



## **2018 Excess Levy Q&A** **GW Area Schools**

### **What is the Kanawha County Schools Excess Levy?**

The excess levy is a tax on personal and real property that is approved by the voters every five years. The current excess levy provides 19 percent of the school system's current operating budget.

### **How long has the levy been in effect?**

Citizens of Kanawha County have supported the excess levy since 1937.

### **What is the difference between a levy and a bond election?**

The excess levy pays for current operating expenses, while a bond election provides funding for new buildings. The excess levy is a pay as you go tax, while bonds constitute money that is borrowed and paid back over time.

### **Is the 2018 levy a new tax?**

No. The excess levy has been supported by Kanawha County citizens since 1937.

### **Is the 2018 levy a tax increase?**

Yes, this levy would increase a taxpayer's annual bill by \$8.39 for every \$10,000 of fair market value of their home and increase it by \$1.68 for every \$1,000 of fair market value of their vehicles. This increase is due to the excess levy being capped for decades.

### **How will funds from the excess levy be spent? (1st year figures provided)**

- \$39,584,000 will be spent for professional, service and substitute wages. The levy specifically funds custodians, counselors & art teachers in elementary schools that would not otherwise be funded.
- \$239,994 will be spent on safety & security improvements in schools across the district.
- \$18,577,687 will be spent on HVAC improvements at 15 schools with the greatest need.
- \$4,869,807 will be spent on roofing projects.
- \$1,648,512 will be spent on athletic turf installation at 7 of 8 high schools.

### **What will happen if the levy doesn't pass?**

Kanawha County Schools will lose almost one-fifth of its current operating budget — \$44.2 million.

### **Is the excess levy unique to Kanawha County?**

No. About 75% of the counties in West Virginia support their local school system through an excess levy.

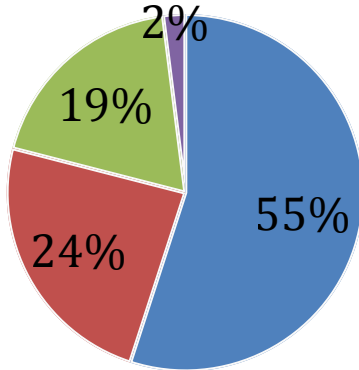
### **When will the excess levy be on the ballot?**

The excess levy will be on the ballot Tuesday, November 6, 2018.

**How does the excess levy fit in to the current (2018-2019) expense fund budget?**

- State Aid
- Regular Levy
- Excess Levy
- Local

**KCS General Budget**



**How do our current & proposed excess levy rates compare to other WV counties?**

**Kanawha CURRENT rate 14.92**

Boone County	22.95
Cabell County	22.95
Fayette County	22.95
Putnam County	22.95

**Kanawha PROPOSED rate 21.91**

Boone County	22.95
Cabell County	22.95
Fayette County	22.95
Putnam County	22.95

**Projects/staff included in excess levy:**

Safety & Security Improvements - intruder lock sets for classrooms, camera upgrades, panic alert system for teachers, door contact alarms

HVAC Improvement - George Washington High School, Alum Creek Elementary, Carver

Roofing Improvement - Ruthlawn Elementary, Carver

GWHS - installation of athletic turf

Custodians at: Alum Creek, Holz, Kenna, Overbrook, Ruthlawn and Weberwood

Counselors at: Overbrook, Ruthlawn, Holz, Weberwood and Kenna

**Some additional major past projects in your feeder area, not included in this levy:**

2016 - Carver Career Center - Vet Tech Addition/Renovation

2014 - Alum Creek window replacement at Annex

2014 - GWHS partial roof replacement

2013 - JAMS addition and renovations

2011 - All schools - building access system installation

**KANAWHA COUNTY SCHOOLS**

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