain the quality of the schools.
- You need to prove spending more money drives educational excellence.

Unedited

WHY DO YOU THINK SOMEONE WOULD VOTE FOR A LEVY?

Those who did not vote/was not in the village in 2015

- A parking lot or paved drive thru lane for K-1st graders.
- Because an investment in schools is an investment in the entire village's future.
- Because they believe in the things being improved. Also, transparency with cost of project.
- Benefit educational need for the family.
- Better education and support for all students. Knock-on effects such as improved property value as a result.
- Betterment of their children.
- Brings value to real estate or helps their children.
- Children in school.
- Clear outline and plans for how extra money would be used.
- Clear understanding of goals and benefits of proposal.
- Clear understanding of how the money will be spent and agree with those plans.
- Clearly describe why the levy is needed. What programs will be covered by the new levy and why can't they be covered with the existing funding.
- Continue the excellence at OHHS.
- Diversity in teachers would be a major reason to vote for the levy. Male teachers and minorities would be a great asset to the district.
- Don't know.
- Don't know...may because of having jobs/good economy.
- Even though I did not have children myself, as a graduate of Ottawa Hills Schools, I know the importance of the first-class education I received (K-12) and how that start served to open the world of lifelong learning, joy, creativity, curiosity, and positive engagement in my life. I support Ottawa Hills Schools enthusiastically.
- Evidence of good programming and results.
- For school improvements.
- For those with children it needs to demonstrate benefits for the children short- and long-term and be grounded in the most recent child brain-research as well as recent evidence-based school strategies. For those without children, or children are out of school, you'd need to link to how the children are the future and how these improvements benefit everyone (long-term as children grow into citizens). Perhaps even focus on the draw to the area, good schools. Benefits for those with no kids?
- Fund the schools.
- Had children in the schools and understand how the money would be spent plus saw value in that spending for their children.
- Hope for improvement or maintaining higher standards.
- I believe that if the levy was specifically used for the schools, I would consider it. But I would want to know where the monies were to be used. I see all of the monies spent on roads and while important, the school system and a sense of community are what really brings people to the village. We have only been in the village for a few years, but the amount of money spent on the roads is very large.

Unedited

WHY DO YOU THINK SOMEONE WOULD VOTE FOR A LEVY?

Those who did not vote/was not in the village in 2015 (continued)

- I support education and would therefore support any levy in this great community. The housing here is less than ideal (many older homes in need of expensive repairs, no air conditioning, lack of modern conveniences, inefficient windows, etc.). If the schools do not remain strong, young families will not move here because they will choose communities with more affordable housing and less stressful housing options. We also need more resources and options for students who struggle in school.
- I think someone would vote for the levy because he/she wanted to maintain and/or improve the school system.
- I would like to support the school district for future growth and improvements for the benefits of the children. But I would like to understand how my tax dollars are spent. Due to my faith, I just want to be honest with this: I am fully against mindfulness practices the school is having to teach children open their spiritual realm to any kinds of spirits the speaker may lead them into through meditation especially in the Junior High school. I surely don't want to spend my tax dollar on that.
- If a family is invested in the district, I believe they are more likely to vote for a levy. I also think the general outlook of the economy has a great deal to do with it.
- If he/she perceives that the administration is spending the money wisely and the students are receiving a high-quality education.
- If it benefited their children.
- If it increased academic performance or services for their child in particular.
- If it was beneficial to them.
- If schools/roads were in poor shape and needing serious repair, scores low, teachers quitting regularly.
- If they are shown a real need.
- If they had a child in school.
- If they support the schools, but do not have any financial burdens to prevent them from doing so.
- If they thought it would benefit the students.
- If you made a strong case for what it would pay for, why it's needed for our kids.
- Improve home value.
- Improve school facilities and academics.
- It helps the school district excel which ultimately helps our property and resale value.
- It provides necessary financial support to the school for continuing excellent performance.
- Maintain/improve schools.
- Many people here believe 100% in the schools.
- May have children in elementary school and will be around to see results,
- Need to keep education at highest level of achievement.
- Ottawa Hills only pride is the school. The building is not one of the best in the region.
- Our schools are our best asset and they are in poor condition physically.
- Our schools are outdated, they want air conditioning in junior and senior high schools.
- People who want to maintain the academic vigor of Ottawa Hills Schools.

Unedited

WHY DO YOU THINK SOMEONE WOULD VOTE FOR A LEVY?

Those who did not vote/was not in the village in 2015 (continued)

