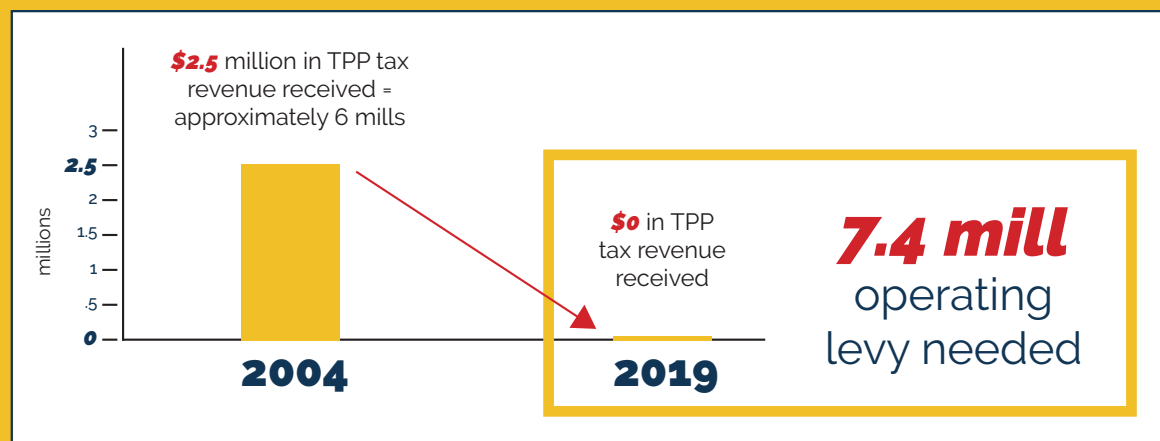


LEVY NEED COMES FROM LOSS OF \$2.5 MILLION IN STATE FUNDING



In 2004, the Tallmadge City School District was receiving \$2.5 million from the state of Ohio from the Tangible Personal Property (TPP) tax.

In 2009, Ohio eliminated the TPP tax as it was deemed an unfair tax to businesses. To lessen the impact of lost funding to school districts, the state created a TPP reimbursement plan. However, the reimbursement plan was designed as a decreasing plan and was phased out over a 10-year period. The district received the last minimal amount of TPP reimbursement money in 2018.



Cost Saving Measures

In preparation for the loss of the TPP funds, the district implemented several cost saving measures.

- District consolidation continues to reduce operating costs, which has helped us delay the need for a levy. The first step in this effort was the closing of Overdale School in 2011. The next step of this effort is the K-8 campus to be opened during the 2019-2020 school year. The new consolidated campus will conserve operating funds and eliminate the need to spend on excess maintenance of aging facilities.
- The district reduced healthcare costs through larger employee contributions and strategic moves in the healthcare market.
- Current fiscal year 2019 total salaries are less than they were 12 years ago in fiscal year 2007.

- Tallmadge High School is now Energy Star rated, which decreases operating costs for that building.

Fiscal responsibility is a priority of the Tallmadge City Schools and we have done our best to reduce costs while maintaining high standards of programming for our students; however, the loss of \$2.5 million is too large to offset without having to make major reductions to staff and programming.

If you have any questions about this or school funding in general, please contact me at 330-633-3291.

Thank you,
 Jeff Hostetler
 Treasurer
 Tallmadge City Schools

As you read this and future newsletter articles from my office, please feel free to contact me with comments or questions about Tallmadge Schools' finances at:

hostetler.jeff@tallmadgeschools.org



TRADITION VISION EXCELLENCE

TALLMADGE CITY SCHOOLS MARCH 2019

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LEVY MEETING SERIES
 TALLMADGE MAKES THE GRADE

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MAY 7 OPERATING LEVY

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LOSS OF TANGIBLE PERSONAL
 PROPERTY TAX CREATES NEED
 FOR OPERATING LEVY

SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE



It is hard to believe the Tallmadge City School District is well into the second half of the year. We have seen many successes so far both inside and outside of the classroom. I am looking forward to what is to come including the upcoming award ceremonies where we will recognize our students for all their accomplishments. I am also excited to see the progress we are making on both the middle school and the elementary school. We will be hosting a sneak peek event for the new middle school on April 23. I hope you can join us!

This issue of the newsletter will focus on the financial needs of the district and the upcoming May 2019 levy. Hopefully we will be able to answer some of your questions. I would like to sincerely thank everyone who participated in the phone

and online surveys, as well as those who attended the community meetings that we have hosted. Your feedback is greatly appreciated and has helped provide the Board of Education with a direction after the failure of the November levy.

The need for additional funding for our district remains urgent. The Board has reduced staff and programs already for next school year. In spite of these efforts, the deficit continues to grow. Based on your feedback, the Board has decided to place an operating levy (Issue 4) on the May ballot.

I encourage you to read through the information in this newsletter. If you have any questions, please contact me at 330-633-3291 and I will be happy to answer them.

