



The CO-PILOT

Linking the Community & PILOTs of the Ayersville Schools

October 2007

www.ayersville.k12.oh.us

Phone – 419-395-1111

FROM THE DESK OF TOD A. HUG, SUPERINTENDENT

FOR THE SECOND CONSECUTIVE YEAR: THE AYERSVILLE LOCAL SCHOOLS RECEIVE “**EXCELLENT**” STATUS FROM OHIO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

We received this designation because of our students’ success on the following indicators:

- 3rd grade reading and mathematics
- 4th grade reading, mathematics, and writing
- 5th grade reading, mathematics, science, and social studies
- 6th grade reading and mathematics
- 7th grade reading, mathematics, and writing
- 8th grade reading, mathematics, and science
- 10th and 11th grade reading, writing, mathematics, science, and social studies
- Attendance rate of all grades
- 2005-2006 graduation rate

Our school met 29 of the 30 state indicators listed above and also had a “Performance Index” of 103.2. For more information or for specific scores, the Ohio Department of Education website is: www.ode.state.oh.us/reportcard.

This is a tremendous achievement, of which our students, teachers, administrative staff, Board of Education and community should be very proud. It is the culmination of much professional development by our teaching staff to help our students to be prepared to succeed on these accountability measures as developed by the Ohio Department of Education and the state legislature. Additionally, parents deserve credit for the support and reinforcement that they give to the teachers and to their children emphasizing the importance of a quality education.

This recognition of an “**EXCELLENT**” school district is a community achievement. The sign in the lawn of the school will be updated to denote the 2006-2007 achievement and new banners will be hung in each building.

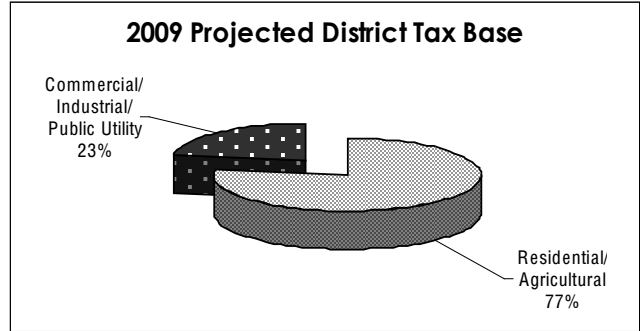
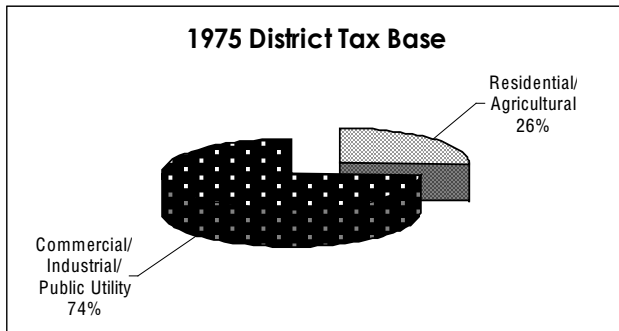
It is our goal and passion to strive to continue this status in the coming years. We will continue to seek your support so that we are able to maintain the status of an “**Excellent School District.**” With the above achievements, you can rest assured that the investment that you make in the operation of your school district is being used in an effective and efficient manner.

1% INCOME TAX LEVY FOR FIVE YEARS

The Board of Education has decided to place a **5-year 1% Income Tax Levy** on the November 6, 2007, election ballot. The district has not received new money since November of 2000. This new levy is a 5-year operating levy which is projected to raise approximately \$875,000 annually. This money is used to cover the expenses associated with the operation of the school, which includes transportation, utilities, all salaries (except cafeteria), textbooks, benefits, school buses, supplies, etc.

Previous district newsletters, "The Co-Pilot," which are posted on the school website, have specifically addressed the funding of our school district. In each of these publications we have outlined for you the implications of revenue, expenditures and the funding process in the State of Ohio. As stated in those newsletters, the process is cumbersome and complicated. At this time the five-year forecast shows a projected loss in revenue due to changes at the state legislative level, while our expenditures continue to rise. This loss in revenue coupled with continuing increases in the expenditures will negatively impact our existing fiscal stability.

