



Graduate every student prepared with the necessary knowledge, skill and character to find success in life.

District Accountability Advisory Committee

Tuesday, October 16, 2012

5:00 – 6:00 pm

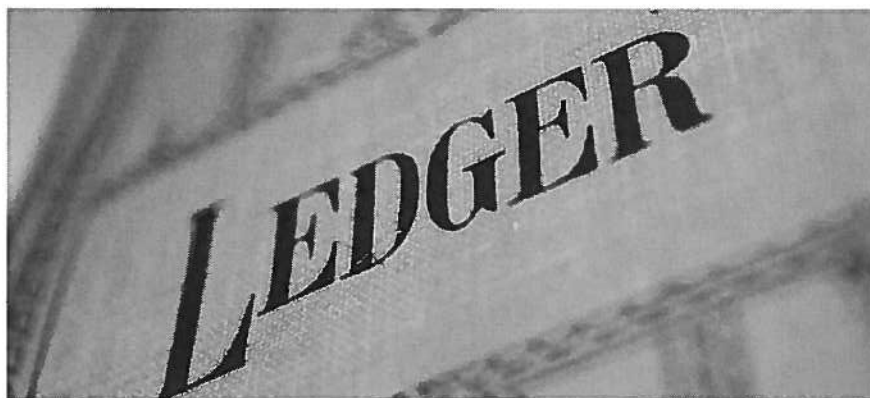
Holyoke Jr. Sr. High Library

Agenda

- 1.0 Call Meeting to Order, Welcome, and Introductions
- 2.0 Building Updates *(No reports. Principals will be at Parent-Teacher Conferences)*
- 3.0 Featured Topics
 - 3.1 Membership for 2012-2013
 - 3.2 Mill Levy Override Project

The group will review some preliminary information provided by Mr. Miles on the mill levy override. DAAC members will be able to request more information as well in order to thoroughly review the information.
- 4.0 Ongoing Discussion: “What is the minimum programming for a quality school?”

DAAC members have been asked to share their thoughts about what a school should have in order to determine it is a quality school. The Board of Education will use this public and staff input at its winter retreat as it discusses District goals and priorities.
- 5.0 Adjournment



MILL LEVY OVERRIDE REPORT (MLO)

In November of 2010, voters generously approved a mill levy override. A citizen's committee organized a campaign telling the story of reduction to per pupil funding at the state level due to revenue shortfalls. The mill levy override was for 7.5 mills to be collected for the first five years, and then 4.5 to be collected for the remaining five years. The mill levy override has a sunset of 10 years.

This money was targeted in three areas: critical repairs, technology, and general operations. The Board of Education tracks this money separately and is pleased to report to the community once again how this money was utilized during the 2011-2012 school year.

LEVERAGED FUNDS

The Holyoke School District set out to take District money and use it on projects with other grant funding to stretch the dollars given by the community. The BEST (Building Excellent Schools Today) Grant projects are a great example. The District was awarded two grants in June of 2011. The result is nearly \$3 million of construction this summer.

Using the community's Mill Levy Override money wisely is a top concern for the Board and the entire District. With many needs, stretching dollars just makes sense.

By leveraging the District's mill levy override dollars with BEST grant dollars, the District was able to add other projects as well. The technology and security upgrades along with the restroom changes would not have been possible without the BEST grant. Freeing up 42% of the cost of the most critical projects allowed the school to get to the next tier of priorities.

The Budget and Facilities Committee will be reviewing the Master Facility Plan at the conclusion of the summer projects to determine the next set of priorities.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION ON WEBSITE

For interested community members, you can follow the finances of the school district all year long by visiting our website. A special area has been set up on the Board of Education page where you can find several critical documents. The District Budget Book, financial audits for the past two years, the check register, and financial reports to the Board of Education can all be found here.

Start out at <http://holyoke.schoolfusion.us>. On the left side of the page click on "Board of Education." Under the picture of the Board you will find "Financial Reports." Click there and you will find updated information about the District's finances.

