



# Our Voice

## Tri-Village Local Schools

We're on our way to building for tomorrow

**A School of Excellence**



October 2012

Please complete and mail back, or return to the central office.

Thank you for taking the time and effort to provide feedback to the Tri-Village School District. We value the community's guidance. The School Board and Administration are seeking opinions on how best to keep the district on sound financial footing. Over the last eight years, the district has maintained a positive carry-over, but it has not been easy. Tough decisions were made with the result being a reduction in teaching and nonteaching staff. Over the last ten years 7.5 teaching positions were eliminated and 8 nonteaching positions were eliminated. By reducing staff and freezing salaries the last two years, the district has remained in the black on an annual basis. However, this is not a strategy that the district can continue to use, because salaries must remain competitive and larger class sizes are not desirable. The district was also fortunate that insurance premiums actually decreased last year. This is truly atypical as that had never occurred in the district's history. To summarize, the district's ability to continue to contain expenses is going to be difficult. Building expenses will certainly increase, health insurance will increase, and Tri-Village employees need to be adequately paid. The revenue side of the equation is even less clear. The current state budget will sunset on June 30, 2013. The state revenues were flat funded in some areas and even reduced in other areas. For instance, tangible personal property was phased out, and the Department of Taxation ruled in favor of the gas companies with gas lines in the district that reduced their tax rates, thus resulting in less revenue for the district. The new state budget must be in place by July 1, 2013. Early indications are that schools should expect to see further cuts to their budgets.

As a member of the community, what suggestions do you have to alleviate the problem?

What options would you like the district to pursue in an effort to maintain fiscal solvency?

Please check **any** of the options you would support.

- Seek a permanent Improvement levy (a property tax that can only be used for maintenance, transportation or educational equipment)
- Seek an income tax levy
- Offer larger class sizes
- Consolidate with another school district
- Stop maintaining the existing building
- Charge rental fees to use the building for non k-12 activities
- Shut down the facility for any use outside of school related activities
- Cut transportation for all 9-12 grade students and to any student within two miles of the school.

Other ideas:

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Please fold, tape edges, and place stamp on the back of this sheet of paper and drop in your local mail slot. Thank you in advance your assistance.

**Tri-Village Local Schools  
Attention: Mr. Tony Thomas  
P.O. Box 31  
New Madison, OH 45346**