- School improvements, structurally. How it would relate to them, their children. Explain at a lay person's level why they are doing certain things.
- Schools need money to run efficiently. Students are the community's future and our investments are needed for their support.
- Schools need the advantage of the best possible resources. It's only as good as the people/community makes it!
- So our facilities can finally match our excellence in education.
- Supporting our kids is very important. Schools prepare the kids for college and for life. We need good teachers who are good role models and they need to be paid for their hard work. We need to continue to attract families with the same goal of educational excellence that will help the district grow and in turn maintain our property values.
- The district puts them to good use.
- The most obvious reason to vote in favor of a school levy would be because people have currently enrolled students or young children who will be enrolled in the near future. The success and ratings of the schools also have a positive impact on local home value.
- The needs to be spelled out exactly, what is needed and how money will be spent.
- The schools are worth it and a great asset to the village.
- The village needs to see, hear and experience the results of where the levy money goes. Seeing/hearing how it will be spent and what it will be used for and why.
- They believe in a community where the common good is the responsibility of all, especially those who can afford it.
- They have children in the district.
- They have children who go to OH schools. They feel the district has inadequate funding. They want to improve quality of education.
- They have little kids.
- They value the community, education, and the betterment of future generations.
- They want to see the schools to continue to have resources needed to keep high quality learning. The physical building needs updates.
- They would vote if they currently have children in school.
- Though but needs to be reasonable, you can't put a price on education. Our schools need and deserve proper funding.
- To better their children's educational experience and support and pay it forward to those families who come after my children to have the same resources. Families have been doing this for generations, only fair and right thing to do.
- To continue improving the school district.
- To continue supporting the best education on our area.
- To continue to embed exemplary strategies within our classrooms that are transparent and financially viable.

Unedited

WHY DO YOU THINK SOMEONE WOULD VOTE FOR A LEVY?

Those who did not vote/was not in the village in 2015 (continued)

- To enhance education.
- To ensure that we maintain an excellent school system which helps keep property values high.
- To improve the capacity for learning for students.
- To improve the conditions mentioned above.
- To support the school's academic standing, reputation, and students.
- Upgraded school resources, equipment, smaller class sizes, hands on experiences.
- We need air conditioners in the school, so the heat doesn't affect my child's health conditions.

Unedited

WHY DO YOU THINK SOMEONE WOULD VOTE FOR A LEVY?

Those who do not recall vote

- Better schools improve value of homes.
- Everyone wants the school and village to do well.
- For their kids and betterment of the village.
- Good school system.
- Good school system.
- I vote for bringing back wood working, welding, and overall Industrial Arts program. Combing Hands on Building of raw materials, i.e. wood, metal, composite board, along with STEM will enable students to have a good understanding of math, calculus, physics, technology alongside the ability to construct from basic, natural elements. The green cinder block home on Bancroft west of Talmadge Road was completely built by Ottawa Hills High School students in Mr. Smith's Industrial Arts class.
- If there were a clear need.
- Improve the schools to better the community.
- It funds something they are personally invested in.
- Keep facilities in good condition and programs at a high level.
- Keep the excellent schools.
- Parents who have kids enrolled in school.
- Secure the best education possible. Schools reputation keeps property values up.
- Supports schools, education, know value of an education. Pride in community, ways kids perform academically, socially, athletically and extra curriculum.
- The first piece of mail they received in their new home said "Welcome to Ottawa Hills. We love our schools. You will vote for all levies!"
- They have children in the schools.
- They have young children attending Ottawa Hills schools.
- They understand what it's for and support it.
- They would have children in the schools.
- To keep Ottawa Hills schools the best they can be.
- To keep the standards of Ottawa Hills Schools.
- Transparency and results.
- Understanding the youth are our future and the importance of investing.

Unedited

WHY DO YOU THINK SOMEONE WOULD VOTE FOR A LEVY?

Those who did not answer the question

- Compelling improvements.
- Have kids in school and want to continue supporting initiatives that maintain or raise current quality and standards.
- It would be for our property values and grandchildren.
- Quality education.
- Support school, we need updates to campus.
- To improve the district on significant matters, not just to maintain state ranking or to "appear" great.

Unedited

WHY DO YOU THINK SOMEONE WOULD VOTE AGAINST A LEVY?

Those who voted FOR the last school levy

- A portion of the money would be spent on projects/programs not related to improved academics.
- Because it's too expensive.
- Because they are a Republican and/or can't see how it would benefit them personally.
- Because they are not vested in the school, cannot afford it, or politically positioned to vote "no" to any government investment.
- Because they can't see the value in investing in a building vs. investments in children or programs. Plus, housing values had languished for years leading up to that vote. More taxes, but no increase home values.
- Because they do not have children in the school or attended OH schools.
- Because they do not trust the group of decision makers, they feel the improvements are extravagant or they are stingy.
- Because they don't have children going to school here.
- Because they don't have kids and don't care.
- Because they don't want to spend any more money!
- Believes money is being poorly spent. Even if only a tenth of a percent of expenditures appear wasteful to that person, that perceived waste will be the only thing they can see.
- Can't imagine.
- Concern over property tax costs. Also not being aligned with the vision of the schools' future and its importance in the community.
- Cost of the levy and impact to their taxes. Taxes are high, that is true of Ottawa Hills. However, to be the best, it takes money. Ottawa Hills is unique in that all funding comes from individual taxpayers.
- Cost or given the wrong information, especially through social media.
- Cost to budget.
- Cost to individual budget.
- Cost to our taxes.
- Cost. (2)
- Costs too much out of pocket.
- Did not feel needs being met, currently did not agree with where additional funds would be spent.
- Didn't take the time to become informed or felt that the "nominal" increases in taxes.
- Do not want an increase in bill.
- Don't feel personally involved. Don't feel they would benefit directly.
- Don't have kids in school anymore.
- Don't trust that the money is needed, don't trust those in power. That's what I believe happened in 2015.
- Don't understand it. Make assumption that money will be poorly spent, and/or is not needed. You need to quantify the need and simplify so people can understand and feel good about it.

Unedited

WHY DO YOU THINK SOMEONE WOULD VOTE AGAINST A LEVY?

