



## Glen Ellyn School District 41 2016 Community Survey Comments Funding Support

### Segmentation Map

Do you live in District 41? = Yes

### Comments/suggestions:

- I see a lot of waste in the district. I would not support any referendum until some other areas are under control.
- These charts are helpful. There are always going to be some people who want lower taxes at every turn, but our tax dollars support a strong educational system. Have a great, forward thinking (PBL, full day kindergarten, preschool programs, birth to 3 programs) will increase our property values, and make the slightly higher tax we pay worth it.
- I would like to see more concrete details about the plans. It seems that with more/larger facilities and classrooms, more staff would be needed which would affect the general budget. What are the considerations for supporting additional staff at the current schools / new school?
- Our tax bill increases each year. It would be nice to see a reduction.
- Do you see a theme here? I have sat through NUMEROUS meetings on space planning. Had to fight the ridiculous Board threats of year-round school, fought another stupid idea called the Hadley super school. All of these great ideas coming from the same place, the district office.
- My taxes are now over \$10,000/year on a 1700sq home and we are looking at moving out of state, as are several friends. FYI our kids are in HS.
- I WOULD LIKE A POLL TO DISCUSS THE BUS LIMITS FOR OUR CHILDREN FOR GRADE SCHOOL. THE CURRENT DISTANCE LIMIT IS TOO GREAT AND I WOULD LIKE IT TO BE LESSENED TO INCLUDE MORE HOUSEHOLDS.
- I propose an extra property surtax on any family that has more than 2 kids. Reproducing more than yourself is irresponsible in this overpopulated world where resources are increasingly scarce. When it comes to property taxes, homeowners should more fairly be

charged for what their household consumes.

-- LOWER OUR TAXES NO Referendums!

-- Yes do what you need to do. Our district elementary and junior high schools are absurd with the pods and overpacked kids. Many of the surrounding cities do not have this problem.

-- Believe the tax payers would welcome a nice reduction in their upcoming tax bill. Does the district have the leadership to recognize and embrace it? Is the administration aware of Illinois' debt and what happened to the city of Detroit when they defaulted on theirs? Their pensions were cut in half! It's going to be the same story in Illinois for our public servants which is a real shame. The longer the wait to take action, the greater the impact, so the board needs to take a step back and see what can be done to control the spending before spending more money that's not there.

-- The district needs to do a better job of budgeting for the future. Many of the issues raised are not items that a reasonable person would not have anticipated. Our taxes are already through the roof, so while we understand outlying circumstances, the folks managing the large revenue stream should be doing their job better and preparing for the future. It is shocking that a district as wealthy as ours does not have full day kindergarten. Where is all the money going?? Early childhood education is vital for long term success - it has been proven and yet in 2016 our affluent community is yet to read the science. It seems like a no-brainer - our kids will be competing with children that have had many more hours of instruction during the critical years of development. Money should have never been an issue for bringing in full day kindergarten in Glen Ellyn.

-- I feel the VALUE I would be receiving for my tax increase is well worth it. This would bring our schools up to code and allow the important FDK to be offered, while relieving the current overcrowding for core spaces.

-- Please provide support for special education. In particular, please address the needs of students with dyslexia with a research based program/instructional model. The loops one has to jump through to get a 504 or IEP for a student with demonstrated needs is unconscionable.

-- I would only support a referendum if it aligns with what I feel the district should do in terms of building additions or improvements. This questions is exceedingly misleading.

-- I feel that this survey is a bit biased in terms of how the numbers/data are being showcased. I would want access to raw data and make decisions from that view. These issues are more complicated that this survey can capture - in terms of financial impact on residents and future/planning ramifications. In theory I would support a small referendum (financially) to improve the learning conditions and access - not for bigger cafeterias.

-- There is no alternative information provided in order to make an educated decision. Therefore, I would vote for no referendum.

