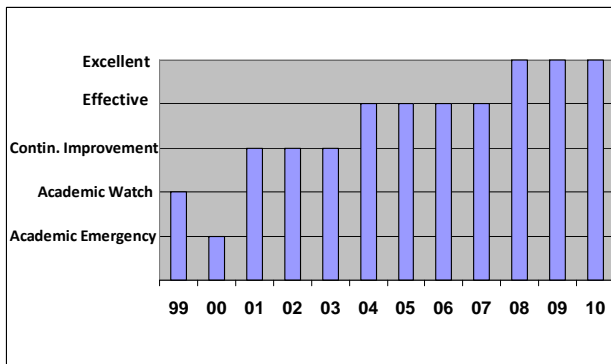


# 1

## How are Lakewood Schools currently performing?

- Our district has made many recent academic gains and has been rated **Excellent** for the past 3 years. Only 4 of the 10 districts in Licking County are rated **Excellent** and only 215 of the 611 districts in the state are **Excellent**.
- Our graduation rate has increased to 98.8% and exceeds the state requirement by 8.8% and the state average by 15.8%.
- Last year's graduating class had 117 college bound students who earned over \$781,800 in scholarship money and grants.
- Lakewood offers rigorous coursework paired with extracurricular activities, creating a well rounded student prepared for their future.

**Lakewood State Rating Improvement**

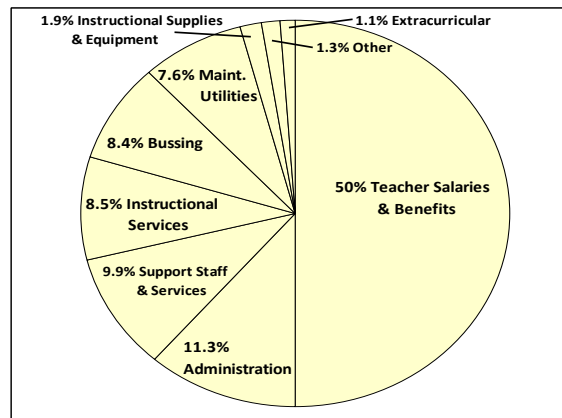


# 2

## Why is Lakewood asking for a 9.9 mil levy?

- **The State of Ohio has cut our budget by 22% (\$3.6 million dollars) through House Bill 66, which eliminated the tangible personal property tax on local businesses. The responsibility now falls to the residents of our district to replace this income.**
- The \$3.6 million dollar loss equals a 9.9 mil levy.
- Where does our funding come from? 6.91% comes from federal revenue, 38.54% from state revenue and 54.55% is from local revenue.
- Our district spends \$1,258.57 less than the state average in expenditures per pupil. Our teacher's salaries are 11% lower than the state average.
- The graph below shows where our district dollars are spent. By not passing the levy, we will have to cut 22% of our budget.

**Lakewood Local School General Funds**



# 3

## How is my property value affected by our schools?

Here are four perspectives:

1. **Local Realtor:** 'If our school is forced to cut more programs, as they must if the levy fails, Lakewood School District will become a less desirable place to live for families with school age children. Thus, removing a large number of potential home buyers in this district. The result is falling home values.'
2. **Local Buyer:** 'Lakewood schools seemed like a perfect fit. We found a home in the exact location we had hoped and Lakewood schools ratings were far superior to all of its surrounding districts. A vote for the school truly is a vote for the community.'
3. **Local Lender:** 'Working in the banking business, I see first hand how quality school systems directly effect the purchase price/ value of homes. Not only does a quality school system provide a solid education to its current citizens, but it promotes growth within the district, and the growth you would want as a homeowner. Current residents can feel the comfort that their values will stay the same if not increase over time, and someone purchasing a home knows they are paying for an appreciating asset instead of buying something that will lose value over time.'
4. **President of the Licking County Board of Realtors:** 'Having a strong school system attracts families to your area. If the demand for a school is strong enough, it will promote building new homes which ultimately improves the local economy and increases the tax base.'