MLO BREAKDOWN

TOTAL REVENUE GENERATED IN 2011-2012

\$378,116

60% Critical Repairs

\$ 226,870

All of the critical repairs budget was transferred to the Construction Fund in May prior to the start of the summer projects.

15% Technology

\$ 56,717

Building Technology supply budgets, \$4,000

New mobile computer lab, \$33,348

Upgrade to the main server, \$16,034

Contracted labor for website management, \$3,335

25% Operations

\$94,529

Elementary teacher classroom supply budgets, \$7,800

Jr./Sr. High teacher classroom supply budgets, \$6,600

Applied toward salaries and benefits, \$80,129

Carry Forward

\$186,493

Due to planning for the 2012 summer construction project, the 60% from 2010-11 was not used. It was carried forward to 2011-2012 and it was all transferred into the construction fund for the projects.

Mill Levy Override Report

Promises Made... Promises Kept

During the campaign, the Citizen's Committee along with the Board of Education and administration outlined the use of the mill levy override funds. While the actual dollar amounts may fluctuate due to changes in the assessed valuation, the campaign pledged that within the first five years, the breakdown would be 25% to Operations, 15% for Technology, and 60% dedicated for Capital Improvements.

The following is a breakdown of where the mill levy override money was spent during the 2010-2011 school year.

\$ 310,000 Total Revenue generated in 2010-2011

\$ 6,978	Elementary Teacher Supply Budgets
\$ 6,600	Jr. Sr. High Teacher Supply Budgets
	Staff Bonuses in May 2011 <i>\$The total cost of the bonus was \$184,768 with the balance coming from a federal grant, the Education Jobs Fund</i>
\$ 63,306	
\$ 76,884	Subtotal of Operations (25%)

	Promethean Boards <i>\$40,000 came from a matching grant, \$6,182 came from the Genral Fund, for a total of \$92,805 for the entire Promethean Project in the first year.</i>
\$ 46,623	
\$ 46,623	Subtotal of Technology (15%)

	Carry forward to 2011-2012 for capital projects <i>The entire amount set aside for capital projects was rolled forward into the 2011-2012 fiscal year because the BEST grants were not reviewed until the last week of June.</i>
\$ 186,493	
\$ 186,493	Subtotal of Capital Projects

\$ 310,000 Full Accounting of the Mill Levy Override

2010 Mill Levy Override Facts

In November of 2010 voters approved Issue 3B with 57% of the vote. There were 782 votes in favor and 588 votes opposed. Issue 3B allows the district to levy 7.5 mills for the first five years, through 2015. The ballot question reads that the mill levy would then drop to 4 mills for the next five years, through 2020. The entire mill levy override question terminates after a ten year period, ending in 2020. The District anticipates that we will collect \$310,000 during the 2011-2012 school year unless the assessed valuation changes in December of 2011.

YES ON 3B

Holyoke Schools

Teachers • Technology • Critical Repairs

Leveraging Funds

During the 2010 3B campaign, a great deal of attention was paid to how the District would work to leverage the local tax revenue against other grants to accomplish the goals. As the 2010-2011 school year came to a close, two significant grants were awarded to the district that leveraged the mill levy override revenue to accomplish larger projects. Certainly, the District may not always be able to leverage outside funds with the mill levy override, but when possible the District will work to utilize this strategy.

Morgirdge Family Foundation In the spring, the District was awarded \$40,000 to add more Promethean Boards to the District. The District spent \$46,000 from the mill levy override funds, 100% of the amount set aside for technology as the match. The project was also supported by generous donations from the Holyoke Education Foundation and our local PIE (Partners In Education) Organization.

