

President's Report

Mark Curtis

May 3, 2017

Good evening and welcome families of Samuel Bissell Elementary and R.B. Chamberlin Middle School. I am Mark Curtis and it is my privilege to be your Board President.

First and foremost, I'd like to thank the Twinsburg Community for their support of this school district by the successful passage of issue 15. Your actions reflect the true commitment to ensuring the continuation of high quality educational programming throughout the district. We are extremely appreciative of this gesture and understand the tremendous sacrifice that you have made in voting yes. Your vote of confidence is an acknowledgement that we are moving in the right direction. We understand the gravity of your sacrifice and do not take it for granted. As we have communicated previously, we will continue to be fiscally cautious in all decisions with an understanding that in order for our students to be competitive in this global economy, we must stay current with the rapid evolution of today's educational landscape. These changes are occurring at both an instructional and technological standpoint. We will continue to implement research-based best practices while exploring ways to be innovative in our approach to providing the very best for our children.

I would also like to acknowledge the tremendous work of the Blue Ribbon Committee for their unwavering commitment and dedication to running a successful levy campaign. Specifically, under the leadership of Mr. Walt Hoffman (Reminderville), Mr. Jamey DeFabio (Twinsburg Township), Jennifer Wison (Twinsburg) and Brian Cook (Treasurer), we were provided guidance, structure, and strategic planning allowing us to educate our electorate on the circumstances leading up to this point as well as actions this board and administration has taken to improve our financial picture.

Thank you to the countless staff and volunteers who gave up evenings and weekends to make things happen. I'd also like to acknowledge the hard work of my board colleagues who stepped up and did whatever was necessary when

asked by myself or the committee. It is an honor to work with you. I would be remiss if I did not also acknowledge our superintendent and treasurer for their leadership in working with us in providing the necessary data and professional expertise to help inform our decisions throughout this process.

Moving forward, there remains much work to do as we navigate the legislative budget process that is currently unfolding in Columbus. Please be reminded that due to actions and decisions made in the general assembly and the Governor's office, we were forced to take action to offset \$9.8 million in reductions in state tax revenue. We continue to do all that we can in impacting change to improve overall funding of public schools in our state by working with our elected officials in both the house and senate.

Our Superintendent recently testified again before the house finance committee on behalf of our district and I am continuing work to move legislation forward to mitigate the negative impact of funds deducted and sent to charter schools. We urge you to continue contacting our representatives in Columbus and letting them know that the current formula for funding public education in Ohio is unacceptable and requires immediate attention.

That concludes my report so I will now turn the meeting over to our superintendent, Mrs. Powers.