

TAXPAYERS' ALERT

Farmington Schools propose to increase property taxes by an additional 10%

Dear Taxpayers,

Alexander Hamilton Life shares your concern about rapidly rising property taxes. Our company pays \$585,000 in property taxes each year in Farmington Hills. That's over \$48,000 per month! Now, both yours and our tax burdens will increase if two proposed school millage increases win voter approval on Tuesday, February 5, 1991.

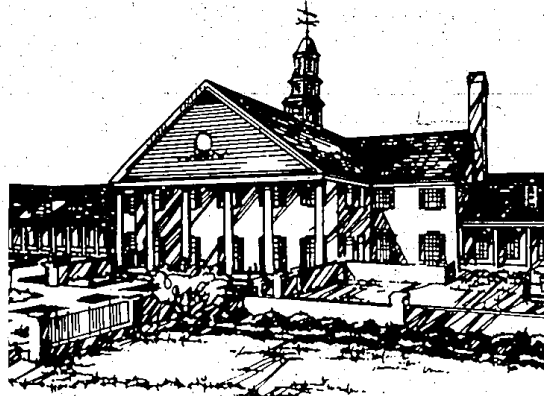
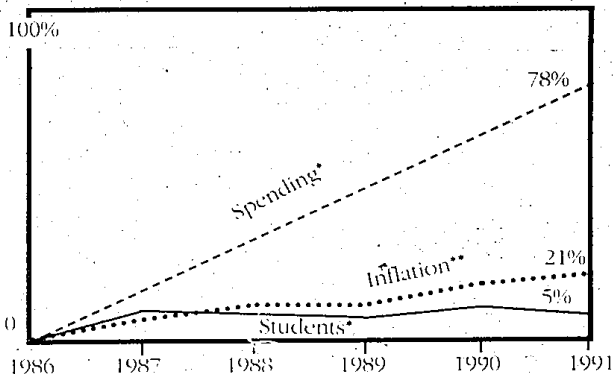
We support quality education, but are very troubled by the excessive spending growth in the Farmington School District. We are also troubled when an administration and school board resort to baseless emotional threats of reduced busing, sports, and cultural activities. Particularly in a district where expenditures have increased 78% in the past five years while student enrollment has only increased 5% in the same time period. It is more a matter of goodwill and sound management.

The unwillingness of the district's leadership to discuss and debate these issues with the citizens of Farmington and Farmington Hills only reinforces the conclusion that their spending priorities and management of resources is difficult, if not impossible, to defend. Their arrogance is quite improper and most unbecoming.

The facts speak for themselves:

Farmington Public Schools (Stated in millions of dollars, fiscal years ending June 30) Source: audited financial statements and 1991 adopted budget	1986	1991	Change
General Fund Expenditures	\$51.8	\$92.0	+78%
Property Taxes	\$41.3	\$75.2	+82%
Inflation Index	112.1	135.7	+21%
Total Students Enrolled	10,323	10,861	+5%
Surplus Funds (Fund Equity), beginning of fiscal year *\$4.3 reserved for state aid recapture.	\$3.4	\$14.9*	+338%

Spending Outstrips Inflation And Enrollments!



Alexander Hamilton Life, Farmington Hills, Michigan

* Source: Farmington Public Schools Financial Reports.
** Source: U.S. Department of Labor

The district has healthy reserves. At the close of the 1990 fiscal year, total surplus funds in the General Fund alone were \$14.9 million, of which \$4.3 million was reserved for state aid recapture in the fiscal 1991 budget.

The request of an additional over-10% property tax increase is unnecessary and excessive. Many homeowners and business taxpayers are already stretched to the limit. In addition to the substantial assessment increases that have hit businesses and homeowners alike, this is not the time to raise property tax rates for the third time in three years. Thomas Jefferson once said, "The price of liberty is eternal vigilance."

Be Vigilant! Be Informed! Vote Tuesday, February 5, 1991!

R.H. Headlee
R.H. Headlee,
Chairman and CEO

Alexander Hamilton Life
A Household International Company