How will the passage of the sinking fund RENEWAL benefit students and the community?

- Protect the community’s prior investments in the school district’s buildings and facilities
- Continue to provide our students a safe, secure and healthy environment
- Reduce pressure on the general fund so more of the school district’s limited educational operating funds are available to support student learning (i.e. curriculum and staffing)
- Maintain our goals to provide high quality learning facilities for staff and students. This represents a major part of the district’s effort to keep and attract residents
- If the renewal does not pass, building and grounds repair and maintenance costs would have to come from the general fund

What Does a Sinking Fund Renewal Mean?

- Our current Sinking Fund expires in Dec. of 2019
- Families living within the Fenton Area Public School District (FAPS) will continue to be levied .899 mils each year. Example: A person owning a home worth $200,000 (taxable value of $100,000) will be assessed approximately $90 a year
- The estimated $800,000 levied through the Sinking Fund by the school district each year, that is earmarked for buildings and grounds, will allow for the school district to continue using general fund dollars given by the state to invest in teaching and learning resources, curriculum and staffing

What is a Sinking Fund?

- A Sinking Fund is a millage approved by the community and levied to support the maintenance, repair and construction of school buildings
- A Sinking Fund does not require a school district to borrow money or pay interest
- These funds are used to continue to maintain our facilities and protect the general fund when it comes to keeping our buildings up to date
- Sinking Funds cannot be used for purchasing teaching supplies or textbooks, paying teacher and administrator salaries
- The law requires districts with Sinking Funds to keep the funds separate from other district accounts.
- Sinking Funds receive a separate review each year to ensure they are being spent appropriately

For more information visit: www.FentonSinkingFund.com

The Need in Our School Buildings

Below are the amounts spent on building repair and maintenance over the past three (3) years. These costs were funded by current sinking fund dollars and not out of the general fund budget.

- $59,833.89/year ($179,501.67 total) Ellen Street Campus
- $121,764.23/year ($365,292.70 total) 3 Elementary Buildings
- $53,125.82/year ($159,377.46 total) AGS Middle School
- $206,867.31/year ($620,601.93 total) Fenton High School

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"A school district’s primary responsibility is to provide teaching and learning. To be able to fulfill that primary responsibility, school districts utilize a sinking fund to ensure our facilities are providing a safe and secure learning environment. Having a sinking fund enables our district to allocate sinking fund dollars to provide an appropriate learning environment. In turn, a sinking fund allows us to utilize general fund dollars towards our primary responsibility: teaching and learning."

- Heidie Ciesielski, Executive Director of Teaching and Learning

"The sinking fund is essential for the preservation of indoor and outdoor facilities in which our kids learn and our community can enjoy."

- Keith Reynolds, Fenton School Board President

"One of things that makes Fenton so special are the many opportunities our students have. We are lucky to live in a community where arts and athletics, in addition to academics, are supported. The sinking fund renewal will allow Fenton to maintain our facilities and continue to give our students these special opportunities."

- Brad Jones, Fenton High School Teacher Swim Coach

"We need to take care of the infrastructure we have."

- Bob Burek, Former Superintendent of FAPS

3 Ways You Can Vote

In Person on Election Day - November 5th

Absentee Ballot by Mail (available 45 days prior to the election date)

Absentee Ballot in person at your local city or township clerk. (available 45 days prior to the election date)

Check Your Voting Location
Check your voter registration at Michigan Voter Information Center at www.Michigan.gov/Vote

Did you know EVERYONE is eligible for an Absent Voter Ballot?
Due to the passage of the statewide ballot proposal 18–3 in November, all eligible and registered voters in Michigan may now request an absent voter ballot without providing a reason.

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