

# Clarenceville millage

## 2 tax proposals would generate \$6.5 million

BY MARIE CHESTNEY  
STAFF WRITER

The Clarenceville Board of Education tonight is expected to approve putting two tax proposals on the June 12 ballot.

If approved, a 2.10-mill bond issue and a 0.75-mill sinking fund would raise \$6.5 million over the next 10 years.

Money from both proposals would be used to repair and renovate school buildings and buy classroom technological equipment.

"We got this list down to absolute necessities," said Superintendent David Kamish. "There is nothing here for the central office. This is strictly for the buildings where the kids are housed. These are down-to-earth things; no frills. It's all nitty-gritty stuff that needs to be done."

Clarenceville would do the most-needed repairs and buy equipment with the \$4.4 million generated "up front" from the bond issue.

But over the next 10 years, repairs also would be done using the \$2.1 million generated by the sinking fund tax.

"In six-seven years, if something major happens, we'll still have money coming in to take care of emergency things," said Ralph Skrocki, finance director.

The \$6.5 million tax bill is a far cry from the \$19 million, 30-year bond issue for repairs proposed in 1991 and subsequently rejected by voters. That issue, if passed, would have cost taxpayers \$58 million over the 30-year period because of interest charges.

It also would have required an additional 4 mills from taxpayers to pay the debt.

Since then, Clarenceville has been struggling with how to pay for much-needed building renovations and technological equipment. A special committee was set up to devise a plan more palatable to taxpayers.

"We're going for a much-smaller issue for a much-smaller period of time," Kamish said. "We're not creating debt for our grandchildren to pay off. This will be paid by the families now going through the system."

Clarenceville administrators are still uneasy about putting two

**'This is strictly for the buildings where the kids are housed. These are down-to-earth things; no frills.'**

David Kamish  
Superintendent

new tax proposals on the same ballot.

"The board knows this is a gamble," Kamish said.

If Clarenceville had asked for a bigger bond issue, it would have cost taxpayers more money in interest charges, Skrocki said. Over the next 10 years, with interest added, the 2.10-mill bond issue will cost taxpayers about \$6.8 million.

"The bottom line is that we're saving people in interest charges," Kamish said. "We don't want people to pay exorbitant interest. This is an opportunity to get the most for the least cost."

If both proposals pass, Clarenceville taxpayers will pay 2.75 mills more in taxes. For a house valued at \$60,000, this amounts to another \$82.50 a year. For a house valued at \$100,000, this amounts to another \$137.50 a year.

The two different ways to raise money for repairs are on the ballot because the state does not allow districts to buy technological equipment with money from a sinking fund, Kamish said.

Also, a sinking fund would not give the district enough "up-front" money to accomplish what needs to be done within the next three years, he said.

After the 1991 defeat of the bond issue, Clarenceville surveyed residents to see what kind of improvements they would be willing to pay for.

An overwhelming number said they would pay for energy-efficient improvements and technology.

Less popular were such improvements as a repaved track, improved playground, and landscaping. None of these are included in the two tax proposals, Kamish said.

## What the money would buy

Money from the 2.10-mill bond issue would pay for these non-prioritized improvements in Clarenceville over the next three years:

- Boiler room asbestos abatement at Botsford Elementary and Clarenceville Middle (\$121,000).
- Barrier-free lavatory in Grandview (\$18,500).
- Re-roofing of Clarenceville High (\$110,000).
- Heating and ventilating system work at Clarenceville Middle (\$390,000).
- Classroom hallway asbestos abatement at Botsford (\$140,000).
- Two barrier-free lavatories at Clarenceville High (\$48,000).
- Electrical system work at Clarenceville Middle (\$227,500).
- Barrier-free lavatory in Botsford (\$20,000).
- Plumbing system work at Clarenceville Middle (\$155,000).
- Heating and ventilating system work at Botsford (\$340,000).
- Handicap renovations, including elevator, at Clarenceville Middle (\$200,000).
- Electrical system work at Clarenceville High (\$180,000).
- Lighting at Botsford (\$14,000).
- Electrical work at Grandview (\$168,000).
- Technology at Clarenceville Middle (\$165,000).
- Technology and equipment at Clarenceville High (\$235,000).
- Furnishings and equipment for Clarenceville Middle (\$100,000).
- Technology and furnishings for Grandview (\$15,000).
- Electrical service work at Botsford (\$135,000).
- Remodel four computer rooms at Clarenceville High (\$90,000).
- Technology equipment at Botsford (\$128,000).
- Technology furnishings at Botsford (\$80,000).