Building Excellent Schools Today (BEST) The District received final notification on August 3, 2011 that we had been awarded two BEST grants. The match for our district for a BEST grant is 42% and the State pays for 58% of the project. The District will be able to complete \$2,621,157 of projects for a cost of \$1,100,885 to the district. With these funds, the district will replace the majority of the roof over both schools and a new boiler system at the elementary. Significant upgrades in the electrical capacity and technology are also included in the grant. During the fall of 2011, the District will finalize the design, cost, financing, and award the project to a company utilizing the District Budget and Facilities Committee to capture staff and community input in the process.

Because of the timing of the grant, the 2010-11 mill levy capital projects funds were unspent and carried over into the 2011-2012 Budget. The current year's Budget shows a total of \$372,986 in the mill levy capital projects line due to this change.

Ballot Issue 3B (GENERAL FUND OVERRIDE)

SHALL HOLYOKE SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. RE-1J TAXES BE INCREASED \$414,643 ANNUALLY (WHICH DOLLAR AMOUNT REPRESENTS THE FIRST FISCAL YEAR INCREASE), AND IN THE FOLLOWING NINE YEARS THEREAFTER BY WHATEVER AMOUNTS ARE RAISED FROM A PROPERTY TAX OVERRIDE MILL LEVY IMPOSED AT A RATE OF SEVEN AND ONE-HALF (7.5) MILLS FOR FIRST FIVE YEARS, DECLINING TO FOUR (4) MILLS FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS, AND TERMINATING AFTER SAID TEN YEAR PERIOD (PROVIDED THAT THE DOLLAR AMOUNT RAISED FROM THE PROPERTY TAX OVERRIDE MILL LEVY SHALL NEVER BE GREATER THAN THE AMOUNT PERMITTED UNDER C.R.S. § 22-54-108) FOR THE PURPOSE OF, AMONG OTHER THINGS,

- RENOVATING AND REPAIRING EXISTING FACILITIES TO EXTEND THEIR USEFUL LIFE, IMPROVE ENERGY EFFICIENCY, UPDATE THE SCIENCE LAB AND MAKE LIFE SAFETY UPGRADES,
- UPGRADING THE TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE OF THE DISTRICT,
- PURCHASING AND INSTALLING INSTRUCTIONAL AND INFORMATIONAL TECHNOLOGY,
- RESTORING AND UPDATING INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS, AND
- ATTRACTING AND RETAINING QUALIFIED TEACHERS, AND PROVIDING ADDITIONAL STAFF FOR ESSENTIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS,

WHICH TAXES SHALL BE DEPOSITED INTO THE GENERAL FUND OF THE DISTRICT, SHALL BE IN ADDITION TO THE PROPERTY TAXES THAT OTHERWISE WOULD BE LEVIED FOR THE GENERAL FUND, AND SHALL CONSTITUTE A VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE?

Yes on 3B for Holyoke Schools



"Recent decreases in state funding have hit our district hard, and tough decisions and cuts have been made. A YES vote on Issue 3B will help restore some of that funding, prevent further cuts, and put needed technology and materials back in the classroom to enhance teacher effectiveness and student learning. YES on 3B is a yes for our children's future."

Lynn Schneider, Third Grade Teacher, Holyoke Elementary



"Preventing further teacher cuts, giving our kids the technology they need to succeed, and fixing up our schools to extend their life makes sense. Please join me in voting YES on Issue 3B."

Misti Redman, Accountability Committee and Holyoke Graduate



"The Board of Education is committed to maintaining healthy, safe and secure schools, preparing our students to compete in a 21st century global economy, and being conservative and accountable when it comes to the local tax dollars we are provided. Issue 3B delivers on all three of these core commitments."

Dan Kafka, President, Board of Education and Holyoke Graduate

YES on 3B
Teachers · Technology · Critical Repairs

Handful of Colo. school districts ask voters to approve more funding

By Jeremy P. Meyer
The Denver Post

"The state cut \$260 million from this year's budget, but lawmakers say the budget is as much as \$257 million short for the current fiscal year that ends in June. The state is facing a deficit of as much as \$1.1 billion in the following fiscal year. To shore up some of that hurt, districts are turning to voters."

