



VOTE ON MAY 2, 2017 - Northview Public Schools

10 Questions about the Strong Schools, Strong Communities Proposal

1. What is the “Strong Schools, Strong Communities” proposal?

The Strong Schools, Strong Communities proposal is a regional enhancement millage that will appear on the May 2, 2017 ballot. 100% of all funds generated by this proposal will go to our local schools to maintain existing programs and improve services offered to all our students.

2. How much will the proposal cost homeowners?

The proposed rate of 0.9 mill will cost the average homeowner \$6.70 per month.

3. When will the proposal appear?

The Strong Schools, Strong Communities proposal will appear on the May 2, 2017 ballot. It is a 10-year proposal that starts in the summer of 2017.

4. How will school districts be held accountable for this proposal?

By law, every penny generated from this proposal will be distributed to local school districts, including Northview, to maintain existing programs and improve services offered to students. All spending will go through an independent financial audit with spending disclosed on a public website to ensure transparency and accountability.

5. Why is this proposal necessary?

For years, our district and all West Michigan school districts have taken steps to tighten their belts, make cuts, find efficiencies, reduce staff and consolidate services. Despite these efforts, too many school districts and communities continue to struggle to provide and maintain the quality education students deserve.

6. Why is Kent ISD requesting this millage?

By law, only Kent ISD can ask voters for a regional enhancement millage, and it is the only way to receive additional revenues to meet student needs. All revenue from this proposal will be distributed to each local school district on a per pupil basis.

7. How much funding will my school district receive?

If approved, every penny generated from this proposal will be distributed equally to local districts on a per pupil basis. The Strong Schools, Strong Communities proposal will generate an estimated \$19.9 million for the 20 school districts in our region the first year. Depending on enrollment, Northview will receive more than \$700,000 in the first year.

8. What impact will this proposal have on kids in my school district?

If approved, the Strong Schools, Strong Communities Proposal will allow Northview, over the next 10 years, to maintain existing programs and improve student services. Examples include:

- **Student Services:** With mental health as critical to academic success as physical well-being, we will continue to promote positive mental and physical health outcomes in students at school (e.g., nursing services through Spectrum Health, counseling, social work, anti-teasing/bullying programs, security measures).
- **College & Career Preparation:** Preparing students to be responsible citizens and future leaders requires expanding our college and career preparation (e.g., internships, apprenticeships, college-level courses, business partnerships).
- **Maintain & Repair:** We need to return to a maintenance and replacement schedule in areas recently neglected due to lack of funds. Areas include curriculum resources, musical instruments, art supplies, athletic facilities, playgrounds and equipment to support STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) at all levels.
- **Continue** the practice of **NOT** having to “pay to participate” in athletics and fine arts programs.

9. Why is this proposal important?

Strong schools are the key to attracting families and businesses to West Michigan. It's our responsibility as a community to work together to ensure our students have access to a high-quality education that helps them learn, achieve and be college and career ready. We owe it to our kids and grandkids to give them the same opportunities as we had to achieve, succeed and compete for jobs.

10. How do I get more information on this proposal?

Additional information is available on our school website, www.nvps.net, and you are always welcome to call Superintendent Scott Korpak at 616.363.6861 or skorpak@nvps.net

Vote: Tuesday, May 2, 2017

