

NEW LONDON LOCAL SCHOOLS

5-year, 1.5 mill Permanent Improvement Levy

November 2 Ballot

On the ballot on November 2, 2021, our community will have the opportunity to vote on a proposed permanent improvement levy that will benefit our district.

This ballot issue will allow New London to continue to **take pride** in our community by preserving and enhancing the value of our school district through important maintenance, upgrades and repairs. The five-year, permanent improvement levy will swap places with the 20-year-old bond issue, lowering taxes for residents.

Take Pride in New London and Pay Less!



IF THE PERMANENT IMPROVEMENT LEVY PASSES:

- Parking lots, walkways and roadway will be repaired
 - This helps ensure a safe environment for vehicles and pedestrians, including students during drop off and pick up.
- General maintenance of facilities, including things like roof repair, technology infrastructure upgrades, HVAC improvement and security updates will be conducted
 - These repairs include preventative and general upkeep of buildings to ensure longevity of use.
- Fleet maintenance and fleet replacement will be ensured
 - Buses and other district vehicles are costly expenditures. Any maintenance helps save money in future budgets and will continue to provide safe transportation for students and staff.
- Homeowners will pay less in taxes, saving approximately \$9.10/year per \$100,000
- Playground will be updated for students to enjoy

**Improve Our District
with Lower Taxes.**

IF THE PERMANENT IMPROVEMENT LEVY FAILS:

- New London will be on future ballots to pay for needed maintenance and improvements.
- Certain areas of New London Local Schools' budget will have to be sacrificed to pay for improvements and maintenance.
- In the meantime, the district will put temporary fixes on expensive work, incurring more costs in the long run.

Here is how to break down what the **1.5 mill** levy on the **November 2 ballot** will cost for a \$100,000 property value per month:



First, assess the property value at Huron County's rate of 35% of its total value.
 $\$100,000 \times .35 = \$35,000$
(the new assessed property value)



Next, remember that a mill is defined as 1/1000 of \$1. New London's mill levy is for 1.5
Thus: (the mill rate/1000) x the new assessed property value
 $(1.5/1000) \times \$35,000 = \52.50
(the total amount owed per year for a \$100,000 property value)



Then: the total amount owed per year for a \$100,000 property value / the number of months in a year
 $\$52.50 / 12 = \4.38
(the total amount owed per month for \$100,000 property value)

The proposed 1.5 mill levy would cost residents \$4.38 per month for a \$100,000 home.



NEW LONDON LOCAL SCHOOLS 5-YEAR, 1.5 MILL PERMANENT IMPROVEMENT LEVY

Improve Our District
with Lower Taxes.

WHAT IS A PERMANENT IMPROVEMENT LEVY?

Permanent improvement dollars are earmarked for equipment and improvements that are expected to last five years or longer. This includes facility improvements, fleet replacement/maintenance and technology infrastructure upgrades. Ohio law prevents these funds from being used on staff salaries or benefits.

WHEN IS THIS LEVY ON THE BALLOT?

The 5-year, 1.5-mill permanent improvement levy will be on the November 2, 2021 ballot.

IF THIS LEVY WERE TO PASS, WILL MY TAXES INCREASE?

NO! In fact, the expiration of the old bond issue **will reduce the annual cost to homeowners** from the current approximate \$61.60/YEAR per \$100,000 in home value to approximately \$52.50/YEAR per \$100,000 in home value.

Savings: \$9.10/year

WHY IS THIS LEVY ON THE BALLOT?

This Permanent Improvement levy will coincide with the expiration of the 2-mill bond issue and a 0.5-mill levy. The 2-mill bond levy is, now, 20-years old and helped pay for the initial construction of our buildings. As with all buildings and facilities, general maintenance is required, and this proposed Permanent Improvement levy will help cover the essentials for the next five years.

Simply put: Imagine building a home 20 years ago. One would expect to have some basic maintenance and upkeep, and you would smartly prioritize where your money is to be directed.

HOW MUCH MONEY WILL THIS NEW LEVY GENERATE?

This new November levy is looking to generate about \$180,000 per year for five years, for a total of \$900,000.

WHAT MEASURES ARE BEING TAKEN TO SAVE EXPENSES?

As a district, New London Local Schools has done a tremendous job of being responsible stewards of taxpayer money and has done our best to keep a balanced budget. For example, in just the last year alone, we have applied for and received over \$3 million in grant money, all of which has gone toward creating programs and supporting our students and staff. Much like levies, grant money can only be used for the specific items for which they are intended. These grants have been substantial for our growth in these particular areas, supporting the needs of our students and expanding our educational capabilities.

SINCE DISTRICTS ARE RECEIVING ESSER FUNDS, WHY CAN'T THOSE FUNDS BE UTILIZED FOR THESE PURPOSES?

Federal guidelines are very strict about where and how federal funds (e.g., ESSER funds) can be spent. The district has strategically utilized ESSER funds to address the impact that COVID-19 has had, and continues to have, on education across the Nation. As intended, New London has utilized these funds to ensure a safe learning environment, bridge learning gaps and provide social-emotional supports.

ON THE NOVEMBER 2 BALLOT