Jeff Ferguson
 Superintendent
 Tallmadge City Schools



MAY 2019 LEVY MEETING SERIES

The Tallmadge City School District is committed to providing open and timely information regarding the upcoming May levy. As such, we have scheduled a number of community meetings to provide information and answer any questions our residents have. While some dates have already passed, there are still plenty of opportunities for our community members to learn about this important issue for our schools.

February 4	Admin Building: After Hours with the Board - 5 p.m.	March 6	THS Community Room: Town Board Meeting - 6 p.m.
February 6	THS Community Room: Town Board Meeting - 6 p.m.	April 1	Admin Building: After Hours with the Board - 5 p.m.
February 11	TMS PTA Meeting THS PTA Meeting	April 3	THS Community Room: Town Board Meeting - 6 p.m.
March 4	Admin Building: After Hours with the Board - 5 p.m.	April 6	Tallmadge Recreation Center: Chamber Expo. - 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
March 4	Joint K-5 PTA Meeting at Munroe School - 6 p.m.	April 23	Sneak Peek of New Tallmadge Middle School - 4-7 p.m.

Tallmadge Makes the Grade

Each week, schools across Summit County can submit the names of teachers, staff and students for Akron Beacon Journal's Make the Grade. Candidates can be nominated in one of four categories: Amazing Teachers, Difference Makers, Teens of Character and Kids of Character.

Two nominees are selected each week and are profiled in the newspaper. To date, Tallmadge has nominated the following individuals:

November

Amazing Teachers

Lynn Williams, 5th grade
Mark Horner, Psychology and American History

Difference Makers

Maria McNulty, Munroe Kitchen Manager
Courtney Davis, K-5 Principal

December

Kids of Character

Maya Dexter, 8th grade
Sam Angerstien, 8th grade

Teens of Character

Dylan Theisen, 12th grade
Delaney Lucas, 12th grade

Amazing Teachers

Alyssa Weakland, 3rd grade
Jennie Green, 8th grade

January

Difference Makers

Amanda Cardoni, Student Services Secretary
Steve Wood, Chief Operating Officer

February

Difference Makers

Mike Householder, High School Principal

Greg Riffle, Maintenance

Kids of Character

Nate Ulrich, 7th grade
Samantha Blatt, 7th grade

Teens of Character

Sam Seeker, 12th grade
Meah Dixon, 12th grade

March

Amazing Teachers

Cerafina Gotto, 1st grade
Audrey Cunert, 8th grade Science and Math

Difference Makers

Jeff Manion, Middle School Principal
George Pantea, Custodian

CRITICAL FOR OUR KIDS, OUR COMMUNITY, OUR TALLMADGE.

TALLMADGE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT ISSUE 4 · MAY 7

On Tuesday, May 7, 2019, the Tallmadge City School District will have an operating levy on the ballot.

*The funds generated from the levy are **critical** for the district to maintain educational programs and services for our students.*

The levy need comes from the **loss of \$2.5 million in state funding.**

Statewide Problem

We join many other districts impacted by the funding changes including:

Twinsburg	Stow-Munroe Falls
Woodridge	Manchester
Cuyahoga Falls	Norton
Field	Waterloo
Aurora	Ravenna

Critical

The Tallmadge City Schools must either raise additional revenue or make **drastic cuts to programs** and services for our students.

The 7.4 mill levy will cost **\$21.58** per month per **\$100,000** of home value.

Phase 1 Spending Reduction Plan for the 2019-2020 School Year

Due to the failure of the levy attempt in November 2018, the district lost a year of tax collection. As such, a number of reductions will be made for the 2019-2020 school year.

Reduce busing to state minimum Over 60% of students would lose busing	\$700,000
Freeze technology upgrades	\$75,000
Cut support staff and supplemental contracts	\$131,000
Teacher reductions	\$820,000
Total Reductions	\$1,726,000
Increase pay to participate revenue	Est. \$200,000+

If the levy passes in May, busing would be reinstated and pay to participate fees would return to current levels for the 2019-2020 school year. Programming cuts would be restored as soon as course scheduling permits.

If the Levy Fails: Phase 2 Spending Reductions

If the district does not generate additional funding in 2019, it will be forced to make additional cuts to staff and programming, negatively affecting the quality of education our students receive.

Programming At Risk (Non-State Required)	
All-Day Kindergarten to Half-Day Only	\$180,000
All grades: Reduce Art, Music, PE, and Tech	\$360,000
TMS: Reduce Math and Language Arts instructional time	\$240,000
THS: Eliminate block schedule. Reduce graduation requirement from 26 credits to state minimum (20 credits)	\$375,000
Eliminate Career and Technical Education Program	\$240,000
Central office and administrative reductions	\$170,000
Reduce athletic/extracurricular programs	>\$100,000
Eliminate non-school facility use	\$90,000

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