Those who voted FOR the last school levy (continued)

- Don't understand school finances, need to educate voters where money goes. Explain how funds are used, don't waste time on those who are anti-tax on everything as they won't change their minds.
- Don't understand, think we already pay a lot of taxes and not evident in school buildings.
- Don't want taxes to go up. Don't care about our school.
- Don't want to pay more taxes on their property and schools.
- Don't want to pay more taxes.
- Empty nesters with no vested interest in schools in the future.
- Empty nesters.
- Expensive.
- Fear of not being able to afford it in current economic situation.
- Financial burden for them is too high and don't have kind in the schools.
- Financial constraints, no children in school.
- Financial instability.
- Financial issues and/or lack of knowledge.
- Fixed income, difficult economy.
- Fixed income, increasing property values, too many programs catered to small interest groups, opportunities for networking with other county, facilities not utilized.
- For the flip side of the above response. Also, I think empty nesters people near retirement age might not want to spend more money on schools.
- High taxes already.
- Higher taxation.
- Higher taxes or they send kids to private schools.
- I answered previously. Not the right time now!
- I do not have confidence in the board after they appointed Corey Hupp. Lisa Brown actively campaigned against the last levy and is now asking for a levy to pass which is still trying to address old issues. Our teachers and students deserve better buildings.
- I felt it raised taxes too much.
- I have never understood why someone wouldn't vote for a school levy. Perhaps they do not understand how schools are funded.
- I think someone would vote against the levy because they do not or no longer have children in the school system.
- I would vote no if I felt levy dollars would be used for projects not necessary at this time, or if I felt a project was not going to use dollars wisely ('going overboard').
- Ideology.
- If improvements are not justified.
- If it does not match the goals that they deem most important.

Unedited

WHY DO YOU THINK SOMEONE WOULD VOTE AGAINST A LEVY?

Those who voted FOR the last school levy (continued)

- If not interested in living in Ottawa Hills long term, but just here for an education and out! No children or grandchildren in system.
- If the amount is too high, or we don't know the specific amounts and exactly where the money will be spent.
- If the levy was too high.
- If the schools have not made a good case (have not educated the public on the degree of the need) for the levy.
- If they did not believe in what the money is being used for or not enough transparency/trust in leadership.
- If they don't have children and consider the improvements to be trivial.
- If they thought the taxes were not used appropriately.
- If you do not have kids in the schools.
- If you don't understand how the money is utilized for the levy or you live on a fixed income.
- In one past election we did not vote yes because the amount of increase was too large without adequate explanation of why increase was justified.
- Increase in property taxes.
- Inflation concerns.
- Innately frugal. Personal grudge with schools. Negativity ramped up on social media by rumors and bad information.
- It's expensive to live here!
- I've lived here for forty years and despite not having children in the schools since 2018, I supported every levy to maintain the excellence of the schools. Others who oppose levies are either economically disadvantaged or are not supporting the good of our village.
- Kevin Miller.
- Lack of awareness of the value of the school system to this community.
- Lack of transparency.
- Lack of understanding the nuances/interrelationship of the items noted above.
- Less students in the near future equal less tax dollars needed.
- Maybe financial concerns.
- Mediation of common grounds.
- Mental illness.
- Money problems.
- Money would be better spent upgrading quality of schools in other neighborhoods in Toledo area.
- Money, no kids in school.
- Money. (2)
- Most likely think property taxes are too high already.

Unedited

WHY DO YOU THINK SOMEONE WOULD VOTE AGAINST A LEVY?

Those who voted FOR the last school levy (continued)

- Need accountability and transparency.
- Need for an improved funding method.
- No children in the district.
- No idea!
- No kids in the school. They feel like they wouldn't directly benefit from improvements in the school.
- No longer have children in the system and feel a disconnect with the schools.
- No longer have kids in schools. Do not send their kids to Ottawa Hills School, but rather to one of the private schools.
- No reason.
- No school-aged children, do not feel connected to the school.
- Not addressing issues of the buildings.
- Not committed to living in Ottawa hills. Poor insight into the importance of strong public school system, they send their kids to private schools.
- Not enough information and ignorant people spreading false information.
- Not everyone in this affluent community is affluent. Sometimes we spoil our kids, giving them the very best of everything when something less expensive would be just fine.
- Not homeowners, no long-term commitment to village, no children in school.
- Not responsible.
- Not understanding exactly what the money is to be used for and how desperately it is needed for the improvement. Too much increase in taxes.
- Other options.
- Our taxes are already too high! I don't see how my tax dollars are improving roads, installation of streetlights, etc. So, until I see those improvements, I don't want to pay more just for the schools.
- Our taxes are extremely high.
- Over-taxed, spending does not align to one's personal values, fiscal mismanagement, wrong priorities, unfavorable results.
- Paying larger taxes already, can't afford the increase.
- People don't like to pay more in taxes, even if they do not understand exactly how little or how much the increase would be. For those with children in the district who are vocal about voting 'No,' a comparison needs to be drawn between the property taxes paid vs the cost of a private education for one or more children.
- People get concerned that our housing prices are not competitive with the Toledo area market.
- People may have chosen a house that was at the upper part of their budget and may not feel they can afford more taxes.
- People might not want to see the increase in their taxes even if it is very minimal.
- People need to understand where our current taxes go. We already pay high taxes and need to justify, in their minds, why they should pay more.