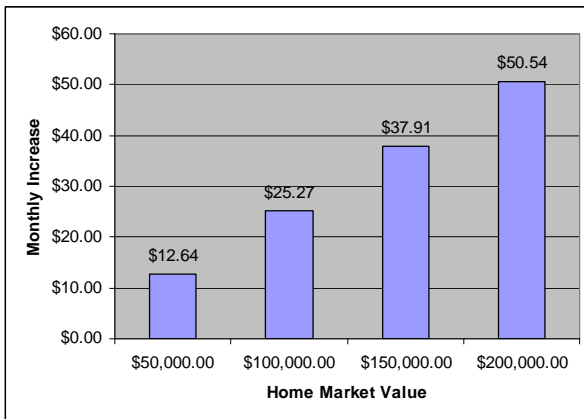
**Strong schools increase home values, increase home equity, provide greater loan possibilities and strong inheritance values. Most importantly, strong schools ensure a thriving community.**

# 4

## How much will the Levy REALLY cost me?

- Remember - taxes are paid only on the Assessed Value of your home. This is your home value according to the county tax assessor.
- Typically your Assessed Value is 35% of your Market Value. Market Value is the price your house would sell for if you put it on the market today.
- If you qualify for the Homestead Exemption, the Market Value of your home is reduced by \$25,000.
- To view your actual increase go to <http://www.lcounty.com/OnTrac/> Type in your name and then select your property. Use the menu to select 'Tax Levy Calculator'.

Monthly Increase Based On Market Value



# 5

## What are the planned cuts if the levy fails in November?

If the levy fails, cuts of \$4.4 million will be put in place for the 2011 school year. These cuts will be in addition to the \$1.2 million in cuts that were imposed this school year.

If our revenue stays the same and these cuts are made, to reinstate all cuts and continue to fund them would require a 15 to 23 mil levy.

### A few of the planned cuts are...

#### School Hours Reduced & Building Closings:

- Reduce school day by 1 hour to state minimums.
  - Grades 9 – 12, 7:30am to 1:30pm
  - Grades K – 8, 8:30am to 2:30pm
- Close Hebron Elementary & District Office – due to class ratio increase and teaching cuts.

#### Bussing Cuts:

- No bussing for Grades 9 – 12.
- Two mile walk radius for all students.

#### Academic Cuts:

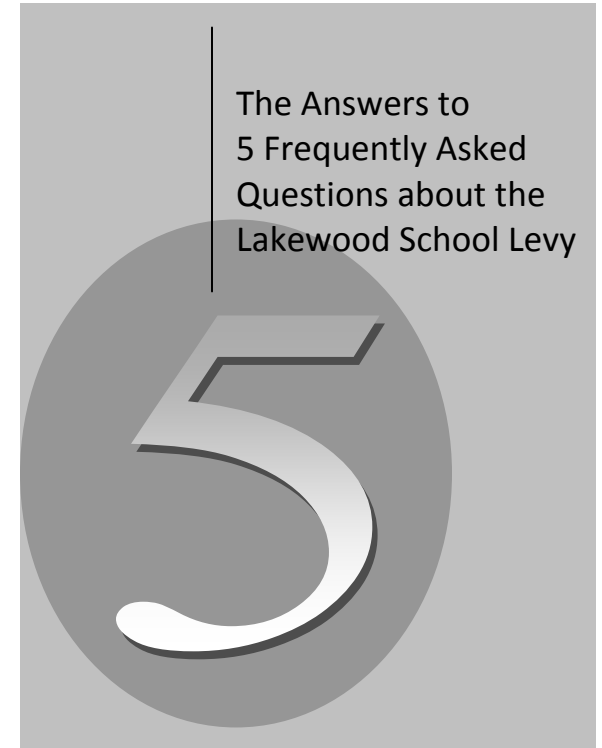
- Increase student teacher ratio for grades 5 – 12 from 18:1 to 30:1.
- Reduce graduation credit requirements from 22 to 20.
- Cut AP courses in high school. Reduce all electives to minimums. Cut remaining vocational programs.

#### Staffing Cuts:

- Reduce district staffing by 30% - approximately 70 employees (including 40+ teachers).

#### Extracurricular Cuts:

- Eliminate all extracurricular activities.
- Eliminate all after school functions in the buildings.
- Eliminate all supplemental contracts e.g. Band, Athletics, Drama, School Clubs, etc.



- How are Lakewood Schools currently performing?
- Why is Lakewood asking for a 9.9 mil levy?
- How is my property value affected by our schools?
- How much will the levy REALLY cost me?
- What are the planned cuts if the levy fails in November?

Kim Rose, Treasurer, 30 Winding Wood Dr., Thornville, OH 43076