

## Perkins Local School District May 2, 2017 Operating Levy – FACT SHEET

- **Perkins Schools' levy on the May ballot is 6.9-mill levy to fund day-to-day operating costs** for our schools for a continuing period of time.
- **Perkins Schools has not had a new operating levy in 17 years.** Even with passage of this levy, Perkins Schools will continue to look for responsible cost efficiencies to stretch operating dollars as long as possible.
- **State funding reductions to Perkins Schools have resulted in the loss of millions of dollars for Perkins Schools.** The Governor's recent proposed budget reflects an additional reduction in Perkins' state core funding for next year of more than 4%.
- **Perkins teachers and staff have not had a base salary increase since 2008,** and in the last few years – the district has **eliminated more than forty teaching, administrative, and classified positions to reduce salary and healthcare costs.**
- **The State of Ohio has placed Perkins Schools under fiscal caution status,** and a state audit is underway to make recommendations for additional reductions.
- **This levy funding is critically needed to maintain Perkins' quality of education,** including:
  - Ensuring students have access to up-to-date courses, learning technology, and classroom materials so they are prepared for college and good jobs.
  - Continuing to offer gifted and advanced placement courses to students.
  - Paying for fuel and bus services to ensure that reliable and safe transportation is available to students throughout the community.
  - Providing enough counselors, tutors, and nurses to support students' needs.
- **Without this levy, our schools will have to cut dozens more teachers and staff, and make drastic cuts to programs, courses, transportation, and other student services.**
- **The Board of Education has reduced the millage amount** in an effort to be responsive to the residents' input. The cost of this levy is **less than \$5 a week or about \$20 a month per \$100,000 of property value** (\$20.13/month or \$4.65/week).