Unedited

WHY DO YOU THINK SOMEONE WOULD VOTE AGAINST A LEVY?

Those who voted FOR the last school levy (continued)

- People who do not believe that community issues should be tax funded.
- Retired and on a strict budget, if did not provide adequate information and planning, community engagement.
- Retired residents can't afford.
- Selfish, do not understand that the good school and security are reasons why young families with children move into areas like Ottawa Hills, Perrysburg and Sylvania.
- Selfish.
- Short term versus long term thinking.
- Short-sighted.
- Some people just don't want to spend money.
- Stingy.
- Survey results will not push voters into supporting your levy.
- Tax increases.
- Tax raises are not popular.
- Taxes already high, school expenses not transparent enough.
- Taxes already high.
- Taxes are already high, and people are in a fixed income.
- Taxes are too high now.
- Taxes getting too high or a person lives in the village, but no longer have kids in school. I would never do that, but I know people do. Families that live in the village but send their kids to private schools.
- Taxes high enough.
- Taxes in the village are already high.
- Taxes too high
- The arrogance of the school board, many villagers understand the financing of public schools. I felt in the last election I was treated as if I had no knowledge of this.
- The cost. We pay a lot for taxes now and our constantly asking for help in the elementary school. I spend on average 30 hours a week, with 2 kids, helping them catch up on materials. Ottawa Hills Schools are known for their small class sizes. We don't want to pay more for the levy, when it's hard to receive help, due to over-crowded classes.
- The feeling that the additional tax money will just disappear into the budget void and not produce any tangible results.
- The higher our taxes get, the lower our home values will go.
- There are some poor teachers in the junior and the high school. They make a bigger difference in my child's education than facilities do.
- They are against more taxes.
- They are dissatisfied with the school or they don't care about their property values.

Unedited

WHY DO YOU THINK SOMEONE WOULD VOTE AGAINST A LEVY?

Those who voted FOR the last school levy (continued)

- They are not informed.
- They are not parents of students currently enrolled.
- They are shortsighted and cheap.
- They do not see the value that additional taxes will create for them, their home and their family.
- They do not want a tax increase, they do not like the board/superintendent, they think the school is fine.
- They don't get it. Someone paid to maintain a high level of education for my children, I plan to do the same for others.
- They don't have children in school and feel they pay enough taxes.
- They don't have kids at school.
- They don't have kids in the school system and don't want to contribute additional money.
- They don't think/know that change is necessary; they can't afford it; they no longer have a child in the school system so don't want to pay for it.
- They don't understand and therefore appreciate the benefits.
- They don't understand why it is needed; the taxes are already incredibly high; perceived waste in the schools.
- They don't want a tax increase, no kids in school, they do not read information regarding needs of the school, they do not like/respect school board, they think taxes should cover school needs.
- They either think it's an increase or they believe the benefits are not worth it.
- They feel that their taxes are already too high. Also, choices for spending in the past have often seem to go overboard for the benefits provided.
- They feel they can't afford it, or they do not trust the information or they do not see the need.
- They have no children in the schools.
- They may be tired of and apathetic approach of "village residents always vote yes" so that it's expected to pass.
- They may not be informed or understand exactly how it would impact the school and village. Or they receive inaccurate information. The last levy failed in part because of bad information being put out by email and through social media by a group of opponents.
- They may vote against a levy if they do not have the funds to support the levy or they just disagree with it.
- They sent their kids to private schools. They are retired with too much house and too little income.
- They want to live here, but don't have young kids or school-aged kids that would benefit for increased taxes.
- They're stupid and a Republican.
- Those that vote against are either unable to afford, short-sighted in investing in schools to keep community desirable or have completely checked out.
- To expensive!
- To keep taxes lower.

Unedited

WHY DO YOU THINK SOMEONE WOULD VOTE AGAINST A LEVY?

Those who voted FOR the last school levy (continued)

- To keep the district "honest". To make sure our money is valued, not wasted or taken for granted.
- Too heavily weighted toward desire instead of true need.
- Too large an ask. People living on fixed incomes. Did not use schools for K-12 much
- Too many fees already being paid per student. We already pay an income tax and higher than normal property taxes.
- Too much money in a high tax district. Does the school want it just for a pipe dream, is it truly a hardship case? Air conditioning, yes, collaborative workspace, no.
- Too much of an ask. Ask was not done correctly. Not sure where money would be going.
- Too tight and no children in school. They should know that when they go to sell, it's the schools that most people move to Ottawa hills for.
- Unfortunately, it can be financial drain on big segment of our village. This community is not as wealthy as it was 20 to 30 years ago. There are other options in Toledo area for schools and housing with less maintenance needed and other suburban schools.
- Utilize counselors in place or hire someone that can connect to students at junior and senior level.
- Wasted and not well defined why more money needed.
- When it seems superficial. I'm not going to support a common area when we need air conditioning.

Unedited

WHY DO YOU THINK SOMEONE WOULD VOTE AGAINST A LEVY?