As communicated in the past, our revenue stream is changing. The tax on industry's tangible personal property at the local level is being phased out. The charts below show the evolution of our district's tax base over the past 30+ years.



Although the state has allocated reimbursement funds for the phase out of local taxes from industry for a limited time through the new CAT tax, the impact of these recent legislative changes, coupled with the phase-out of non-reimbursed enterprise zone donations now hastens the district's need for additional revenue.

To address this issue in part, the Board has worked diligently to decrease expenditures in recent years by over \$1,000,000. Without new funding, the Board will be forced to reduce non-essential programs. This is not a decision that can be taken lightly, but the fact of the matter is the priorities of the Board of Education are to provide core educational programming. Without additional funding, extracurriculars and co-curriculars in addition to elective, non-mandated courses will be reduced or even eliminated. A list of these items are as follows:

PHASE I – Immediate Reductions include:

- *Close Fitness Center to outside usage (eliminate supervision before and after school)*
- *No professional development for staff effective January 14, 2008*
- *Elimination of field trips*
- *Reduced accessibility to facilities:*
 - *School Sponsored Activities, only*
 - *No Bidy Wrestling*
 - *No elementary, 5th & 6th grade basketball*
 - *No women's volleyball*
 - *No alumni basketball*
 - *No spring/summer baseball/softball usage of facilities*
- *Reduction of supplemental contracts:*
 - *Reduce to one Assistant Musical Director*
 - *Eliminate weight room coordinator positions*
 - *Eliminate Career Explorations advisor*
- *Eliminate Family Consumer Science in Middle and High School, effective 1-14-08*

PHASE II – The following programs will be reduced and/or eliminated beginning with the 2008-2009 school year:

- *Cancellation of extra/co-curricular activities:*
 - *Athletics K-12*
 - *Co-curricular supplemental activities*

- *The building will be closed to all usage after 3:30.*
- *Reduction of staff due to elimination of elective courses/non-mandated offerings:*
 - *Reduce to 1/2 time Business position*
 - *Eliminate 1 English position*
 - *Eliminate 1 Science teacher due to discontinuation of Athletic program*
 - *Eliminate A.D positions and A.D. Secretary Position*
 - *Eliminate 1 K-12 Music position*
 - *Eliminate "School to Work"*
 - *Eliminate short and long-term opportunity school*
 - *Re-configure Elem and M.S. to a K-8 or K-6/7-12 building*
 - *Eliminate the middle school concept*
 - *Eliminate one principal*
 - *Eliminate one secretary*
 - *Reduce 1/2 Physical Education position*
 - *Reduce 1/2 Art position*
 - *Eliminate Study Hall Aide position*
- *Continue to attrition with any retirements as available*
- *Reduce grant-funded position in the elementary*
- *Other reductions as determined by decreased enrollment/course scheduling (loss of open enrollment)*

Again, the new levy is projected to raise approximately \$800,000 per year. This new revenue will phase in gradually on a quarterly basis as taxes are collected. It will be 18 months before the district will realize a full year of collection. As this new revenue phases in, enterprise zone donations related to tangible personal property will be phasing out, which is approximately \$600,000 per year. The net increase in funding for the operation of the school with the approval of this levy will eventually be \$275,000.

District residents will receive an informational pamphlet from The Ayersville Levy Committee in mid-October. Additionally, there are two community meetings scheduled for **Monday, October 15 and Monday, October 29 at 7:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria**. If you would like more information concerning the levy, please call 419-395-1111, ext. 403 for Treasurer Connie Nicely, or ext. 401 for Superintendent Tod Hug.

A message from Ayersville Education Foundation President Rick Edmonds
"Russell B. Leuthold Scholarship Endowment Fund"

This past summer former Superintendent Russell B. Leuthold passed away. Mr. Leuthold was Superintendent in our district from 1957 until 1983. His legacy as an educator who cared deeply for children and community will continue to be a part of the Ayersville community and the Ayersville Local Schools for many years. Shortly after his passing, an anonymous donor made a generous offer to the Ayersville Education Foundation to give up to \$50,000 in matching funds for the creation of the Russell B. Leuthold Scholarship Endowment Fund. This means that any donations the Foundation is able to secure, up to a total of \$50,000, will essentially be doubled. Think of the amount of assistance that can be given to future Ayersville graduates with the interest and other proceeds from the donations that will make up this endowment fund.

