

The Greyhound



A publication of the New Lebanon Local School District

March 2010

www.newlebanon.k12.oh.us

Special Financial Edition

No Increase in the Tax Rate!

The New Lebanon Local Board of Education has approved the placement of a school district income tax **renewal** on the May 4, 2010 ballot. This Special Edition of *The Greyhound* has been developed to provide the community with information about the issue in order to help residents make an informed decision about how to vote. Issue 11 is a renewal of the current school district income tax that is estimated to continue to generate \$750,000 per year for the schools for five years, without raising the tax rate!

The annual school district income tax ($\frac{3}{4}$ percent) was renewed for five years in 2006 and will expire December 31, 2010. By renewing this school district income tax for a period of five more years, we can keep the level of revenue currently generated by the income tax to make sure that the District maintains financial stability. We have maintained an "Effective" rating from the Ohio Department of Education, and the money from the renewal is necessary for us to continue to provide excellent educational programs.

On May 4, 2010, voters throughout the New Lebanon Local School District will cast ballots that will shape the future of our schools. The questions we are hearing most often from residents are included in this Special Edition, along with the district's responses.

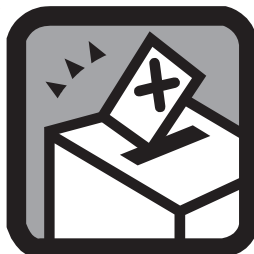
Frequently Asked Questions about the May 4th Income Tax Renewal

Q: What will happen to my taxes if Issue 11 is approved?

Your **tax rate will not increase** because this is a **renewal** of the five year $\frac{3}{4}$ percent school district income tax that voters approved in 2000. This same tax rate was renewed in 2005 for an additional five years.

The actual tax liability for each family or individual depends on your income, how many exemptions you have, and other tax credits you are able to claim. **The rate that you pay will not change from what it has been since 2000!**

The money from this renewal will start being collected beginning in January 2011 and provide our schools with the money we need to operate for an additional five years.



Q: Why should voters vote for the $\frac{3}{4}$ percent school district income tax?

This income tax currently provides about 8.6% or approximately \$750,000 of the school district's General Fund. Renewing this income tax will allow the school district to continue to provide resources for textbooks, instructional supplies, basic school operations, and salaries and benefits. It is essential to **renew** this levy to maintain our current educational programs.

Q: What forms of income are taxed?

The following are types of income that are affected by the $\frac{3}{4}$ percent school district income tax: salary, annuities, unemployment benefits, IRA distributions, capital gains, self-employment income, pension, alimony, and dividends. The income tax does **not** impact social security benefits, worker's compensation, child support, inheritance, welfare benefits, railroad retirement benefits, disability and survivor benefits, or property received as a gift.

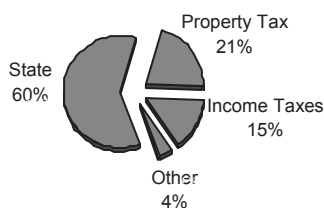
Don't forget to vote May 4th!

Q: How will this renewal affect senior citizens?

As a result of social security benefits not being taxed, many senior citizens find the school district income tax a great way for them to support the education of children in our community.

Q: How are our tax dollars spent?

The district is currently using some of its carry-over balance from the previous year to make-up the difference between revenues and expenditures. The renewal of the ¾ percent income tax will continue to generate approximately \$750,000 annually.

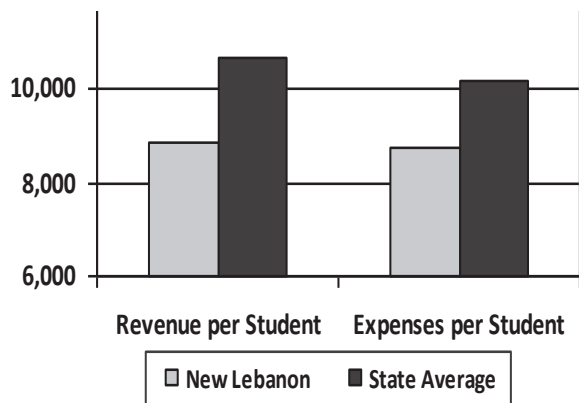


Q: Why does the District continue to need this money?

Rising costs for school supplies and materials, utilities, salary and benefits have continually impacted the school district’s budget. In addition, inadequate state funding and the increase of unfunded government mandates has forced many school districts to rely more on local monies for support. The passage of this **renewal** will help to ensure that there are no interruptions to programs or services to New Lebanon students.

Q: How does New Lebanon compare financially with the state average?

The chart below shows that our revenues and expenditures per pupil are well below the state average.



New Lebanon receives \$1,832 less per pupil than the state average and spends \$1,413 less per pupil than the state average.

