

April 19, 2009 – Renewal Information

With our renewal on the ballot for May 5th, I would like to give you information about how this money is being used.

We have a diversified student population and offer a very comprehensive program of studies. The district goal is to meet the educational needs of all our students so that they will graduate with skills in order to become responsible, productive citizens in today's society.

26% of our student population have been identified as gifted in one or more core subject areas. We have gifted programs at the elementary and middle schools and there are now 17 AP classes and a new program – International Bacc.- to offer further challenge at the high school.

15% of our students have been identified as Special needs, ranging from mild to severe learning or physical disabilities. We also have students from 31 countries and 23 different languages represented. We furnish teachers to help these children learn English.

There are presently 443 juniors. and seniors enrolled in the Career Tech Program at the high school. There are also a few students from Oakwood and Centerville attending. Three of the programs: Allied Health, Engineering and Marketing consistently go to National Competition and return as winners . 70% of Career Tech graduates matriculate to Sinclair.

In the area of technology Progress Book has been fully implemented throughout the system this year. The popularity of this technology is growing with 52% of parents already checking grades throughout elementary and middle schools and 67% of high school students have accessed the web to check their status. 40% of the teachers now have Smart Boards and a new instructional tool – Student Response System or “Clickers” are being introduced. We've had 99,462 visitors to our school system web site ,including those from 73 different countries. We've also found that 93% of our student population have computers with internet access.

In the 9 yrs. since we implemented the Alternative School, 614 students have graduated – avg. a 90.1 % graduation rate.

The music Dept. continually offers programs for the community to enjoy – this week-end is their production of Guys and Dolls. The band consistently wins Grand Champion for their performances.

50% of the high school student body participates in extracurricular activities – over 1200 students.

And I could not finish without mentioning that Dr. Schoenlein was named High School Principal of the year. Dr. Mengerink was named Sup.of the Year in 2008 and our Treasurer, Steve Clark, was honored with two awards: Distinguished Service and the Virginia Ramsey Award.

We hope that you will remember to vote on Tuesday, May 5th.