The Holyoke Enterprise, Holyoke, Colo. 80734, Thurs., April 30, 2009 — Page 3

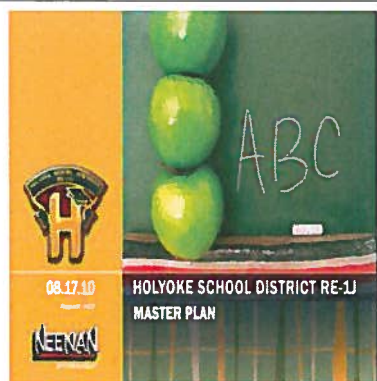
School reports . . .

JR/SR High Principal Susan Ortnor and Elementary Principal Jennifer Kral reported the district was part of a CDE building suitability study on April 15.

The JR/SR High building score was a high B, with the report noting the overall school climate seems to meet the needs of a variety of learning styles,

and the building appears to be safe. The overall technology score was a low C.

A high C was the overall building score for the elementary. No technology score was given, with the evaluation noting, "one of the most lacking schools in the state."



"The school district and community are very determined to make sure they get the most value out of the buildings they have and make sure the community's money is spent wisely. A major driver for the creation of this master plan was to make sure the district knows if it is valuable or not to be spending money on their existing buildings. Are they able to be upgraded to meet the needs of 21st century education? Do they have the ability to stay structurally sound and functional for years to come? Or is it time to invest in a new school facility? The major conclusion of this master plan is that the facilities are able to be upgraded, they are structurally sound and functional, and it is valuable to invest in the current facilities." Page 1.1

Vote YES on 3B because it is Necessary, Reasonable and Accountable

Necessary

The District needs to address critical repairs, technology needs, and the overall operation of our school district in a time when the State is not meeting its share of school finance.

- ✓ The State of Colorado has reduced funding to all public schools. The State reduced funding to Holyoke last year by \$103,000 and this year by \$250,000.
- ✓ Buildings are getting older and in greater need of repair. Holyoke Elementary was built in 1954 and Holyoke High School was built in 1975. The Facilities Master Plan has identified specific items that must be updated to keep buildings in good condition.
- ✓ Technology is becoming a larger part of educating children. Students are not prepared for college or the workforce without frequent access to computer, and interactive and hands-on technology.
- ✓ With cuts to State funding, local funding is necessary to recruit and retain high quality employees.

Reasonable


The mill levy override of 7.5 mills will provide about \$340,000 of revenue to the district. This amount of money is not extravagant and will only allow the district to keep up with basic needs.

- ✓ \$ 205,000 for capital projects outlined in the District's Facilities Master Plan
- ✓ \$ 50,000 for technology, doubling the current technology budget
- ✓ \$ 85,000 for operations to fight rising costs and maintain quality programming
- ✓ The school mill levy has decreased over 13 mills in five years (44.446 in 2005 to 31.270 in 2010).

Accountable

The Board of Education understands that the community expects accountability for tax dollars.

- ✓ The override reduces from 7.5 mills to 4.5 mills after five years.
- ✓ The entire override goes away in 10 years.
- ✓ Each dollar spent from the override money will be accessible on the school district's website.
- ✓ The District Budget and Facilities Committee monitors all aspects of the budget and reports publicly.



Holyoke Schools
Teachers • Technology • Critical Repairs

The Cost to You

\$4.98 per month on a \$100,000 home

\$0.47 / acre of irrigated farm ground annually

\$0.21 / acre of dry-land farm ground annually

\$0.07 / acre of grass / pasture annually

Difficult Cuts for 2010-2011:

- ✓ Reduced 1 teacher in 7th-12th grade math
- ✓ Reduced 1 teacher 7th-12th grade social studies
- ✓ 6th grade class went from 3 to 2 sections
- ✓ 3rd grade class went from 3 to 2 sections
- ✓ Eliminated library aide
- ✓ Eliminated one bus route

"We have seen enough cuts. It is time that the community stops asking what will hurt least to cut next, and starts asking what type of school district we want to have for our children."

