



Capital Improvement Bond Issue on Ballot

On August 2, the Board of Education voted unanimously to place a 15-year 0.81-mill bond issue on the November 2 ballot. Bond Issue 22 would generate \$7.2 million dollars over 15 years for the district to continue the maintenance of school facilities.

The focus of this issue is on continuing the next level of capital improvements to our current school facilities and campus to enhance school safety and security, address operational issues, and comply with ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) regulations.

WHY DOES CHARDON LOCAL SCHOOLS NEED A BOND ISSUE?

In 2019, the school district presented a bond issue for the replacement of school facilities that was not approved by voters. We listened to that message and began to leverage our available resources to replace/repair roofs on all schools, replace windows, continue boiler replacement, install touchless restroom upgrades, and plan for many other capital improvement projects. Permanent Improvement Fund and Federal aid dollars are the funding source for these improvements.

To address the next level of capital improvement projects, additional funding will be needed. Bond Issue 22 would allow us to undertake the identified projects that will help us address specific needs.

WHAT IS THE TIMELINE FOR THE IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS?

With passage in November, planning would begin immediately and work on the identified projects would begin as soon as weather permits in 2022.

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BROADMOOR MENTORSHIP PICNIC

Forty-two Chardon High School students, led by CHS teachers Rob Mizen, Sharon Zdesar and Brian Long, united with over 60 Broadmoor Integrated Preschool families on September 15 at City of Mentor's Eleanor B. Garfield Park for a picnic filled with opportunities for fishing, face-painting, playground time, bubble-blowing and enjoying lunch together.

Sponsored by the Lake County Board of DD/Deepwood, the Garfield Park picnic event has become an annual tradition for the two schools.

"The picnic is a great opportunity to bring the community together for a day full of new friendships and fun," said Broadmoor School's adapted physical education teacher Sara Jones. "Thank you Chardon High School volunteers for helping make this a memorable picnic for our preschool students and families."

Among the participating Hilltoppers were students from the high school's Teen Leadership class, AC4P® (Actively Caring for People) chapter, Interact Club, Chardon Academy, and athletics program.

"As a Chardon alumni and parent, I am proud to be able to see the students from Chardon be ambassadors for accepting and including students of all abilities," said Broadmoor School's early childhood supervisor Liz Miller.



"Our students were exceptional at the Broadmoor event. Their parents should be very proud of the young ladies and gentlemen they have raised."

—Mrs. Sharon Zdesar,

Chardon High School Credit Recovery Teacher

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WHAT PROJECTS WOULD BE COMPLETED WITH THE APPROVAL OF ISSUE 22?

The following is a list of the various projects that would be funded with the proposed bond issue:

1. Construction of two-stage security vestibules at the Chardon High School and Chardon Middle School main entrances to enhance student/staff safety and security.
2. Continued progress on window replacements at CHS and Maple Elementary. *(At the time of this writing, the district is in the process of or has completed window replacements at CMS, Munson Elementary and Park Elementary.)*
3. Construction of approximately 195 parking spaces at CMS—south of Memorial Field (**not** at the current playground area)—to:
 - Address traffic flow spills onto adjacent roadways during dropoff and pickup.
 - Provide secondary traffic flow to promote safety and emergency responder access.
4. Construction of a new, replacement Transportation and Maintenance Department facility off-site in order to:
 - Eliminate the vehicle maintenance noise and fumes impacting CHS classroom spaces from the current facility.
 - Create space for secondary traffic flow and additional parking behind CHS.
5. Renovation of the current transportation compound and district maintenance area to create 167 additional parking spaces behind CHS to provide:
 - Secondary traffic flow in and around CHS, promoting safety, allowing emergency responder access, and reducing traffic overflow onto roadways.
 - A separation of car and bus traffic flows around campus.

6. Construction of a new 2,000-seat capacity ADA-accessible bleacher structure and press box at Memorial Field to:

- Address the current bleacher ADA compliance complaint against the district.
- Address the recommendation to eliminate the current “temporary” bleacher structure that has been used for over 20 years.
- Address the lack of a suitable press box facility.

HOW MUCH WOULD ISSUE 22 COST TAXPAYERS?

The bond issue would cost about \$28.35 per year per \$100,000 of home value in the first year, and the cost for taxpayers would go down in subsequent years.

WHAT HAPPENS IF ISSUE 22 DOES NOT PASS?

The District has leveraged all available funding sources for the projects that are currently in process. Given that available funding sources have been dedicated to

the current projects, it is not possible to complete the projects outlined above over the next 10 years without additional funding.

IS THE CHARDON LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE?

Yes, Chardon Schools are in a solid financial position and would remain so even if a bond issue is not passed. The District has been diligent in implementing cost-saving measures and maximizing its budget to meet the educational needs of its students. Our Five-Year Forecast indicates a financial outlook with no anticipated need for an operating levy request during that time.

WHEN IS ISSUE 22 ON THE BALLOT?

