

Just the Facts, please

FACT: Muncie Community School district has the second highest poverty rate in the State of Indiana and 75% of its students on free or reduced lunches. Yet MCS wants to further burden the poverty-stricken families with more taxes.

FACT: Muncie Community School district is 76th out of 92 counties in the state of Indiana in per capita income and 90th out of 92 counties in the State in median income. Yet MCS wants to further burden the local income-challenged families with more taxes.

FACT: Muncie Community School district is 12th in the State of Indiana with families on welfare and 8th in the State with families on food stamps. Yet MCS wants to further burden the local subsidized families with more taxes.

FACT: Muncie Community School district has had an unemployment rate historically above 8% and currently at 8.6%. Yet MCS wants to further burden the unemployed with more taxes.

FACT: Muncie Community School district has a current tax rate of \$5.122 and is the 17th highest of 1,972 taxing units in the State of Indiana. Adding the referendum tax on top of that rate will escalate us to 10th highest only behind the 2 most bankrupt and corrupt counties in the State.....Lake County and St. Joseph County.

FACT: The referendum tax of .3939 amounts to \$6.2 million per year, \$43.4 million over the term of the tax equating to a total of \$620.00 for every man woman and child in the Muncie Community School district.

FACT: About the impact on our local employers...

Muncie employer Midwest Metal: \$203,000 in additional taxes

Muncie employer Magna Powertrain: \$280,000 in additional taxes

Muncie employer Maxon Corporation: \$75,000 in additional taxes

Muncie employer Progress Rail: \$200,000 in additional taxes

Muncie employer Keihn Aircon: \$77,000 in additional taxes

Muncie employer Sallie Mae: \$60,000 in additional taxes

Muncie employer Muncie Power Products: \$112,000 in additional taxes

FACT: The Muncie Community Schools Corporation already has the fourth highest total cost per student in the state of Indiana at \$17,109.00.

FACT: Muncie Community Schools has an administrator for every 170 students. The national average is one administrator for every 761 students.

FACT: At 6,500 students, the Muncie Community Schools is at 35% its peak enrollment of 18,000 students. MCS has lost 500 students or 7% of its total enrollment in the past 5 years. Each student loss equates to about \$6,500 in tax revenue loss.

FACT: The Muncie Community Schools have held public meetings on consolidations and other cost-cutting measures that would save millions of dollars. However, the Muncie Community Schools refuse to execute upon consolidation or cost cutting efforts BEFORE they ask to the voters to approve over \$43 million in new taxes.

FACT: In spite of the Muncie Community Schools allegations that new legislation has affected their Transportation Fund, this legislation was enacted in July of last year and implemented on July 1, 2012 and yet in MCS' current 2013 budget they are providing for bus services.

FACT: In that current budget, the Transportation tax levy of 0.2429 amounts to \$3.8 million and is 40% more than necessary to pay for the current bus services. MCS has often used transportation funds for other administrative costs.

FACT: HEA 1072 DOES NOT change how circuit breaker credits and tax bills are calculated and it DOES NOT increase in total a taxing unit's circuit breaker revenue loss. There has been no legislation since the implementation of the tax caps that has negatively affected or reduced MCS' overall tax revenues. HEA 1072 simply shifts how circuit breaker credits (property tax cap credits) are applied for budget certifications to keep taxing units from raiding debt and pension funds.

FACT: Since the tax caps have been fully implemented in 2010, there has been no change in them. MCS' tax cap (circuit breaker credits) have been computed and imposed exactly the same way every year.

FACT: The Principal Agents of the Political Action Committee promoting this \$43.4 million tax are the Superintendent of the Muncie Community Schools, Tim Heller and the Chief Financial Officer of the Muncie Community Schools, Mark Burkhardt.

FACT: If the Muncie Community Schools cease busing of our children, it IS NOT because of loss of revenues. It is because they CHOOSE to kick your children to the curb in favor of continued fiscal malfeasance.

FACT: **MCS is executing a ruse on the voters of Muncie.**

Don't be duped! Don't be extorted!

Vote NO on the referendum!