Those who voted AGAINST the last school levy

- A plan that does not use most of the surplus funds available now.
- Any increase in taxes should go towards street improvement.
- Asking for too much.
- Asking too much and asking for everything under the sun like the last levy.
- Asking too much.
- Because the school isn't clear on what it is currently doing with funds. Lay it all out. It is public info. OH has an educated population base. Show us the numbers.
- Because the school isn't honest. School board, especially Corey, is not a trustworthy face representing the school. He talks down to people and not what you should do when asking for money. They shouldn't have just reappointed him.
- Because they are uninformed or short-sighted.
- Because they may not agree with the use of the levy funds or believe a levy is necessary to accomplish goals.
- Believe the intended use of funds will not have the desired impact or is not important to the educational mission.
- Best in the state already without these additions question the value of "collaborative workspace" in improving academic scores, but communicate why this spending is critical.
- Budgets.
- Case not explained well and often not at all. Proposed improvements "over the top".
- Current funding is meeting the needs.
- Do not want an increase in taxes. No new taxes!!! During this pandemic this would be the worst thing for our community. Do you want foreclosures of home? We are heading into a recession & possible depression. Taxes would be detrimental to all of us.
- Don't want their mortgages to increase.
- Economic stress.
- Education everywhere is doing more with less while protecting our all-around education.
- Empty nesters do not want to pay any more taxes, many are retired.
- Everyone has different values. I can only say why I didn't/wouldn't. The last time the true use was pie-in-the-sky, give us your money, we will know best. It wasn't well planned, didn't take into account real needs. This school had great aspects and some not so great. I would need to know that it would address the not do great aspects, benefit students, and not price our homes out of market.
- Extravagant gyms.
- Feeling money is not used properly, unclear of funds and where it goes/going, personal disagreements with school board.
- Feeling that spending is frivolous, not understanding how extra funds will make a difference in student education.
- Has to be transparency and trust. If the levy is unclear (what money will go toward) or people don't trust it will go where needed, then it's not going to pass.

Unedited

WHY DO YOU THINK SOMEONE WOULD VOTE AGAINST A LEVY?

Those who voted AGAINST the last school levy (continued)

- Having been in the village for 20 years, I have seen the caliber of teachers decline. We need to feel as if the teachers and administration has a vested interest in the children and not just the test scores.
- I did not support the gym on the last levy, so I voted no. The school needed more important things.
- I have houses in Northern Michigan and in Florida and my taxes here per dollar value is two and a half to three times more.
- I think someone would vote against a levy because they think that the school district is not transparent. Someone may vote against a levy because they feel like they pay enough taxes already.
- I voted against based on that I saw in the financial regarding surpluses. I'd be very skeptical of voting for a levy until I understand the current state financial, approach to spending, etc.
- I voted against the levy because it was all or none, and way too much money. I'd rather see improvements done in phases.
- I was once told by a village elder that if you let it, the school system will suck every nickel from the village. I have seen this happen over the past 20 years while services have gone down. We have lost our own independent fire department, our own dump site, and have spent hundreds of thousands on artificial turf for a senior class of sixty some students. Our taxes are crazy high now and I will organize and fight any additional increases.
- If a school district believes that they have an endless source of money, they don't always make the best decisions on how important various priorities are to the student experiences.
- If no path to sustainable economics for district.
- If the amount seems excessive and possibly if the way the money is to be spent seems unimportant to that individual.
- If the issues don't impact them directly. Too high of a levy.
- If the levy does not help the schools in the most appropriate way, one would not vote for it!
- If the levy encompasses controversial issues, like the Scout House, more people would opt to vote against the entire levy, even if they are in favor of a levy for building/staff improvements.
- If the plans are overly grandiose, such as the last levy. We did not need the overblown lobby, and many of the other plans.
- If the school board wanted luxury items instead of maintaining or upgrading the facility.
- If they believe the amount/planned improvements are excessive, oversold or not reasonably tied to school performance.
- If they didn't have children in schools.
- If they don't believe the use of the money will enhance student experience or if they believe the district is asking for too much money.
- If they thought the money is being spent for excessive items.
- In appropriate resource allocation.

Unedited

WHY DO YOU THINK SOMEONE WOULD VOTE AGAINST A LEVY?

Those who voted AGAINST the last school levy (continued)

- Irresponsible use of taxes. Further inflate already high tax rates that make selling a home difficult. Ideas like upgrading the gym that's already nicer than most area schools. Lack transparency. Lack of a clear process in determining priorities. Telling us it takes 30 million to fix the buildings HVAC issues.
- It is asking for way too much money, like last time.
- Lack of confidence in the plan and administration. Ben McMurray should get a hazard pay bonus for his diligence, patience and success over the last 4 to 5 years.
- Lack of information. Do not see the value.
- Lack of trust towards spending.
- Limited income, no kids in school, had a bad experience with the schools! Realize it will never be enough.
- Money and no kids.
- Most of the plans put before the voting public are way over the top, more than what is needed. Parents and students use Ottawa Hills because of the education, not the facilities.
- Needless spending for frivolous things or things not clearly explained. Lack of transparency is a huge problem.
- Needs may be frivolous.
- New expenses not explained, levy passage taken for granted, spending at school is sometimes excessive.
- No children at the school and too frequent request for school levies.
- No children in school. Also, my taxes are high enough.
- No children in system and/or on a fixed income.
- No kids in the school, not sure how much longer I will be living here.
- No kids, every neighbor next to us moved once their kids graduated. They all voted yes and we were left paying the tax hikes.
- Not clear what the money is being used for. Money priorities don't match personal priorities. There is other money that can be used to pay for those things. Can't afford a tax increase.
- Not clearly explained, asking for too much at once as a wish list versus being responsible and organized with the request. Only so much can be accomplished at one time.
- Not enough planning prior to last school levy.
- Not enough planning, not a clear and concise need spelled out.
- Ottawa Hills taxes are so high it impacts the sale of high-end homes.
- Our taxes are the highest in the area.
- People will vote against the levy if they don't truly understand how the money will be spent. If they don't think it will make a difference for them, they don't care about it.
- Perhaps on a limited income, may cause hardship for some people.
- Pipe dream, unrealistic like the last levy.
- Plan was not clear on how it was going to be spent.
- Poor communication of goals and poor spending initiatives.