November 2, 2021

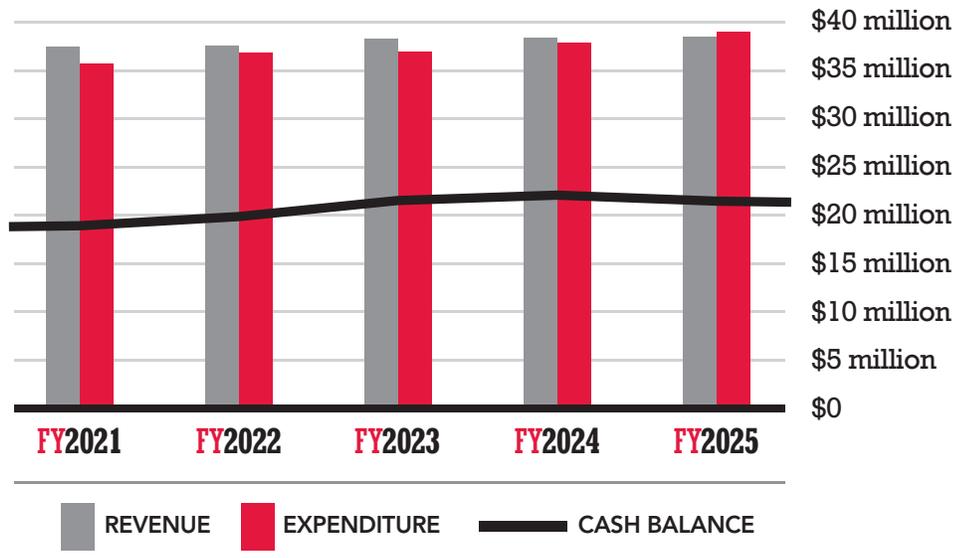
Polls open 6:30 AM–7:30 PM

Early in-person voting begins October 5, 2021 and includes the Saturday, Sunday and the Monday before Election Day.

Absentee voting by mail begins October 5, 2021 (28 Days Before Election Day). More information on voting can be accessed at <https://boelections.geauga.oh.gov/>

Revenue vs. Expenditure and Effect on Cash Balance

FISCAL YEARS 2021–2025



- The projected Cash Balance in 2025 is \$21,403,369 with-out open purchase orders included and \$20,903,369 when included.
- There are numerous variables that are out of our control that could significantly impact the General fund (COVID-19) (ESSER).
- The five-year forecast is updated in November 2021 to reflect any possible changes that may occur during the school year.

A Field of Helping Hands

Many hands made Chardon Memorial Field's opening night on September 3 possible, including the district maintenance team's diligent work on upgrades and cleanup throughout the summer season amid the installation of the new turf and scoreboard. In addition, the new Daktronics® scoreboard is providing for unique technological learning and community service opportunities for students.

"Chris May, Paul Marks, Eric Soeder, Ernie Haaser and Ken Shieff put many hours into making Memorial Field ready for its opening night," said Assistant Superintendent of Business Affairs Steven Kofol. "They completed landscaping projects, pressure washing, fence mending, fence painting, electrical projects and upgrades, general cleanup, and many other projects to make the stadium look great."

Class of 2022 fall athletics banners were displayed in time for the re-opening of Memorial Field thanks to the volunteers of Chardon Athletic Boosters, Chardon Crescendo Club and Hilltopper Gridiron Club with the provision of the banners credited to Pastor Photography and sponsor Chardon Smile Center.

"In addition to the teamwork within our district, Chardon Schools is also grateful for the rallying of numerous area school districts offering the use of their athletic fields in prior weeks as we awaited Memorial Field's readiness for the fall season," said Superintendent Mike Hanlon.

In technological news, Chardon High School media specialist Vicki Eby secured a Chardon Schools Foundation grant in the spring for Daktronics® electronics curriculum. The curriculum provides her Multimedia Design students and Game and Application Design students with the needed training to create high-resolution animation and graphics on Memorial Field's new Daktronics® scoreboard, including the design of advertisements for local businesses.

"Learning how to use the new scoreboard will provide students an unmatched opportunity to gain skills that translate directly to real-world applications," said Mrs. Eby. "By being trained on the software and hardware, students can have a true sense of ownership, and give back to the school and community."



Storytime with the Superintendent

On September 21, Superintendent Mike Hanlon visited with Mrs. Maheu's and Mrs. Heintz's Kindergarten students at the Chardon Early Learning Center and read aloud "The Napping House" by Audrey Wood.

Photo: Laurie Heintz

On a Topper Staff Note

"Being a Hilltopper staff member has given me the opportunity to help others and inspired me to reach for more."



—Ms. Michelle Adams
Park Elementary Head Custodian

"As a Geauga County resident, I enjoy building relationships with students and parents in our community."



—Mrs. Natalie Whiting
Park Elementary
Third-Grade Teacher



"I enjoy working in a great community!"

—Mr. Bob Francis
Chardon
Middle School
Math Teacher/
Athletics Coach

"The Chardon Hilltopper community is so special! I love working with other educators who are passionate about meeting the needs of all students."



—Ms. Katherine Kotora
Tiny Toppers Kindergarten
Intervention Specialist



#WeAreChardon

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A Newsletter for the Chardon Community

Mission Statement

High achievement for all students where learning is our most important work.

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Student liaisons
Morgan Fisher
(top photo) and
Sebastian Marker



Board of Education Welcomes Student Liaisons

Superintendent Mike Hanlon introduced Chardon High School seniors Morgan Fisher and Sebastian Marker at the August 16 regular board meeting as the appointed student liaisons to the Chardon board of education for the 2021–22 school year.

Student liaison responsibilities include attendance at the board’s regular monthly meetings to share CHS academic and student life highlights. The two seniors delivered their first liaison presentation at the regular board meeting held on September 20.

Both Morgan and Sebastian are role models of leadership both in and out of the classroom.

Morgan serves as the school’s National Honor Society president and is a member of the school’s student council and Model United Nations. She is also a student athlete on the Hilltopper varsity cross-country, track and field, and swim teams. Her post-graduation aspirations include college enrollment to major in data science with attainment of a doctorate degree one of her long-term goals.

Sebastian serves as the school’s Executive Student Council President, the NHS Vice-President of Communications, and as a member of the Model U.N.; and is also a student athlete on the school’s varsity soccer and tennis teams. His post-graduation plans include enrollment in college to study mechanical engineering.