

2007-08 Citizens' Levy Advisory Committee
November 14, 2007
Minutes

Mike Oswald opened the meeting and asked members to review the minutes from the November 9 meeting. The minutes were approved. Mike asked if there were any unanswered questions from the previous meetings and there were none.

Dr. Vedra explained that at this meeting the committee would be presented with material regarding the expiring Technology Levy and proposed new replacement Technology Levy. He introduced John Getchell, Computer Services Manager, who gave a presentation on the district's technology levy history. The district has passed two technology levies—the first in 1994, which built the foundation and another in 2004, which continued our commitment to the community to bring enhanced learning into the classroom. John detailed what the levies accomplished in terms of hardware, software, infrastructure, telephone systems, and wireless systems.

John then introduced Ann Reed, the Director of Instructional Technology and Libraries. Ann gave a presentation on the new proposed Technology Levy request, which will replace the 2004 Technology Levy expiring in October 2008. Ann explained how the new Tech Levy will focus on continuing projects, maintain the infrastructure, support student learning, bring the computers to the students rather than students to computers, help students and staff meet state and national technology standards, provide classroom professional development to enhance learning, and allow for flexibility associated with hardware and software in the future. Ann wanted the committee and community to understand that the levy is not just so that the district can have the latest and greatest, but that it is vital to maintaining our current technology learning and growth.

At the November 9 meeting, the committee requested that Ron Cowan present a preliminary proposal on the M & O Levy and Technology Levy. Ron explained that the M & O Levy proposal was to establish the new levy amount for 2009-2012 at the state allowed amounts, which has been the district's practice for many years. In addition he explained that the proposal for the Technology Levy was for an increase over previous funding in order to have the Technology Levy pay for some current General Fund items and provide resources for classroom professional development to help enhance student learning. He told the committee that while the proposed amounts represented an increase in total dollars, the change in total tax rate would be between 4-5 cents per \$1000 of assessed value or between \$12-\$15 per year for a home valued at \$300,000.

Ron asked the committee to read over the materials presented, be ready to discuss and deliberate at the November 28 meeting, and perhaps craft a motion for the Superintendent to take to the Board in December.

Nancy Oswald encouraged committee members to contact her or Mike if they were interested in volunteering to help with other levy activities. The meeting was then adjourned.

Next Meeting:

November 28 - 12:30 p.m.
Board Room