Dennis Herman, parent and PASS Chair



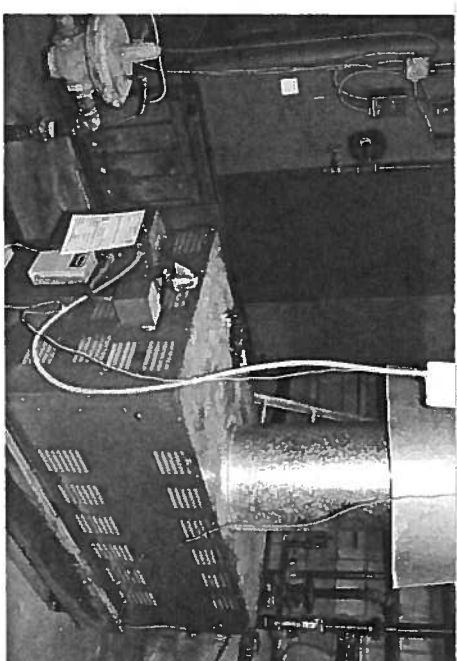
✓ *Teachers*

- Help prevent further teacher cuts
- Recruit and retain quality teachers
- Maintain class size



✓ *Technology*

- Upgrade technology infrastructure
- Improve computer access
- Improve bandwidth and connectivity
- Offer access to technology comparable to other districts



✓ *Critical Repairs*

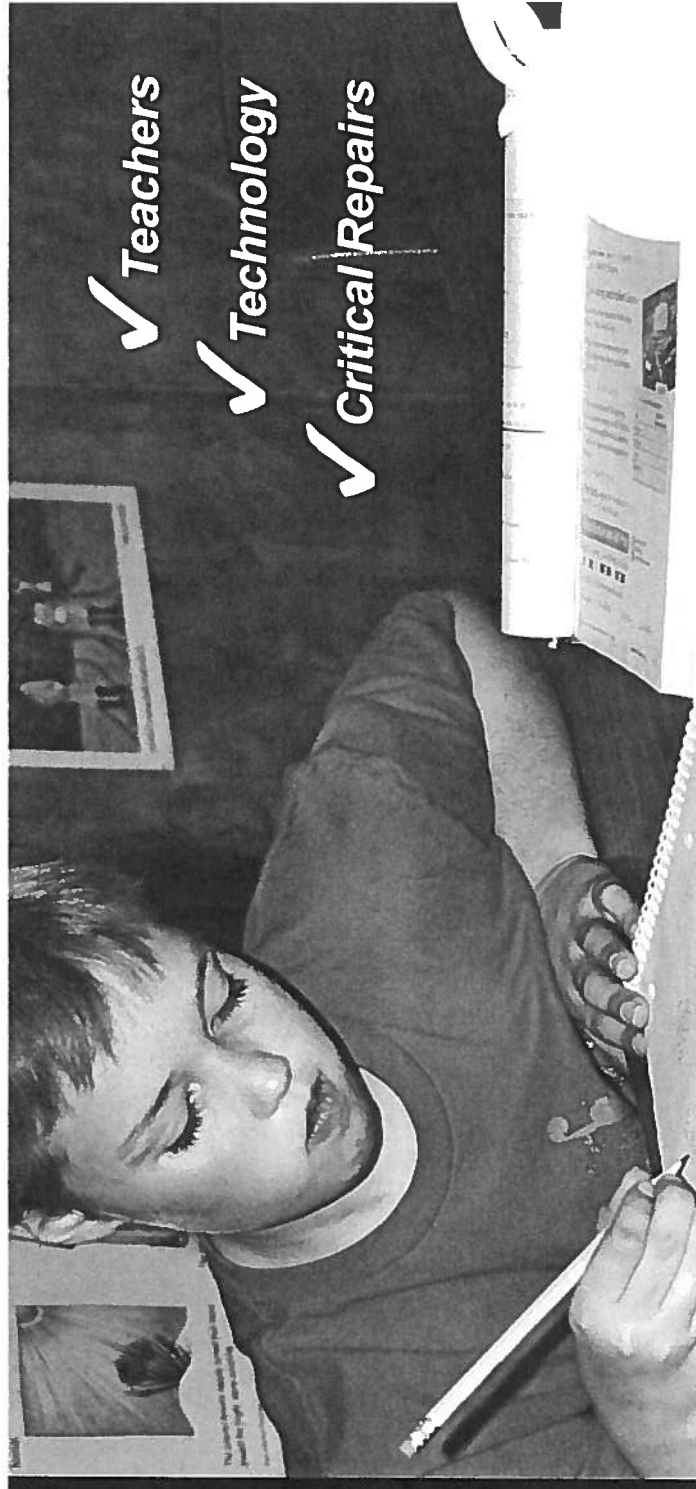
- Update electrical
- Roof replacement
- Boiler upgrades
- Restroom upgrades
- Update science lab in high school
- Address safety issues



