

## **Answers to your questions about the 7.9 mill levy for the North Olmsted Schools**

For more information visit [www.northolmstedschools.org](http://www.northolmstedschools.org) or call 440-779-3549

### **What kind of community do we want to live in?**

#### **What we have now:**

- ⇒ Top ranking on the State Report Card for five straight years.
- ⇒ A perfect score (26/26 Indicators) on the 2009/2010 State Report Card.
- ⇒ North Olmsted is one of only 7 districts out of 31 in Cuyahoga County that earned *Excellent with Distinction* for 2009/2010.
- ⇒ Steady growth in achievement since 2002 that helped us reach the top.
- ⇒ Data that proves our programs have resulted in scores that are not a fluke.

#### **What happened after the levy failures in May and August:**

- ⇒ Students are paying large fees to participate in sports, music and clubs.
- ⇒ Bus transportation has been cut to the state minimum standard, and only K- 8 students living two or more miles from school get a bus.
- ⇒ The district cut \$4.5 million from the budget in expenses and eliminated 39 jobs.

#### **What happens if we fail again on November 2<sup>nd</sup>:**

- ⇒ We will operate in further crisis mode as we keep dismantling what we have worked so hard to build.
- ⇒ \$2.2 million in deeper cuts to teachers, staff and programs will be made - do we just keep cutting until there is nothing left?
- ⇒ Next year's operating deficit will grow to over \$7.0 million and the problem gets worse.
- ⇒ Pay to participate will continue to hurt families and the community, who can't keep fundraising to provide the opportunities our students need to be competitive.
- ⇒ We erode our sense of a community that can work together in tough times.
- ⇒ We lose the chance for a long-term solution to keep our schools operating at the high level the community deserves and has come to expect.
- ⇒ Families and young professionals will look to buy homes in other areas, which hurts our entire community.
- ⇒ We continue the destructive cycle of deficit spending that will lead to the dismantling of our district. Years of hard work and steady progress in academic growth will be lost.