Q: How does our per pupil spending compare locally?

New Lebanon consistently spends less money per student than all but one of the other school districts in the area. We also spend much less per student than the state average.

Jefferson Twp	\$13,596
Dayton	\$13,424
Kettering	\$11,466
Northridge	\$11,429
Huber Hts	\$10,897
Trotwood	\$10,823
Centerville	\$10,800
Vandalia-Butler	\$10,764
Oakwood	\$10,362
STATE AVERAGE	\$10,184
Mad River	\$10,132
West Carrollton	\$9,915
Northmont	\$9,862
Preble Shawnee	\$9,820
Valley View	\$9,789
Miamisburg	\$9,410
Twin Valley	\$9,394
Tri-County North	\$9,296
NEW LEBANON	\$8,771
Brookville	\$8,351

Source: Ohio Department of Education

Q: Will Columbus Help?

- It is projected that we will receive little, if any, increase in funding for the next school year.
- It will be a challenge to continue providing an excellent education for our students without any additional funding from the state.
- As a result, we must rely on our community to **renew** this school district income tax to sustain day-to-day operations.



Q: How has the Board of Education already stretched its funds?

The standard for New Lebanon Local Schools is to do more with less. We have been able to provide a quality education for our students through the enormous support and commitment of parents, students, teachers, and administrators. It has also required us to search for ways to save money that do not take resources away from our students. Some of the ways we have done this are listed below:

- We reduced the cost to educate preschool students by \$145,685 by operating our own preschool.
- We reduced property and fleet insurance costs by \$25,587 by joining a consortium.
- We reduced health insurance costs by \$66,675 by joining a consortium.
- We negotiated a partnership with Good Samaritan Hospital that will bring in \$10,000 per year for the next ten years to support our sports facilities and programs and provide other resources and support.

Directory of Administrators

Superintendent

Dr. Barbara L. Curry
(937) 687-1301

Treasurer

Kimberly DeWeese
(937) 687-1301

Dixie High School Principal

Doug Dunham
(937) 687-1366

Dixie Middle School Principal

Dr. Gary Schomburg
(937) 687-3508

Dixie Elementary School Principal

Dr. Charles Wilkins
(937) 687-3511

Transportation Department

Director of Support Personnel
Ronald Moore
(937) 687-2095

Q: What are we doing to increase revenue?

We implemented Open Enrollment during the 2008-2009 school year. This allows us to accept students in those grade levels where we have space available. The funding for these students follows them into our district.

We increased revenue by **\$239,887** in the 2008-2009 school year and by **\$230,056** in the 2009-2010 school year for a total increase of **\$469,943** over a two year period.

Q: How do we know that Dixie students are receiving a quality education?

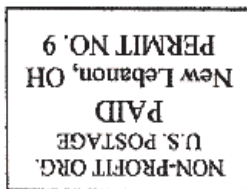
- The New Lebanon Local School District has consistently been awarded an “*Effective*” rating by the Ohio Department of Education. Our district scored higher than the state average on 23 of the 30 indicators.
- Dixie High School has earned an “*Excellent*” rating for the fourth consecutive year. Dixie High School’s percentage of 10th grade students who pass the OGT is higher than the state average in every subject.
- Dixie Middle School’s new principal, Dr. Gary Schomburg, and his leadership team have taken a more targeted approach towards student achievement to improve the school’s rating of “*Continuous Improvement*.”
- Dixie Elementary also earned an “*Excellent*” rating during this past school year. The elementary has received the rating of “*Excellent*” three out of the past four school years.

New Lebanon must maintain a high quality school district to maintain a high quality community.

New Lebanon has a great tradition of support for their children’s education, resulting in excellent schools with outstanding academic reputations. Our well maintained facilities enhance learning and are a source of pride for our community. Our students are counting on us to maintain the high quality of education they so deserve.



Resident
New Lebanon, Ohio 45345



New Lebanon Local School District
320 S. Fuls Rd.
New Lebanon, OH 45345
(937) 687-1301

New Lebanon Local Schools District Calendar

- March 29 – April 4 Spring Vacation
April 5 School Resumes
April 6 MS/HS Parent Teacher Conferences – 3:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m.
April 9 Elementary Grandparents' Day
April 12 Special Board Meeting – 4:30 p.m.
April 14 2-Hr. Delay Start – Teacher Inservice
April 21 Senior Citizens' Luncheon – 12:00 p.m.
April 23 Interims Distributed
April 24 Prom
April 26 Regular Board of Education Meeting – 6:30 p.m.
April 26 – 30 District Art Show
April 26 – May 7 Ohio Achievement Test

BOARD of EDUCATION:

President David Woodgeard; Vice-President David Falldorf; Members Daryl Michael,
Adam Pietrzak, and Michael Roberts