Unedited

WHY DO YOU THINK SOMEONE WOULD VOTE AGAINST A LEVY?

Those who voted AGAINST the last school levy (continued)

- Previous levies are already in place. We all must live within our allowed existing budgets. Local schools should not be different.
- Real estate taxes already too high.
- Security or classroom improvements.
- Seniors on a fixed income may vote against a levy.
- Straight up cost. People are cheap and taxes are already very high.
- Surplus of money should not be kept at the level it is. Don't ask for more money with excess in the system.
- Tax increase too much, especially for empty nesters that are no longer utilizing the schools.
- Tax increase.
- Tax increase. Don't see/understand value.
- Taxes are already high, trying to sell house and do not want more taxes
- Taxes are already too high in the village.
- Taxes are already way too high for what we get. We have been very unhappy with several teachers and their lack of professionalism, effort, and innovation. There are a few excellent teachers, but they are overshadowed by the bad ones. We don't need a "collaborative workspace" when there is no climate control. Get priorities straight. First good educators, second proper learning environments. It is already very hard to sell a house in the village. Please don't make it worse with more taxes.
- Taxes are high already. Times are uncertain right now.
- Taxes are high and do not see the need for more money. There is a difference between need and want.
- Taxes are high. Parents are involved with fund raisers.
- Taxes too high now. Students too indulged already.
- Teacher pay is too high.
- The increase request is not financially appropriate.
- The last levy expected to give carte blanc to anything school wanted. We as a family only pay for what we can afford, schools should also.
- The last levy is the only one I have ever voted against. It was too over-reaching. If felt like they threw everything on a possible wish list and expected people to vote for it.
- The last levy that was proposed was outrageously too high.
- The last levy was a big overreach at a tough time.
- The more money we give, the more is wasted. Live and function within your means. Too much unnecessary programs and employed people.
- The Ottawa Hills school system missed a diagnosis in one of my children in spite of 12 years of attendance! What a discredit!
- The process predetermined. A new building was not needed. New buildings do not equal academic success.

Unedited

WHY DO YOU THINK SOMEONE WOULD VOTE AGAINST A LEVY?

Those who voted AGAINST the last school levy (continued)

- The proposed expenditures would be for trendy fluff that is not directly required for the academic performance of the schools.
- The reason my spouse and I voted against last levy was because it had more than what I supported. I would have voted yes for 1/2 of the items. Although I would support, I would need more insight into current resources.
- The school district is not financially transparent. The message is not unified and directed towards kids. The plan should be concise.
- The superintendent wants to improve his resume.
- The taxes become too high so property value drop. The improvements planned with the money do not seem to contribute to the betterment of education.
- They desire to one day sell their homes and our current tax rate is not competitive with surrounding areas!
- They do not have extra income and feel the schools and community are already #1 in state, so additional "things" are not needed. However, I would vote for a community swimming pool! That would improve our quality of life and raise property values.
- They do not support what the money will be used for.
- They don't have children in the district.
- They may not know there is a new superintendent. Adam Fineske is a breath of fresh air. So lucky to have him! My neighbor is not happy that Cory Hupp got his seat back when he couldn't fill out his forms correctly.
- Tired of seeing money wasted on trip to New York. This school system had a problem with favoring "special people" students and parents.
- To prevent excessive, unnecessary cost.
- Too big a levy.
- Too comprehensive or appearing to support particular programs over other. A levy where funds are going to programs that benefit the majority of the students should do well.
- Too expensive, don't agree with improvements.
- Too expensive.
- Too greedy and extravagant. If the money is going to teachers on paid administrative leave when they should be fired.
- Too high a levy with monies designated for items and/or areas that monies do not need to be spent on, like the addition of a new gym. Potential demolition of Scout house to expand school.
- Too high an ask for too many things at once.
- Too high and no accountability.
- Too high of an increase, needs or wants are too extreme.
- Too high, too much requested for one levy.
- Too high.

Unedited

WHY DO YOU THINK SOMEONE WOULD VOTE AGAINST A LEVY?

