

Welcome Naples Tea Party Patriots

“ People often say that, in a democracy, decisions are made by a majority of the people. Of course, that is not true. Decisions are made by a majority of those who make themselves heard and who vote - a very different thing.”

Walter H. Judd

ECONOMIC REALITY and EDUCATION

A synopsis of the State of New York 2011-
12 Proposed Executive Budget and the
Naples Central School Bond Issue

Overview

- State and local spending for education exceeds **\$53 billion**
- New York has maintained the highest per-pupil spending level **in the nation**
- Education is the largest area of State spending
- The economic climate imposes **significant limitations** on public education funding

History

- NY public schools **spend more** per pupil than **any** other state
 - 67 percent above the national average
- School and property taxes have outpaced the rate of inflation for the last **ten years**
- Increased Education spending has **not** resulted in higher student performance

Governor Cuomo's 2011-12 State Budget

- New competitive awards for school districts that
 - become **more efficient**
 - **improve** academic achievement
- Executive Budget recommends
 - \$19.4 billion in School Aid for 2011-12
 - **7.3%** year-to-year **reduction in School Aid**
- Continues to be largest State expenditure

Governor Cuomo's 2011-12 State Budget

- School Districts must adjust to **new fiscal realities**
- Major initiative proposed to make districts **more efficient** and improve student performance
- Creates a new **competitive application** process for school construction projects
- Cost-effective **shared services** mandated

Governor Andrew Cuomo

“..... the State is “functionally bankrupt” and for too long has been reliant on unsustainable spending growth.”

- Source Democrat and Chronicle, Feb 2, 2011. Joseph Spector, Gannett Albany Bureau Chief

In the midst of this **economic crises**
The **Board of Education in Naples** has proposed

- Phases 1 and 1A.....passed by voters..\$ **6.8 million**
 - Phase 2..... **\$21.7 million**
 - Phase 3..... **\$19 million**
- Total **\$47.5 million**

This is **in addition** to an annual school operating
budget of **\$16.6 million**

\$47.5 Million for facilities

- To accommodate a **student enrollment** in Naples that has **dropped 15.1%**
 - in the past 10 years
- with an **annual operating budget** that has **increased by greater than 48%**
 - in the same 10 years

Naples Central School spends more per pupil than.....

- Victor
- Canandaigua
- Manchester-Shortsville
- Honeoye
- East Bloomfield

Source: New York State Department of Education 2008-2009

Naples Taxpayers

- Have a median income of \$44,000
- Ontario County residents have a median income of \$55,000

Source: US Census Bureau 2009

-\$11,000 less than the median income in Ontario County and **highest per pupil spending in the County**

Source: New York State Department of Education 2009

Naples Central School

Building Conditions Survey 2006 vs 2011

- Phase I \$ 3.5 million
 - Phase II \$ 4.1 million
 - Phase III \$ 6.2 million included Bus Garage
- 2006 Total \$ 13.8 million**

Source: Hunt Management 8/01/06

- Phase I, IA \$ 6.8 million
 - Phase II \$ 21.7 million
 - Phase III \$ 19 million
- 2011 Total \$ 47.5 million**

Source: Naples Central School Board of Education

2006 vs 2011

- \$33.7 million difference between initial 2006 project estimate and projected 2011 cost

...and

What are the additional costs we haven't seen?

- They won't tell us, the taxpayers
 - We should just "trust their judgment"

Conclusions

- Capital Improvement projects must reflect the economic realities of the community, state and nation
- Wait for Governor's proposed budget results before new capital projects are considered
- Proposed shared services are a reality
- Taxpayers have had enough!

Focus on the Real Issues

We must **not** mistake this bond issue vote with

- Commitment to education
- Respect for our teachers
- The welfare of our students
- The need for essential repairs

Bond issue supporters who use this smokescreen to obscure the critical issues do us all a great disservice

Focus on the Real Issues

The Naples Board of Education's flawed thinking

- Failure to differentiate Needs from Wants
 - Failure to prioritize the Critical Needs
 - Total inability to “sharpen the pencil”
- Failed 1990s mentality
 - “Run up the bill, the future will pay for it”
- Failure to recognize current financial realities
 - The worst economy of our lifetimes
- Failure to address the governor's new austerity
 - The State can't - won't - give us the extra money

Focus on the Real Issues

The Naples Board of Education's flawed thinking

- **Failure to listen** to you, the taxpayers
 - We voted **No** December 7 on the excessive bond issue
 - Their response to our message to “sharpen their pencil”?
 - Naples BOE reduced the bond issue by **only 1%**!
 - Feel they only need to get students and supporters to vote
- They see these bond issue millions as **THEIR** money
 - It's actually **YOUR** money, the taxpayers
- Refuse to spend \$4.5 million reserve fund on repairs
- Supporters say its “only” \$12/month/\$100,000 *more*
 - Should your family sacrifice a meal/month? *More?*

Our Future is in Your Hands

- **Vote NO on this flawed bond issue**
- **Vote and get out the vote March 22**
 - **Call** family members, friends and neighbors
 - **Provide transportation to the polls** as needed
 - **Use Absentee Ballots** if necessary
- **Tell the Naples Board of Education your views**
 - **Write, telephone, visit, attend BOE meetings**
 - **136 North Main Street, Naples, NY 14512, 374-7900**
- **Support the Naples Tea Party Patriots**

The TEA in Tea Party stands for Taxed Enough Already

- Do we have the **conviction and commitment as taxpayers and voters** to bring the Naples School District **back in line with fiscal reality?**
 - **Defeat** this flawed, fiscally irresponsible bond issue
 - Require BOE to spend the **\$4.5 million reserve fund** on essential repairs and maintenance **NOW**
 - **Require** that future bond issues be **done right**
- **Will you help us** in this crucial effort, now and on **March 22?**

Thank you

2011 Acting Directors

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Naples TEA Party Patriots