

North Mason School District has much to celebrate as we enter 2016. We have a community that clearly understands the importance of a quality education for our children by providing a world-class high school facility, a new school for our alternative and home school programs, a remodeled middle school, play sheds for both elementary schools as well as infrastructure upgrades district wide.

In addition to approving the building bond, our community has been supportive consistently over the years of the instructional and operational levy fund requests. THANK YOU again for being so instrumental in the lives of the students and staff in our schools.

The previous levy will expire at the end of 2016 making it necessary to run a replacement levy February 9, 2016. This replacement levy will collect the same total dollars approved by voters for the 2012-2016 collection. Approval of the replacement levy will continue school programs and services at their current levels.

This is NOT a new tax. This is a REPLACEMENT LEVY request. In fact, rates are projected to be kept at the rate approved by voters in 2009.

Operational levies can be approved for a maximum of four years. Like a magazine subscription, levies expire after the allotted number of years. School districts must go back to their voters and ask for a continuation, or renewal of levy dollar support. That is why the district uses the term “replacement levy”.

The replacement levy provides funds for the day-to-day operations of the district’s educational programs, bridging the difference between the funding provided by the state and the cost of meeting the educational needs of our students. Levy dollars fill this gap – a full 18% of the district’s annual budget. Because state and federal dollars do not fully pay for the programs, staff and supplies needed to adequately educate our students and keep them safe, the North Mason School District depends on levy dollars to pay for:

- ✓ Technology, Textbooks & Supplies
- ✓ K-12 Activities & Athletics
- ✓ Special Education
- ✓ Maintenance & Utilities
- ✓ Transportation
- ✓ Staff & Instructional Support

We continue to commit to keeping our tax rate promises. The tax rate for the Replacement Levy will be approximately \$2.36 per \$1000 assessed valuation each year, beginning in 2017 and continuing through 2020.

Again, we appreciate the support the community has demonstrated in the past and we look forward to your continued support. THANK YOU.

Laura Boad

Director, District 3