School Levy Election Aug. 27th

Emmett School District is asking for approval of a 1.4 million dollar levy for the next 2 years for a total of 2.8 million dollars.

This levy will cover funding shortfalls due to the drastic decreases in State and Federal funding and will be used to build on our positive progress in student achievement by:

- Retaining teachers, instructional aides, coaches, and safety staff
- Maintaining manageable class sizes
- Preventing loss of educational programs, keyboarding, athletics, and activities
- Funding for textbooks, elementary workbooks, and school supplies
- Re-roofing of the 25 year old high school
- Maintenance funds to keep the schools functioning safely.

Emmett School District
400 S. Pine, Suite 1, Emmett, ID 83617
emmettschools.org
208-365-6301

How Levy Will be Utilized

After the levy failed in May, the Board reduced the proposed 2013—14 budget by 1,775,106 dollars. These cuts included 20.7 staff positions.

The $1,400,000 levy will restore 15.7 positions along with operating budgets, maintenance projects, and sports programs. Following are items to be restored:

- High School Spanish & math teachers
- 1st & 4th grade teachers
- Middle & High School library aides
- Kindergarten aides
- Special ed. & classroom teacher aides
- Alternative school counselor position
- School psychologist
- Assistant superintendent position
- Elementary keyboarding/tech aide
- Maintenance position
- Increase resource officer contract
- Middle School girls & boys B sports
- Freshman & sophomore football & volleyball (funded for fall of 2013)
- Elementary workbooks
- Textbook budgets
- MyOn Reader
- Restore salary and benefit reductions
- Cover High School domes
- Numerous maintenance projects (such as heating units at Middle School, worn out flooring, bathroom repairs, etc.)

Restored for One Year Only

To reduce the impact on students, 5 positions were restored with reserve and Payette River Regional Technical Academy funds. These included a 1st grade teacher, Math teacher, Psychologist, & two aides. If the new levy passes these will be funded in the 2014—2015 school year.

When is the election?
Tuesday, August 27, 2013 from 8am-8pm

What precinct do I vote in?
Voters must vote in the precinct in which they reside. Voter Information & Registration can be found at http://idahovotes.gov or contact the Gem County Clerk at 208.365.4561

01 Central ............. Catholic Hall
02 North Emmett .... American Legion Hall
03 Butteview ............ Presbyterian Church
04 South Emmett .... Lutheran Church
05 West Emmett ..... 4H Build./Co Fairgrounds
06 Emerson ............. 4H Build./Co Fairgrounds
07 Lincoln ............. Armory
08 Letha ............... Letha LDS Church
09 Hanna ................ Letha LDS Church
10 Brick ................ Nazarene Church
11 Bench ................ Nazarene Church
12 Sweet/Montour .. Syringa Hall
13 Ola ................... Community Hall
14 Absentee ............ Gem County Courthouse

Wayne Rush, Superintendent
wrush@isd221.net

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Emmett School District continually works to insure that tax payer dollars are used effectively and efficiently. With the failure of the May levy the Board approved a budget that is less than the district has spent in 11 years. In 2011 $848,000 in reductions were made by cutting teachers, administrators, staff, and consolidating buildings. In 2013 ongoing cuts of $241,501 have been made by reducing teachers and aides at Black Canyon, Carberry, Sweet, & Ola.

**Maintenance Projects**

The Board listened to the results of a survey of registered voters in June and eliminated the elevator at the Middle School from this levy. There was support for re-covering the domes. After 25 years it is essential that we replace the roof (dome coverings). Even though many would like a new High School we need these buildings for many years into the future. A new high school would cost about $50 million.

**Budget Reductions**

The proposed levy will replace the current levies that expired in June 2013. This levy is $298,000 per year more than the current Supplemental and Emergency levies. Property owners are currently paying $1.85/$1000 in taxable value. With the proposed levy the rate would be $2.34/$1000 or $49 more per year for $100,000 in taxable value.

As an example, a typical homeowner with a house assessed at $150,000 and a homeowner’s exemption of $75,000 currently pays $138.67. This will increase to $176.17 or an increase of $37.50 per year.

**What Will The Levy Cost Me?**

Emmett School District has continued to improve programs and course offerings to prepare students to be college and career ready. From 2005 to 2012 we have increased the percentage of students going to college by 11.6%. Emmett students have opportunities to earn college credit for courses taken while still in high school.

Through grant funds, ESD has also implemented several innovative programs including: Go On Challenge, Fuel up to Play 360, Khan Academy & Ipad Minis, High Tech Classrooms, and Kinder Ready.

**Worth Investing……..**

To cover the reductions in State funding, most school districts in Idaho have had to turn to supplemental levies and hiring less teachers than allocated by the State.

**Learn More**

Visit our Web site at www.emmettschools.org or call 365-6301, or e-mail Board members at:
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