YES^{ON} 3B

"Your YES vote on 3B will restore teaching positions eliminated in recent years, update instructional technology in the classroom, and address critical repairs to extend the useful life of our existing school buildings. This plan is both necessary and reasonable. The tax impact of the mill levy override is \$4.98 per month on a \$100,000 home. And half of the override will sunset in five years and the remainder will sunset in 10 years."

— Tom Bennett, President
First Pioneer National Bank
Holyoke High School Graduate



✓ Teachers
✓ Technology
✓ Critical Repairs

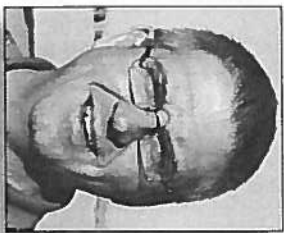
Yes on 3B! Yes for Holyoke Schools!

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"Recent decreases in state funding have hit our district hard, and tough decisions and cuts have been made. A YES vote on Issue 3B will help restore some of that funding, prevent further cuts, and put needed technology and materials back in the classroom to enhance teacher effectiveness and student learning. YES on 3B is a yes for our children's future."

— Lynn Schneider, Third Grade Teacher, Holyoke Elementary



"The Board of Education is committed to maintaining healthy, safe and secure schools, preparing our students to compete in a 21st century global economy, and being conservative and accountable when it comes to the local tax dollars we are provided. Issue 3B delivers on all three of these core commitments."

— Dan Kafka, President, Board of Education and Holyoke Graduate



"We're a community that has always stood up for our children and our schools. Our kids deserve a fighting chance to succeed, which is made possible with a quality education. Please join us in voting YES on Issue 3B."

— Bob Bradley, Long-Time Resident and Holyoke Graduate



"Our school district has already eliminated a math teacher, social studies teacher, elementary school teachers, librarian and other staff. Your YES vote on 3B will prevent further cuts to the classroom level. It's the right thing to do."

— Kevin Humphreys, Long-Time Resident



"The plan is both necessary and reasonable. The tax impact of the mill levy override is \$4.98 per month on a \$100,000 home. And half of the override will sunset in five years and the remainder will sunset in 10 years."

— Dixie Fagerlin, Community Member



"Preventing further teacher cuts, giving our kids the technology they need to succeed, and fixing up our schools to extend their life makes sense. Please join me in voting YES on Issue 3B."

— Misti Redman, Accountability Committee Member and Holyoke Graduate

✓ Teachers

- Help prevent further teacher cuts
- Recruit and retain quality teachers
- Maintain class size

✓ Technology

- Upgrade technology infrastructure
- Improve computer access
- Improve bandwidth and connectivity
- Offer access to technology comparable to other districts

✓ Critical Repairs

- Update electrical
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YES^{ON} 3B

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