

HARTLAND CONSOLIDATED SCHOOLS

May 2, 2017

Building & Site Sinking Fund Proposal

**No net increase
in current tax
rate!**

On Tuesday, May 2, 2017, voters in the Hartland Consolidated School District will be asked to consider a **0.5 mill Building and Site Sinking Fund Millage** for a period of ten (10) years.

Q: What is a Sinking Fund?

A: A building and site sinking fund is a savings account into which a local school district can deposit voter approved local millage revenue in order to fund projects or major repairs as they arise rather than having to borrow through short-term notes or long-term bonds.

Q: Why does the district need a Sinking Fund?

A: Beginning with the 2011-12 school year, a drastic reduction in per pupil funding from the State of Michigan has resulted in school districts having to use their fund balance (i.e. savings account) in an effort to maintain programs. Since 2012, Hartland's expenses have been exceeding revenues, resulting in continual cost cutting measures. Making expenditures in non-instructional areas has been difficult. The passage of a sinking fund would help take care of repairs and purchases that we have been putting off with the hope that per pupil funding from the State of Michigan would improve.

Q: Will my tax rate increase if approved by voters?

A: No, there will be **no net increase in the current tax rate** if approved by voters. The district's debt fund levy is currently set at 8.55 mills. If this proposal passes, the Board of Education will take action in June 2017 to lower the current levy to 8.05 mills creating a net change of zero mills with the 0.5 mill sinking fund.

Q: What can you use a sinking fund for?

A: Funds can be used to increase security, for repair or construction of buildings, to purchase technology, or purchase real estate for future building sites. Sinking fund dollars **cannot** be used for salaries or benefits.

Where to Vote

Residents of the Hartland Consolidated Schools district will **vote in the same local township polling location for the school election as when voting in the general election.**

Eligible Citizens May Vote Absentee

Absentee ballot applications will be received and processed at the township or village hall in which you reside. Please call to request an absentee application or for further information on how to vote absentee.

We would like to hear from you...

If you have questions about the Building and Site Sinking Fund millage, please contact: Superintendent Chuck Hughes (chuckhughes@hartlandschools.us), or Assistant Superintendent, Business & Operations Scott Bacon (scottbacon@hartlandschools.us), or call (810) 626-2100.

