

Dear Muncy School District Community Members:

The purpose of this letter is to provide you with an update related to recent buildings and grounds discussions by the Muncy School District Board of Directors. This latest update follows previous school district communications outlined in the timeline below:

- March 2016 – First Community Awareness Letter mailed to Muncy Community
- April 2016 – Public Tour of District Facilities
- April 2016 – Public Input Session
- April 2016 – Link to sign up for e-mail updates posted to website
- June 2016 – First Electronic Community Update posted to website and e-mailed
- August 2016 – Second Electronic Community Update posted to website and e-mailed
- September 2016 – School District’s Feasibility Study made available for public review
- November 2016 – Second Community Awareness Letter mailed to Muncy Community

On September 12th, the Foreman Group presented their completed feasibility study to the Muncy School District Board of Directors. The complete feasibility study is available for your review on the school district’s website

(<http://www.muncysd.org>). Simply click on the *Buildings and*

***Grounds Information*** link in the ***Site Shortcuts*** area underneath the scrolling pictures to access the feasibility study and other updates related to recent buildings and grounds discussions. Additionally, on October 20<sup>th</sup>, the school board unanimously passed a motion to hire Stewman Demographics, LLC to complete a detailed districtwide enrollment study. The enrollment study will provide the school district with projected enrollment data for the next ten years and should be completed by February 2017.

Since receiving the feasibility study in September, the Muncy School Board has worked through a process of reviewing the feasibility study. Overall, the feasibility study provided the Board with a selection list of approximately 71 different items and 8 different conceptual layouts. The purpose of the feasibility study review was for the Board to identify which selected items should be addressed in a potential building project and which selected items should be addressed in the district's short-term and long-term master facilities plans.

At the committee meeting on November 14<sup>th</sup>, the Muncy School Board identified a general scope of project recommendation for potential high school renovations and new construction. The table on the next page provides information related to the items selected in the Board's scope of project recommendation. The items selected are divided into columns indicating identified areas of need. The four areas of need identified were as follows: (a) Academic Space Improvements, (b) Athletic Space

Improvements, (c) School Climate Improvements and (d) Operational Efficiency Improvements.

Now that the Board has agreed on the scope for a potential building project, the Board must make a decision whether or not to proceed with the hiring of an architect to design plans for potential high school renovations and new construction. **Please note the Board intends to vote on whether or not to hire an architect at the board meeting to be held on Monday, December 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the high school auditorium.**

**Scope of Project Recommendation**  
**for Muncy Jr./Sr. High School**

<b>Academic Improvements</b>	<b>Athletic Improvements</b>	<b>School Climate Improvements</b>	<b>Operational Improvements</b>
New classroom space to address programming flexibility and instructional space issues	New weight room to address health and safety concerns related to the size of the current weight room	Add air conditioning throughout the entire high school to address instructional and safety issues associated with high temperatures during the beginning and end of the school year	Conversion of high school boiler system from steam to hot water if district realizes significant cost savings over time from the conversion
Redesign of Technology Education and Art Classrooms to support emphasis on S.T.E.A.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and	New wrestling room to address health and safety concerns related to the size and location of the	Enclose walkway between district office and technology education classroom to address safety and	Either renovate the existing maintenance and storage building or build a new maintenance and storage building

Mathematics) and the importance of developing 21 <sup>st</sup> century learning environments	current wrestling room	security issues associated with open access to the area	to address operational and storage issues with the school district's current storage capacities
Conversion of Library into a Media Center to support emphasis on S.T.E.A.M. and the importance of developing 21 <sup>st</sup> century learning environments	New competition gym with new locker rooms to address current operational issues with supporting all athletic and extracurricular activities	Replace exterior doorways to address accessibility, safety and security issues associated with current exterior doorways	
Redesign of Nurse's Office to enhance safety, security, and confidentiality of school health information	Redesign of current locker room areas to address deficiencies of current locker rooms	Upgrade interior doorways to address accessibility, safety and security issues associated with current interior doorways	
Districtwide Technology upgrades to support emphasis on S.T.E.A.M. and the importance of developing 21 <sup>st</sup> century learning environments	Maintain or replace outdoor basketball courts for school and community use		
Auditorium upgrades to support emphasis on S.T.E.A.M.			
Redesign of cafeteria to address size of cafeteria to assist with student scheduling			

