



# Delaware City Schools Permanent Improvement Levy November 4, 2025

## Key Facts about the Permanent Improvement (PI) Levy:

- The 2025 PI Levy will generate approximately \$4.5 million per year for permanent improvement expenditures.
- Funds from the Permanent Improvement levy will allow DCS to properly maintain our current school facilities. PI projects include roof repairs/replacements, asphalt and concrete replacement, HVAC repairs and upgrades, window/door replacement, classroom furniture replacement, athletic facility repairs/upgrades, and many other routine maintenance projects.
- The PI levy will also provide funds to repair and replace aging school buses, computers and curriculum materials/adoptions.
- PI funds can only be used for items that have a usable life span of at least 5 years. It cannot be used for salaries or day-to-day operating expenses. The PI Levy will not be used to build new facilities, but could be used for land acquisition for future facility needs.
- The levy will cost homeowners approximately \$100 per \$100,000 of valuation annually and would collect for a continuing period of time to allow the district to plan for long-term expenditures and larger multi-year projects.

### Maintain our Facilities



### Repair and Replace School Buses



### Update Curriculum Materials



### Repair/Replace Technology Items



# Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

## **What is the November Levy Request?**

A: Delaware City Schools is seeking a continuing permanent improvement levy that the county auditor estimates will collect \$4,497,850 annually, at a rate not exceeding 2.85 mills.

## **Why did the board place the levy on the ballot?**

A: The district is operating on the same amount of money for permanent improvements as we were in 1989 (approximately \$2 million annually) while costs for routine maintenance projects have nearly tripled. Since the original PI Levy was passed, the district has added 2 school buildings -- Schultz (1995) and Dempsey (2000) -- and additions at all buildings to accommodate the growth in enrollment of nearly 2000 students since 1989. Our bus fleet has also grown, requiring more bus repairs/replacements.

## **How will the funds be utilized?**

A: Funds from the Permanent Improvement (PI) levy will allow DCS to properly maintain our current school facilities. PI projects include roof repairs/replacements, asphalt/concrete replacement, HVAC repairs and upgrades, window/door replacement, classroom furniture replacement, athletic facility repairs/renovations, and many other routine maintenance projects. It will also allow the district to replace aging buses and technology. PI funds are also used for safety and security upgrades at our schools.

## **How much will the levy cost a homeowner?**

A: The levy will cost homeowners approximately \$100 per \$100,000 of valuation annually.

## **What happens if the levy does not pass?**

A: The district will continue to utilize current PI dollars to prioritize the most significant projects. However, without additional funds the district will continue to defer maintenance projects, bus replacement, and technology purchases.

## **How is the district accountable to taxpayers?**

A: The district recently worked with an outside vendor to complete a permanent improvement cost assessment to understand the true needs and costs of permanent improvement projects over the next 20 years. In addition, the Permanent Improvement Levy was a recommendation from the community facilities committee. The district will continue to provide clear financial reports to share how funds are spent for our taxpayers.