

Issue 7

The Berea City School District's Operating Issue

Issue 7 is for teachers, textbooks, technology, classes and programs that help achieve excellence. Our staff and students have helped us earn an excellent rating and excellent schools like ours attract good families and good businesses.

Despite our excellent efforts in the classroom, the district has had to make \$5 million in tough cuts. These efforts include:

- Salaries were frozen and furloughs imposed for all employees -- saving over \$1 million.
- Healthcare costs for employees were reduced by over \$2 million.
- 71 jobs -- including 14 teachers -- were permanently eliminated.
- Deep cuts in administration and operating costs reduced the budget by hundreds of thousands.
- Major cuts in professional training, supplies and materials for teachers and staff.

Without Issue 7, \$3 million more in cuts must be made to balance the budget.

- **Those cuts will start in April and will include:**
 - Cutting 50 teachers, instructional and support staff
 - Eliminating key elementary, middle school and high school courses that prepare students for college and work.
 - Eliminating high school busing effective April 2, 2012
 - Eliminating all District-Sponsored field trips
 - Ending vital educational activities and student programs
 - Delaying updates and purchases of textbooks and technology
 - Reducing after school permits
 - Increasing instructional fees and sports participation fees: \$250 per student per sport at the high school level (Family Cap of \$1,000); \$100 per student per sport at the middle school level (Family Cap \$400); and increasing instructional fees to \$30 at the elementary level; \$40 at the middle school level; and \$50 at the high school level

The district hasn't had an increase in 6 years, and State funding has been cut by \$3 million with more cuts on the way. It was a difficult decision to put the proposed cuts on the table but the district cannot operate with a deficit.

Issue 7 is dedicated to teaching students and educational operations, not buildings. Issue 7 will cost \$10 a month on \$100,000 of property. Issue 7 will be the first operating increase since 2006, and won't be collected until 2013.

To vote by mail go to www.boe.cuyahogacounty.us

Or

Vote on Election Day - March 6th