



OLENTANGY SCHOOLSSM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 8, 2024

Contact: Amanda Beeman, Assistant Direction of Communications, (740) 657-5080

OLENTANGY BALLOT ISSUE TO BUILD FIVE NEW SCHOOLS TO ACCOMMODATE 5,000 ADDITIONAL STUDENTS ENROLLING OVER NEXT TEN YEARS

Olentangy Schools will be on the March 19, 2024 ballot with a combined 4.25 mill levy, which combines a 3.00 mill operating levy and a 1.25 mill permanent improvement levy to address the operational and facility maintenance needs of the district. The resolution also authorizes the Board to seek the authority to issue up to \$350,000,000 in bonds, which will allow the district to address enrollment growth.

Due to new construction growth in the district, the bond issue will be collected at no additional millage and will allow for five new schools to be built on district-owned land in the following locations:

- Elementary School 18 would be built on Bean Oller Rd., west of Sawmill Pkwy
- Elementary School 19 would be built on land adjacent to Berkshire Middle School
- High School 5 would be built on Bunty Station Rd., west of Sawmill Pkwy
- Elementary School 20 and Middle School 7 sites have not been finalized but would tentatively be located on Curve Rd., in the central part of the district, north of Berlin High School

Without passing the 2024 levy, the District anticipates that modular classrooms may be needed at up to nine elementary schools by the end of the 2026-27 school year. In addition, multiple middle and high school redistrictings may be needed to balance overcrowding. The ballot issue will help address the facility needs for the additional 5,000 students projected to enroll over the next ten years.

Olentangy Schools shared a [March 2024 Ballot Issue fact sheet](#) and a [ballot introduction message](#) from Superintendent Todd R. Meyer with the community. Members of the Olentangy Schools district leadership team are joining the principal of every school for a co-hosted Community Conversation. We welcome our school communities and members of the media to attend these informative sessions. [View the Community Conversation schedule.](#)

The estimated annual collections of the combined levy would be \$28.9 million (a 3.00 mill operating levy will collect approximately \$20.4 million, and the 1.25 mill permanent improvement levy will collect approximately \$8.5 million). In reviewing the 2024 home values, Treasurer Ryan Jenkins estimates it will cost homeowners \$148.75 annually for each \$100,000 of their home's appraised value. Should voters support and approve the levy in March 2024, the first collection will be in the calendar year 2025.

###