Those who voted AGAINST the last school levy (continued)

- Too large to ask for.
- Too many goals at one time. Do not mix needed maintenance with extra goals, do them separately.
- Too many taxes.
- Too much money
- Too much to ask for.
- Tuition! Got to go! Recent negative feedback regarding Donnie Stevens.
- Unable to afford it. Don't find value in the benefits the increase provides. No kids in the District
- Unknown.
- Unrealistic increase in capital spending. New facilities that are nice, but don't add to academic improvement or value.
- Unrealistically large tax increase. Also, the district is too obsessed with standardized testing and wasting money on technology. I get that they are where our culture is at the moment, but a school like Ottawa Hills could be a leader in a more sensible approach and certainly join the fight back against the corrosive effect of standard testing.
- Unsure where money will be spent.
- We have not been impressed with several faculty members. Some teachers and staff are lazy and disorganized. There is very little innovation. The schools talk a good talk, but it's just smoke and mirrors.
- We have paid ~\$20-30k/year in property taxes for over 15 years, more than our 'fair share' while our two children came through high school here. Time for individuals/donors/private fund raisers to step up and support additional services/programs.
- We pay a heavy tax burden, before increasing the tax burden, I want to understand how the universe is driving productivity and eliminating waste.
- We pay the highest property taxes in the area. I'm not going to vote for any levy until I've seen the school board do a thoroughly comprehensive review of the budget with public input to ensure we are getting the most value for our taxes.
- We voted against the last levy because it was too much. I work for the district and am 100% behind the district, but the last levy was more than we needed and could afford.
- When there are too many "nice to have" items on the improvement wish list.

Unedited

WHY DO YOU THINK SOMEONE WOULD VOTE AGAINST A LEVY?

Those who did not vote/was not in the village in 2015

- Already high taxes. (2)
- Already paying enough.
- Already think the school is performing at a high level - why would we need to improve? Would the levy improve anything (how is it measured) or just make schools look better? They don't have kids/no longer have kids in the schools - why does this matter to me? They truly can't afford it, or it would tighten belts.
- Already too high.
- Because current tax dollars are not transparently used.
- Because taxes are already highest in the area.
- Because their medical premiums have skyrocketed and they have to fund their own retirement plans (unlike govt. employees). They not only have less take home money (given the medical and retirement costs) they have to work in Toledo and pay two taxes. The houses in OH are old and have to spend a lot on their upkeep. We pay for our roads using property taxes...and Toledo wants to pay through income taxes. Unless you are very rich or have retirement and medical security... difficult to vote for.
- Because they don't believe in the value of the Ottawa Hills education or they are concerned about where the money is going/how it will be spent.
- Because they have not been persuaded that the investment is needed.
- Because they're old, grouchy, and just don't get it. Seriously. Because they think the taxes are already high. We should work hard to educate those who may vote against and plea for their help. It's so important.
- Being unaware of where the tax dollars are going.
- Current taxes should be sufficient considering the premium paid by village residents.
- Disagreement with the plans or lack of understanding about how they would be impacted. For example, I'm concerned that this focus in on a new common area for 7 to 12 when the elementary school is in dire need of facility improvements and basic space.
- Do not have children in the school and will not for 5 years. Plus, do not yet understand how/where current taxes are spent.
- Does not find enough value in improvements/does not have children.
- Doesn't do enough or meet immediate needs
- Don't want the increase in their taxes.
- Don't want to pay more taxes.
- Enough taxes already.
- Financial. Taxes are already disproportionately high.
- Given the high level of taxation it would be a hard sell, especially since we already have a system that is a proven success.
- Have no children in school and taxes are already high.
- Higher real estate taxes.

Unedited

WHY DO YOU THINK SOMEONE WOULD VOTE AGAINST A LEVY?

Those who did not vote/was not in the village in 2015 (continued)

- I would find it hard to comprehend why anyone would oppose a levy unless they question the board being nontransparent. Basically, keep your constituents informed to diminish this situation from surfacing.
- If he/she perceives that existing tax dollars are being squandered or inappropriately spent and the students are not receiving a high-quality education.
- If it seems uncertain what the money would be used for and if more money will be needed to achieve goals.
- If it's something that doesn't seem like a necessary addition or enhancement.
- If money is misappropriated.
- If they are not utilizing the assets of the village.
- If they didn't have children in school.
- If they do not feel there is a real need, that present funding is inadequate to address.
- If they do not have children in the school.
- If they do not utilize the school services, have no children at home, or during periods of economic recession or stagnation.
- Inadequate income. They feel that OH schools have enough funding. Not enough information about reasons for a levy.
- Incremental cost for those lower strata of Ottawa Hills is a deterrent.
- It is already too expensive to live here.
- It should try to make money through other means, not just by increasing taxes.
- It would mean higher taxes for them.
- Items being proposed are not necessary/cost of project too high.
- Lack of communication with the elderly and empty nesters. Accurate and informed news on district information.
- Lack of resources. Not directly impacted by any improvements to the school district. Unaware of the indirect impacts.
- Lack of transparency in terms of the spending.
- Lack of understanding or details provided as to what other cost savings measures have taken place of offset levy.
- Living on a budget and limited income. Taxes are already quite high!
- Money being used in frivolous ways, unnecessary building equipment requests, fueling the ego of faculty and staff with new building/equipment that is not necessary.
- Money.
- No children in school, career turmoil, recession.
- No children in the schools.
- No longer having students in school.
- No specific plan would be in place to document where additional money will be spent.

Unedited

WHY DO YOU THINK SOMEONE WOULD VOTE AGAINST A LEVY?

