

NEWTON FALLS EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOLS

October 2019

A NEW YEAR BRINGS A NEW SYNERGY

Paul Woodard, Superintendent



I would like to welcome everyone back for the 2019/2020 school year, and introduce you to our new staff:

Karie Brown, Elem./Middle School Guidance Counselor; Patrick Carden, Jr./Sr. High Intervention Specialist; Colleen Colaluca, Kindergarten Teacher; Jenna Dray, Jr. High Guidance Counselor; June Fischer, Elem./Middle School Guidance Counselor; Deborah Gordon, Intervention Specialist; Allissa Grimaldi, Grade 5; Natalie Metheny, Grade 4, Lori Witt, Elem./Middle School Principal and Rachael Rankin, Jr./Sr. High Assistant Principal.

We also have had some changes in our classified staff:

Diane McElravy is our new Cafeteria Supervisor. We thank Lynn

Thiry for her service to Newton Falls Schools and wish her luck in her new endeavors.

Frank Tatarka is now part of the Maintenance Department. Mike Maguire has taken a position with another company. We also wish him well in his new position.

Health and Wellness Money

Included in this year's state budget is Health and Wellness funds for Ohio Schools. Newton Falls will be receiving approximately \$240,000 for the 2019/2020 school year. HB166, passed in July 2019, invests money to help school districts support their student's academic achievement through mental health counseling, wrap around services, monitoring, and after school programs. School districts will work with local organizations to determine community needs and resources. This is so we can use the state dollars to make the greatest impact on our student's lives.

Newton Falls Exempted Village Schools has chosen to provide the following services under the new Health and Wellness initiative:

- Two additional guidance counselors. One at the Jr./Sr. High and one for our K-5 building.
- One full-time social worker for our K-5 building, beginning in October 2019.
- Attendance Administrative Assistant to help our principals, guidance counselors,

administrative assistants, and resource officer, to monitor, communicate, and be proactive with student attendance issues.

- Hire a part-time nurse to help with student illness and testing.
- Social and emotional programs for our students and families.

Ohio School Report Card

Over the last two years, our staff and administration have been working very hard to improve our reading and math scores. We are working closely with the Trumbull County Educational Service Center to look at student data and instructional techniques. The latest report card shows that our efforts are starting to pay dividends.

Our overall district grade went from a D to a C. Our gap closing score went from an F to a B. The gap closing component shows how well schools are meeting the performance expectations for our most vulnerable students, in English Language Arts, Math, graduation, and English Language proficiency.

Our progress component went from a D on last year's report card, to a B this year. The progress component looks closely at the growth that all students are making based on their past performances.

The Newton Falls staff and administration will continue to work with our county curriculum specialists, along with state advisors to improve instructional techniques, and better prepare our students for all future opportunities.



School Climate and Culture Grant and PBIS PROGRAMS

Congratulations to the following staff and administration for their hard work on the School Climate and Culture Grant:

John Crowder, Justin Christopher, Rachael Rankin, Peter Shelby, Jessica Love, Scott Szeljack, Jody Kays, Kayla Smith, Cynthia Urbach, Margaret Giuliano, and Zachary Parent.

In the spring of 2019, these staff members were able to write and obtain a grant for our Junior High School. The grant enables us to learn and implement SWPBIS, trauma-informed and restorative practice strategies in the classroom, and to improve school culture and climate. There is also a community outreach part to promote positive youth development.

SWPBIS - School With Positive Behavior Intervention Support



High School Bleachers and Floor

We have had alumni graciously donate money for new bleachers in the high school gymnasium, and to have the floor refinished.

We would then try to fix our Jr. High bleachers, to make them handicapped accessible. The majority, if not all of the money, for this project, will come from alumni donations and fund raising activities from the basketball and volleyball programs.

We want to thank everyone involved for their support!

Facts About the Levies on the November 5th Ballot and Our Financial Situation

The Newton Falls Exempted Village Schools Board of Education, have placed two new levies on the November 5th ballot. The first one is a 4.5 emergency operating levy. The operating levy will help us protect and preserve our school district.

We want to maintain the programs we have and add things like Robotics and STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics). We want to keep class sizes at an adequate number. We need to be able to purchase computers, technology

items, workbooks, and books throughout the year. We would like to possibly add a cross country program in the near future. We need to be competitive with other districts, so students want to attend Newton Falls Schools.

The 1.9 Permanent Improvement Levy cannot be used for salaries and benefits. The money is spent on items that have a five year life or more. We do not currently have a Permanent Improvement Levy for the district. When we spend money on repairs, maintenance and grounds, it comes out of our general fund, with the exception of a few dollars designated for the middle school building.

The first thing we would do with the Permanent Improvement money would be to resurface our track. The condition of the track is poor and officials have told us it is close to being condemned for track meets.

- We need money to keep up with maintenance and repairs of our grounds and facilities.
- We would like to build a baseball field on our campus, possibly create another practice field, and a cross country running course.

We have passed one new operating levy since 1991. That was in 2015. However, our enrollment has dropped by more than 460 students in the last ten years. That equates to a shortfall of more than \$2,769,000 for our district.

We have had to reduce staff by more than 30 employees in the last eight years, close our elementary building, and cut programs.

Our employees have had pay freezes for the last 4 and 5 years. We have been fiscally responsible! Even with all of the measures we have taken, **we will be in deficit spending in the 2020/2021 school year.**

WE NEED YOUR HELP TO PROTECT AND PRESERVE THE NEWTON FALLS EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOLS!!

If you have any questions, call my office at 330-872-5445. I would be happy to speak with you or set up a time.

Cost of Emergency and PI Levy

\$30,000 Home

Emergency Levy \$47.25/year
PI Levy \$19.95/year
Annual Cost \$67.20
Monthly Cost \$5.60

\$50,000 Home

Emergency Levy \$78.75/year
PI Levy \$33.25/year
Annual Cost \$112.00
Monthly Cost \$9.33

\$80,000 Home

Emergency Levy \$126.00/year
PI Levy \$53.20/year
Annual Cost \$179.20
Monthly Cost \$14.93

\$110,000 Home

Emergency Levy \$173.25/year
PI Levy \$73.15/year
Annual Cost \$246.40
Monthly Cost \$20.53

\$140,000 Home

Emergency Levy \$220.50/year
PI Levy \$93.10/year
Annual Cost \$313.60
Monthly Cost \$26.13

To find what value of your home you will be taxed on, please follow the steps below:

www.auditor.co.trumbull.oh.us

Click Property Search
Click Search & enter address
Click Valuation
Then look at the Assessed (35%) Taxable- this is the value of your home you will be taxed on, not what you paid for your home or what it is worth.

Use the following calculation:
[Assessed Value] / 1000 = Cost Per Mill

Cost Per Mill X Millage = Annual Cost
Annual Cost / 12 = Monthly Cost
The Emergency Levy is 4.5 Millage
The PI Levy is 1.9 Millage