Money left over from the 2.10-mill bond issue after the above is paid for, plus the \$2.1 million generated from the 0.75 mill sinking fund, would pay for these prioritized improvements over the next 10 years:

- Water and plumbing work at Botsford (\$90,000).
- Plumbing work at Grandview (\$92,000).
- Gymnasium, acoustics and locker room work at Clarenceville Middle (\$96,000).
- All windows replaced at Botsford (\$176,000).
- Ventilation work at Grandview (\$65,000).
- Plumbing work at Clarenceville High (\$15,000).

- Science labs in Clarenceville Middle (\$292,500).
- Pave lot and drive at district's garage (\$60,000).
- Four electric per classroom in Clarenceville High (\$50,000).
- Painting and general repair at district's garage (\$10,000).
- General building renovations for Botsford (\$245,000).
- General building renovations for Grandview (\$300,000).
- Fire fishings for Clarenceville High (\$169,000).
- Emergency system for Botsford (\$45,000).
- Replace pool filtration system at Clarenceville High (\$40,000).
- Electrical outlets at Clarenceville Middle (\$60,000).
- Update fueling system at garage (\$25,000).
- Four electrical outlets per classroom at Grandview (\$35,000).
- Pave parking lot at Clarenceville Middle (\$50,000).
- Replace two doors at garage (\$8,000).
- Four electrical outlets per classroom at Botsford (\$36,000).
- Window replacement at Grandview Elementary (\$721,000).
- Remodel locker room at Clarenceville High (\$50,000).
- Integrated technology wiring at Clarenceville Middle (\$45,000).
- General electrical work at garage (\$28,000).
- Lighting in auditorium (\$73,000).
- Integrated technology at Botsford, Grandview and Clarenceville High (\$135,000).
- Window replacement at Clarenceville Middle (\$120,000).
- Update emergency system at Grandview (\$84,000).
- Remodel entrance at Clarenceville High (\$80,000).
- Miscellaneous locker, ceiling work at Clarenceville Middle (\$77,000).
- Learning center storage room at Grandview (\$6,500).
- Miscellaneous building remodeling at Clarenceville High (\$92,500).
- Update emergency system at Clarenceville Middle (\$154,000).
- Exterior door and frames at Botsford (\$7,000).
- Site development at Clarenceville High (\$100,000).
- Doors and frames at Clarenceville Middle (\$15,000).

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## Dinner to raise funds for bone marrow donor

A dinner will be held Friday, March 31, to raise money for Lisa Petro, a Livonia resident who must raise \$100,000 to cover the costs of finding a bone marrow donor.

Petro has a pre-leukemia medical condition and needs a bone marrow transplant. The cost of finding a donor, which could amount to \$100,000, is not covered by insurance. So far, Petro has raised about \$60,000.

The dinner, sponsored by the Italian American Club of Livonia, will be in the Italian American Banquet Center, 39200 Five Mile at 1-275, Livonia. The activity

runs from 6:30 p.m. to midnight. Dinner will be served at 7:30 p.m.

The charge is \$50 per person. For reservations, make checks payable to "My Friends Care," and mail to P.O. Box 5, Farmington 48332. For further information, call Geri at 1-313-638-7558.

Dinner consists of antipasto and soup, a combination New York strip and chicken piccata dinner, family-style pasta, potato, vegetable, desert, coffee, beer, wine and pop.

Master ceremonies is Roger Weber of WDIV-TV Channel 4. Exotic trips and other prizes will be raffled off.

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