




### April 25, 2023, Town Hall/State of the Schools Address Questions and Responses

Question/Comment	Response
You say the last new money was in 2005, but in 2020 there was not a renewal levy but it was a substitute levy.	Was there a substantial increase (or any) in the taxes collected for us after that time? This was a “substitute levy” but wasn’t NEW money generated for those already paying this tax.
What were the \$800,000 in cuts? Was it all from the redistricting?	No, this cost-saving was in the last year. It included four administrative positions (2 SEL Deans, Communications Director, Assistant Principal) whose responsibilities have now been redistributed among other staff. A director position was replaced with a coordinator role. Through the realignment of responsibilities and elimination of roles, we also reduced 1 Computer Lab Position at EIS, 1 Secretarial Position at EIS, 1 Secretarial Position at EPS, 1 Paraprofessional, 2 Elementary Teaching Positions, 1 High School Counselor, 1 High School English Teacher, 2 Lunchroom Monitors, 1 Middle School Special Education Teacher, and 1 Technology Support Specialist.
Why are you not cutting from the top?	ECSD did cut four administrative positions and reduced one position from a director role to a coordinator role last year. Note: another director position has gone unfilled in the second semester. With the increase in state-mandated initiatives and accountability reporting, it is necessary for districts to maintain enough administrative staff to address student needs while meeting these requirements.
New Miami gets more money from the state, why are we not getting as much money?	This is due to the difference of poverty percentages. More poverty=more money from State and Federal dollars.
We all pay property taxes, why the earned income tax?	Approximately 30% of the homes in this community have students that attend ECSD. With a 1% Earned Income tax, all households that earn wages pay the tax. However, seniors on a fixed income - not earning new wages - do not pay.

How is the money calculated that we will get more money from the income tax levy with the fluctuations in salaries?	<p>School district revenue from an earned income tax is based on the amount of tax dollars collected. Historically, salaries increase over time and therefore, tax dollars would also increase. Some of the factors include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*Approximately 70% of the homes in the school district boundaries do not have students attending school</li> <li>* There is a significant number of residents on a fixed income</li> <li>* There is a significant number of rental properties in the school district</li> </ul> <p><a href="#">ODT Tax Analysis</a></p>
Can you tell us exactly how much we will get from the income tax in 2025?	<a href="#">ODT Tax Analysis</a>
Why are you going for a permanent levy and not a 3-year levy?	Need to generate continual funds to support the budget and address issues such as increased costs and inflation.
What will the cuts be? What is the plan? Is there a pyramid showing the cuts?	 Parent Notification on Cost Reductions 2023
Will I pay 1% on 401K and Social Security?	No
As a veteran I take a lot of classes, they count that as income, won't that be taxed?	If you file a w-9, it will be taxed. Please check with the Ohio Department of Taxation.
A question was raised about the statement that 30% of families in the district have students who attend Edgewood schools. This person believed that meant that 70% of our students were on open enrollment.	292 students are on open enrollment. 3706 students are enrolled in the ECSD.
As a follow-up to the question above: Will the open enrollment parents pay this tax?	No - you must be a resident and live in ECSD to pay property or earned income tax.
Can we exclude open-enrollment students who cost us more money?	No. Under the current law, we cannot select students based on costs.
Do we lose money on open enrollment?	No - The district receives per pupil cost on the open enrollment student. Students that receive tiered II-III support, cost more.
Ross has the same Per Pupil Expenditure as Edgewood but their scores are better.	According to this year's updates on the ODE website, Ross paid \$10,627.00 PPE where Edgewood paid \$10,002 PPE.

What can we do to cut down on the number of kids that need intervention? Can we not accept them?	No. Generally it would be illegal to not accept open enrollment students based on student needs.
There is a percentage of expenses that is purchased, Butler County Education Service Center provides teachers to Edgewood at times, is that a cost savings?	Savings for some staff development through grant dollars.
Are all of our schools inside the city limits? Are the teachers taxed by the city?	No - Teachers at EPS are taxed by the city tax.
Do we get funds from the Urgent Cares and medical buildings?	Yes. This rent is placed in the general fund.
What is our plan to not end up in this place again?	Use data to determine needs, and be cautious on spending. However, levies are designed to operate on a 4 year cycle. Also, schools aren't funded like businesses - they are funded on school tax base and state/federal funding.
Will we be able to not renew the renewal levy in a couple of years?	We don't want to under-deliver or provide false hope. This is a goal but it depends on inflation costs and unfunded mandates that are unknown today.
What is the head count for the district? Are we growing?	3700 - staying consistent
As new homes are built, won't they pay property taxes? Why not a property tax?	Yes - anyone that owns a home pays property tax.
There has been a concern that renters do not pay property tax as homeowners do.	Correct - An earned income tax impacts everyone earning a wage, not just those who own property.
When you talk about decreasing the budget is there talk about closing any of the buildings?	It has been looked at in the past - not being looked at currently.
Will there be an increase in fees or other costs for students? What about sports and pay to play?	Yes - Student activity fee increasing from \$50-\$150 per activity. We are also looking at a potential raise in school fees for students. In the past we have been charging only a fraction of the materials fees, examples being the cost of workbooks at approx. \$34.00 and we charge \$9.00 or \$10.00 per student.