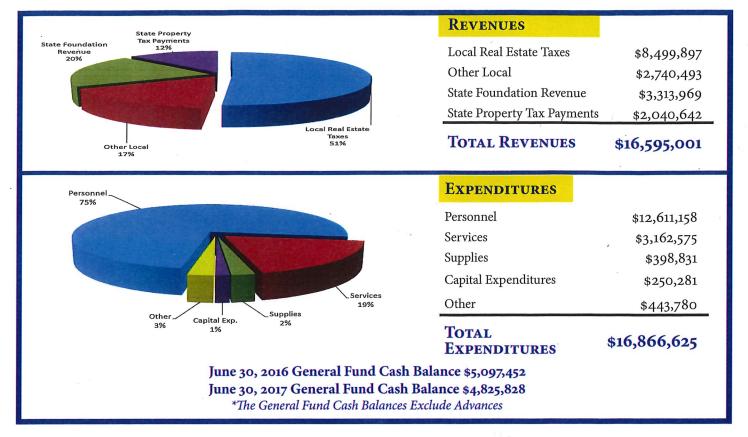
Ontario Schools Financial Plans

FISCAL YEAR JULY 2016 - JUNE 2017



The Last time Ontario taxpayers approved an additional operating Levy for the schools was in 2006. There have been several renewal levies approved since, but they do not provide any additional funds for the school. Open enrollment, which began in 2011-2012, has provided additional funds that have allowed the district to postpone an additional ballot issue. As open enrollment funds begin to level-off, the district's revenues will also begin to level-off. With no other new funding source, the district will need to seek additional tax dollars in the near future. The following is the Board's plan to address this need:

- 1. The goal is to stretch our current funding to the 2020-2021 school year.
- 2. Reduce the current bond levy by 4.4 mills in 2022.
- 3. Ask voters to approve a 4.4 mill operating levy in 2021 (for collection in 2022).
- 4. The new 4.4 operating levy will be offset by 4.4 mill bond levy reduction.
- 5. The net result will be **no millage increase to the taxpayer**, but will provide additional operating funds for the district. Tax dollars that were going to pay for the building debt will now be used to operate the district instead.

A lot can happen between now and 2021, but this is the plan currently proposed by the Board. The State of Ohio has a formula that calculates their contribution. Under this formula, they should pay Ontario Schools over \$2.7 million more annually than they are paying at this time. The state formula provides the \$2.7 million annually because of the elimination of the tangible personal property tax and the closing of the General Motors plant. However, the State currently caps the formula amount and refuses to fund their formula fully. The district continues to lobby our legislators to fund the formula fully, but the probability is low that they will do that in the near future. If the State were to fund their formula fully, this would allow the district to forgo the levy in 2021.