This scholarship fund will also have features that are not often associated with most scholarships. Eligible recipients will not only include those students choosing to further their education at a traditional college, but also those who may choose to attend a trade school or a two-year community college. Further, recipients may be eligible to have this scholarship renewed for an additional three years.

As someone who has been associated with the Ayersville School system, the Ayersville Education Foundation is asking that you consider making a donation to this scholarship fund. Your donation will not only be doubled, it will **continue** to help future Ayersville graduates in the years to come. It will truly be a gift that will keep on giving. Please make checks payable to the Ayersville Education Foundation and mail to 28046 Watson Rd, Defiance, OH 43512. Be sure to indicate it is for the Russell B. Leuthold Endowment Fund.

AYERSVILLE LOCAL SCHOOL
28046 WATSON ROAD
DEFIANCE OH 43512

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Defiance, OH
43512
Permit No. 254

POSTAL PATRON

The Continuing Mission of the Ayersville Education Foundation

The Ayersville Education Foundation (AEF) was established in 1995 as a non-profit, community trust. The purpose of the Foundation is to further enhance the quality education of the Ayersville Local Schools. Contributions to the AEF are used to prepare Ayersville students for future endeavors through relevant educational programs and activities and through improvement of facilities and equipment. Your contributions are tax deductible and can be made in any amount throughout the year. Additionally, the AEF provides 2 - \$1000 college scholarships each year to a male and female graduate of AHS.

The AEF needs your support. If you would like to contribute to the AEF, you can do so in many ways:

- **OUTRIGHT GIFTS:** such as cash, stock securities or property to be used for general purposes.
- **DEFERRED GIFTS:** bequests, life insurance, annuities and trusts.
- **SPECIAL GIFTS:** funds to be made to a specific subject area, extracurricular program, visiting lecturer, or to underwrite other educational programs of the donor's choice.
- **INCREMENTAL GIFTS:** gifts made in planned stages over a specific period of time.
- **MEMORIAL GIFTS:** If you have lost a loved one, or a friend and you would like their legacy to live on in the form of memorial fund or a special scholarship with or without special specifications. This is an excellent way to remember them, at the same time helping to further the education of an Ayersville graduate. These scholarships are announced during commencement exercises each school year.

Current Members of the Board of Trustees of the AEF include: Rick Edmonds, President; Wayne Erickson, Treasurer; Susan Hanenkrath, Craig McKibben, Kathy MacDonald, Lynn Davis, Sue Thiel, Greg Corbitt, Dean Schlachter, and Tod Hug.

Please contact any of the trustees if you would like to make a contribution or establish any of the gifts listed in this newsletter.

SOHIRAY NEWS FROM MRS. FEDDERKE...

- The class members of 2007 may pick up their yearbooks at any time in room 201 in the high school.
- Wanted: Pictures from parents and grandparents for the yearbook. If you have digital pictures of student activities, you can upload them by using the Community Picture upload @ images.Jostens.com. All you need is the ID which is - 1145449 and the password which is - pilots.
- Parents of seniors: Picture day with Rod Brown is November 13. If you want a picture from a photographer other than Rod Brown in the yearbook, you must submit it to Mrs. Fedderke by March 1.
- There is now a link on Ayersville web page – Ayersville.org – to order a 2008 Sohiray. It is near the link to check your child's grade. Following are the instructions for ordering a yearbook online.
 - Go to www.jostensyearbooks.com (or use the link on the Ayersville web page) and choose Ohio for your state.
 - Choose Ayersville High School, and click the continue arrow.
 - Click on Buy Yearbook. If you don't want personalization, it seems the "No Thanks" is not working. If it doesn't work, click the CONTINUE button.
 - I suggest one line of personalization under Select your Personalization. Type your first and last name. There is a \$5 charge. If you'd like, you can choose two lines of personalization for \$8.00 and up to four icons which each cost \$4.00.
 - Once you have made all your choices, click continue.
 - Double check your personalization. Make sure you have your first and last name spelled correctly. Then click on Finish.
 - Proceed to Cart. Click on Secure Checkout. This will take you to a registration page where you will have to fill out anything marked with a red asterisk. Then you will be asked to fill in the grade. Leave a blank for homeroom. Finally, you will be asked to type in the name of the student for whom you are ordering and the grade level.
 - The book will be shipped to the high school in August. Do NOT type in the school address anywhere. Assuming the books are here on time, you will be able to pick yours up the first week of school.
 - Enter the student's first and last name. Also complete the credit card section. You must make your payment in full.
 - No delivery charges or sales tax will be added to your order. If your order is like most – one yearbook and one line of personalization – your total will be \$45.00.
 - Finally, submit your order.

