

Wapakoneta City School District BOND ISSUE FACT SHEET #4

VOTE NOVEMBER 6, 2007

WHY MAINTAIN A SCHOOL IN THE CRIDERSVILLE AREA?

Cridersville is an **Ohio School of Promise**, just named so again this week. A **School of Promise** shows high achievement for those students deemed high poverty. This year, the school was honored for their work in both areas of reading and math. Cridersville was also a school of promise in 2005, in reading. According to the Ohio Department of Education, this distinction was given to approximately 3% of the school buildings in the state!

Cridersville Elementary has **outstanding local support** from parents and the community. Having a building in the Cridersville area will also provide the opportunity to have one building with a small-school atmosphere. This can be very important for special needs students. Cridersville elementary currently enjoys a partnership with Otterbein Retirement Community for after school tutoring, mentoring, and volunteering at the school.

Cridersville currently has two new, fully-developed residential subdivisions with more than 60 home sites. These new housing developments will add future enrollment to our district. **Each new student brings an additional \$5400 of state funding to our district.**

But, this school is not just for the residents of the Village of Cridersville. The school serves elementary students in the upper/Northern part of our district in several of our townships and the towns of Buckland and Uniopolis as well.

In comparing the difference between a 3 or 4 building plan, operationally the cost difference is small as the number of students does not change and the square footage required shows little difference. A 3 building plan (one large elementary), would require two gyms, but a little less square footage for the cafeteria area, (eating & meal prep areas) so it would provide very minimal savings, if any. The cafeteria operation itself is self supporting.

Cridersville is a growing community of nearly 2000 residents well positioned for continued growth. It's the second largest population base in the district. It has the potential to continue to add value to the school district's property and income tax revenue. A new school in the Cridersville area will significantly increase these opportunities for growth.

Cridersville is the only location in our school district, outside Wapakoneta, with an Interstate 75 interchange and direct CSX rail access. It also has sufficient local utility infrastructure to support residential, commercial and industrial growth. The existing water and sewer systems are operating at only 50% of capacity.

As the Cridersville area continues to grow its local tax base and population, it will increase property and income tax revenues for the Wapakoneta School District. Every additional tax dollar the Cridersville school area communities bring to the district reduces the tax burden on taxpayers in other parts of the district. Building a new elementary school in the Cridersville area will increase its potential to grow and prosper.

IS THERE A PLAN IN PLACE TO INCREASE ENROLLMENT IN CRIDERSVILLE BY BUSING ADDITIONAL STUDENTS WHO CURRENTLY ATTEND ONE OF THE ELEMENTARY BUILDINGS IN WAPAK?

There are no plans to change any bus boundaries due to this project.

We would return our preschool special needs students to the Cridersville area building. There is also an elementary special needs unit at St. Joe which is a county unit that also will be in this new building. The bulk of these students are OUR Wapakoneta District students, whom we are charged to serve.

If your child attends Northridge or Centennial, he or she will attend the new 750 elementary building at the Northridge site from Kindergarten through 4th grade. If they currently attend Cridersville, they will continue attending the school at Cridersville until they reach Middle School age.

After the building program, if families choose to request **intra district enrollment** to an elementary building other than the one assigned, they will be asked to follow the district procedures that have been used the past several years. Some programs will only be offered at one site in the district, such as Pre-First grade, and certain Special Education classes.



THINGS WE'VE HEARD THIS WEEK.

ARE WE JUST BUILDING 2 NEW SCHOOLS?

Remember, **this project is more than 2 new elementaries**. For example, it will add a couple of classrooms to the Middle School and add an auditorium and music classrooms to the high school. Both schools will be upgraded for increased security and brought up to the latest safety codes.

FULFILLING OUR DISTRICT'S MISSION

The mission of the *Wapakoneta School District* is “**To be THE LEADER in providing excellent learning experiences for our students**”. Passage of this Bond Issue will allow the District to bring updated technology to students of all ages. It will bring science labs and other specialized learning areas to the elementary grades. Special needs students will be accommodated in rooms adapted for their requirements.

Please ask questions. Please be informed. Please vote on November 6th.