At this time, the estimated price range for the scope of project identified in the table on the previous page is \$18 to \$22 million dollars. All soft costs are included in the total estimated price range. Please note the total estimated price range is extremely tentative and subject to change if the Board moves forward with hiring an architect due to a variety of factors. Although there is no guarantee that the total estimated price range will decrease if the Board moves forward with hiring an architect, previous building projects conducted by the Board decreased in price when moving from the conceptual recommendations to the finalized design plans. **Generally, the planning and design process takes 12-15 months to complete and costs an estimated 8-10% of the total project costs (e.g., \$2 million dollars for a \$20 million dollar project).**

**At the Board's reorganizational meeting on Monday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the high school library, representatives from Robert W. Baird & Co. Inc. will review potential financing scenarios with the Board.** In addition to reviewing different financing options, representatives from Robert W. Baird & Co. Inc. will also discuss the potential implications of borrowing on school taxes. General numbers related to potential increases in school taxes as a result of borrowing are included in the table below. Any tax increase is usually phased in over a period of two to three years from the date of borrowing. Although there is no guarantee that the

total estimated tax increase will actually be lower if the Board moves forward with hiring an architect, previous building projects conducted by the Board did not require the entire estimated tax increase when moving from the conceptual recommendations to the finalized design plans to the awarding of contractor bids.

**Projected Impacts of Borrowing**

Estimated Borrowing Amount	Estimated Total Millage Increase	Estimated Tax Increase on Average Assessed Homestead of \$113,872.00
\$10,000,000.00	.67	\$76.00
\$12,500,000.00	1.34	\$153.00
\$15,000,000.00	1.55	\$177.00
\$17,500,000.00	1.75	\$199.00
\$20,000,000.00	1.94	\$221.00

Public input related to this topic may be provided at scheduled committee meetings and board meetings, by reaching out to school board members, or by calling Dr. Craig Skaluba, Muncy School District Superintendent, at 570-546-3127 (ext. 2040) or e-mailing him at [cskaluba@muncysd.org](mailto:cskaluba@muncysd.org). The superintendent will share all received input with the entire school board in a non-anonymous manner unless otherwise indicated.

The school board meeting schedule for the rest of the 2016-2017 school year is as follows:

- December 5<sup>th</sup> – Special Topic Meeting (Reorganization) – 7:00 p.m. – High School Library
- December 19<sup>th</sup> – School Board Meeting - 7:00 p.m. – High School Auditorium
- January 9<sup>th</sup> – Committee of the Whole Meeting - – 7:00 p.m. – High School Library
- January 16<sup>th</sup> – School Board Meeting– 7:00 p.m. – High School Library
- February 13<sup>th</sup> – Committee of the Whole Meeting– 7:00 p.m. – High School Library
- February 20<sup>th</sup> – School Board Meeting– 7:00 p.m. – High School Library
- March 13<sup>th</sup> – Committee of the Whole Meeting– 7:00 p.m. – High School Library
- March 20<sup>th</sup> – School Board Meeting– 7:00 p.m. – High School Library
- April 17<sup>th</sup> – School Board Meeting– 7:00 p.m. – High School Library
- May 15<sup>th</sup> – School Board Meeting– 7:00 p.m. – High School Library
- June 19<sup>th</sup> – School Board Meeting – 7:00 p.m. – High School Library

In an effort to streamline school district information our school district has recently launched the MUNCY SCHOOL DISTRICT MOBILE APP. Download it to your mobile device through the Apple App Store or Google Play Store by searching for Muncy School District. The MUNCY SD MOBILE APP allows you to receive regular updates from the school district in the form of push notifications to your mobile device and includes general information about the school district, the calendar of events, staff directory, and links to different parts of the school district's website such as school board information. In addition to signing up for e-mail updates, downloading the MUNCY SD MOBILE APP would be another good way for you to keep updated on the Board's building and grounds discussions.

We look forward to receiving your input and appreciate your continuing support of Muncy School District.

Sincerely,



Scott McLean

Muncy School District Board President