Those who did not vote/was not in the village in 2015 (continued)

- Not explained correctly. People think we already pay too many taxes. Need more understanding of what they are voting on.
- Not having kids in school. High taxes.
- Not in agreement with how the funds would be used or if the board was not transparent with its intentions and spending.
- Not knowing where the monies will go towards. Too high too many mils
- Not spending the money wisely on the things that actually matter in enhancing student learning.
- Only one comes to mind: the constraints of personal finances, especially for those of fixed incomes in the Village.
- Ottawa Hills is rumored to have high taxes already.
- Perhaps people who are not concerned about the academic quality or maintaining academic excellence.
- Property tax is already a few times higher than some neighborhood school districts.
- Schools already well-funded.
- Some individuals believe that their taxes are already high enough. Also, other individuals may live on a fixed income and cannot afford an increase in their taxes. Some individuals believe that the school system does not need any more of their money.
- Some people are upset and feel that their taxes are already enough.
- Some people do not recognize the positive impact taxes have on a community.
- Some people may be at a different point in their lives where the school levy would have no impact on them as they don't have kids within the school system, so they could naturally vote against it.
- Taxes are already extremely high with no appointed benefit to students other than high standardized test scores.
- Taxes are already high enough.
- Taxes are already high, higher taxes will drive lower income citizens from the village and diversity is so important here.
- Taxes are already high. Lack of understanding of actual needs, and how tax dollars are spent.
- Taxes are already higher than most surrounding areas.
- Taxes are already too high and there is enough funding.
- Taxes are as it is too high - worried about house values if the taxes continue to rise. Also, the usage of existing funds is not clear to me.
- Taxes are the highest in the area.
- Taxes are too high already.
- Taxes too high.
- Teachers are paid too much at OHHS.
- They are not well informed about the levy.
- They are selfish or uneducated on how the funds support/better them.

Unedited

WHY DO YOU THINK SOMEONE WOULD VOTE AGAINST A LEVY?

Those who did not vote/was not in the village in 2015 (continued)

- They do not have children in the schools. Tax pressure for higher market value homes. Taxes are already the highest in the area.
- They don't have kids attending our schools or they are on a fixed income or they are unhappy with administration.
- They have a misguided sense of how they already benefit from levies and they lack trust in government, and they are overestimate their own strengths.
- They may not like certain things the school is doing with the children without informing them and get consent from them.
- They think our taxes are already high enough.
- Thinking the money will be spent poorly, will not really make a difference.
- To prevent an increase in cost to the community members.
- Too expensive. If you look around the village, there are vacant properties (three homes are vacant that border our property). If you increase taxes further, fewer people in our area can afford to move into the district and put the money needed into the older homes. Maybe there could be local tax credits for certain home improvements. Neglected homes sell low and bring our home values down which reduces the tax money for the schools.
- Unclear use of funds.
- Unreasonable. Lack of transparency.
- Village taxes are extraordinarily high already. Unfairly weighted for household with one child compared to households with several.
- We already have very high taxes.
- What about elementary school needs? Elementary school needs lots of updates and there are teacher/parents concerned about basement classroom mold/moisture. What about future plans for larger class sizes as large classes progress from kindergarten to high school?
- Where is the study that shows an increase in taxes improves student learning?

Unedited

WHY DO YOU THINK SOMEONE WOULD VOTE AGAINST A LEVY?

Those who do not recall vote

- Could not afford more taxes.
- Didn't want any higher taxes.
- Financial constraints.
- High taxes and high administration costs.
- High taxes.
- If the money wasn't shared as to what was happening with it.
- If they were on a limited budget, don't have kids in the school, or the levy wasn't explained enough.
- Lucas County had inflated the market price of their home 30 to 50% in their annual assessment. Bigger win for the school than a levy.
- Money, some think funds are not properly spent.
- Need more transparency on how funds are spent.
- Need tax's devoted to infrastructure.
- No children, could not afford.
- Operating like Toledo Public Schools.
- Parents who don't have kids enrolled in school.
- Perhaps Ottawa Hills already receive enough funding and those funds simply need to be handled better.
- Quite frankly, with multiple kids each in multiple activities, it sometimes feels like we're bleeding money and shelling out more money isn't necessarily an option.
- Retired, no children in school system.
- Taxes are already high enough.
- Taxes are extremely high now and a real burden.
- Taxes are high.
- Taxes are so high, plus with income tax for the city increasing, it's hard to keep taxes affordable.
- They are already paying enough.
- They are empty nesters.
- They can't afford it.
- They do not have students attending Ottawa Hills and already pay taxes at a higher rate to live in the village. Do not understand infrastructure issues and/or needs of student population.
- They do not understand what it's for, where the increase in funds is going and/or don't think it's necessary.
- They don't feel their money goes to something that would help.
- Too expensive.
- Too many teachers. Too many special education services provided.
- Wasting money on additional facilities not needed.

Unedited

WHY DO YOU THINK SOMEONE WOULD VOTE AGAINST A LEVY?

Those who did not answer the question

- An additional gym really had some residents thinking it was too much.
- Cost, don't have kids in school any longer, seniors, or moving out of the village.
- Don't need to have another levy at this time, economy is too unstable with elections, Coronavirus, etc.
- Stay within your existing budget. We all do.
- Taxes already high, cause not compelling enough.
- Their heads are not being met and the main selling point of the learning commons glosses over what seem to be more salient concerns (non-English speakers, special needs, inclusion, etc.).
- They don't get it!