You have until December 15 to order your yearbook for \$40; then the price jumps to \$50. If you have any other questions, please email Mrs. Fedderke, the yearbook adviser at ayr_aca_ef@nwoca.org.

If you absolutely cannot order on-line even via a relative or friend, please see Mrs. Fedderke for an order form. Checks should be made payable to Ayersville High School.

CALENDAR

Nov. 2	Parent/Teacher Conferences K-12, No School for students
Nov. 9 & 10	Variety Show, 7:30 p.m. in the R.B.L. Auditorium
Nov. 21-23	Thanksgiving Vacation – No School
Dec. 9	Grades 6-12 Band Concert, 3:00 p.m. in the R.B.L. Auditorium
Dec. 13	Grades 7-12 Choir Concert, 8:00 p.m. in the R.B.L. Auditorium
Dec. 25 – Jan. 2	– Christmas Vacation – No School
Jan. 2	Classes resume for Four-County students
Jan. 3	Classes resume for Ayersville students
Jan. 19	Reverse Raffle sponsored by Music Boosters
Jan. 21	Martin Luther King Day – No School
Feb. 18	President’s Day – No School

AYERSVILLE FFA ANNUAL FRUIT SALE

If you would like to order fruit this year from the FFA, please contact an FFA member or call Don Hammersmith at 419-395-1111 ext 119 or email him at ayr_aca_dh@nwoca.org. Prices are listed below. Orders can be placed from October 19 to November 20. Delivery will be the week of December 3.

Fruit

Navel oranges –half box	\$14.00
Navel oranges – full box	24.00
Tangelos – half box	14.00
Tangelos – full box	24.00
Red grapefruit – half box	14.00
Red grapefruit – full box	24.00
Tangerines – half box	17.00
Tangerines – full box	33.00
Red Delicious (Ohio – half box loose)	17.00
Red Delicious (Ohio – full box loose)	26.00
Golden Delicious (Ohio – half box loose)	17.00
Golden Delicious (Ohio – full box loose)	26.00
Di Anjou pears – half box	18.00
Di Anjou Pears – full box	30.00
Fuji apples Ohio – half box loose	17.00
Fuji apples Ohio – full box loose	26.00

Mixed Fruit

Holiday Gift Trio	18.00
Mixed Box	15.00
Citrus Trio	15.00
Premium Variety Pack	15.00

Nuts

Whole Cashews 1 lb. can	8.00
Butter Toffee Peanuts 12 oz. can	4.00
Chocolate Nut Gift Pack	10.00
Honey “Krunch” Peanuts 11 oz. can	4.00
”Southern Fried” Skinless 20 oz. can	4.00
Peanut Brittle Bites 12 oz. can	4.00
Chocolate Covered Pecans 1 lb.	9.00
Mixed Nuts 2 lb. can	11.00
Holiday Nut Case	10.00

Meat and BBQ items

Beef Snack Sticks 1.9 oz.	2.00
Honey Ham Stick 1.9 oz.	2.00
Pepperoni Stick 1.9 oz.	2.00
Dried Beef Steak Slices 2 oz.	3.00
19.5 oz. Mildly Spicy BBQ Sauce	3.50
21.5 oz. Sweet and Smokey BBQ Sauce	3.50