-- Thank you for all the time and attention you are giving to these issues. Please help us understand your philosophy around full day kindergarten. It's difficult to support something when we don't have an idea of what it would look like. If my child was to attend a full day program, I would want to be certain that teacher supported, developmentally appropriate play would be an important part of her school day.

-- I would support the amount needed to fund the identified projects, but not a slush fund for future use

-- Whatever you do, I will oppose any referendum that is sold by the District or its supporters as a "Vote Yes to keep Taxes the Same" or "Vote Yes to Lower Taxes" referendum. Do NOT insult us like that.

-- Assessments need to be pushed more towards Glendale Heights, Lombard, and unincorporated Glen Ellyn. All these communities brag about how cheap their tax bills are and their students cost more for our schools in bussing alone.

-- Tax rates are comparable to local communities, but GE assessments are especially high. The funds already collected ought to be sufficient and considering the information provided there is a lot we can do with 40MM.

-- Overall taxes are going up at a faster pace than the spending reductions, so they would consume any savings gained.

-- I think that our taxes are really high. We never saw a huge increase in population like Ann predicted 8 years ago. Not sure we need to spend everything to make it right because it will never be perfect. And our kids are happy.

-- Everything with the district is so rushed and never fully planned out and thought out. I'm not supporting a referendum because we have to hurry up because bonds are about to expire. I want to see the district have a meaningful conversation with the park district about sharing space. Let's not forget it wasn't that long ago that the school district sold these properties to the park district, something that many long time residents haven't forgotten. All this district ever wants to do is spend spend and spend more money.

-- My property taxes are already ridiculous. They've tripled in the last 15 years. I can't keep doing this.

-- If something could be done for 2017 school year for full day kindergarten I would most support that option.

-- If all project choices were beneficial to our district and seemed fiscally responsible, I would be in favor of a large referendum.

-- Would be good to understand if referendum could reduce administration costs to shift funds to school improvements

-- I would like more information on each proposed project but I think many of the needs can be met with a \$40m referendum. Looking at using innovative design materials to save money both up front and save on maintenance in the future is key.

-- This is a deceptive survey question. Why would you ask our opinion on a referendum to incur debt for more than the amount needed to fund the needs addressed in the survey. 20 Million when added to 42 Million available yields 62 Million - enough pay all "needs". Why then ask for 30-60 Million more? How about we pay for school improvements with our current taxes and NOT INCUR ANY DEBT? Why shouldn't this District operate within our means?

-- We are given a false choice. A realistic choice would provide information on the educational affect of budget reductions to provide the funds for various projects without

asking for additional funding. In all aspects of life choices have to be made and the hidden assumption here is that the District is operating at exactly the optimum.

-- D41 needs to better use the funds it already gets - not ask for more. I will not support any referendum until the district (which I believe means the State of Illinois) overhauls its compensation/pension/tenure systems with results-based ones. Virtually every other industry rewards its employees that way and those employees don't feel exploited or like they need to be protected by a bureaucratic system. If employees want higher compensation and job security, they adjust their performance accordingly. Most teachers do great work - I truly believe this. But no increase in funds should go to the schools until those teachers who do lackluster work yet progress beautifully because they simply check their own attendance box every day are eliminated and the State show us that it really cares about (1) the quality of our children' education and (2) being good financial stewards of our hard earned money.

-- My taxes will still go up by at least several hundred dollars a year because this is just one piece of my tax bill and school funding. Nearly debt free is a good place to be in a state drowning in debt and state funding likely to decrease, even with a state income tax hik..

-- Same as first option

-- we need to address hadley then should look at district boundaries. Instead of basing tax impact on median value on a specific town, take the median value of all property in the district and everyone pays the same amount. If people do not pay property taxes then they should be charged to use the district, similar to how the Glen Ellyn library charges for people to use if they are not living in an incorporated area.

-- This tax increase is minimal and I hope its widely supported. Our children deserve the best that our communities can offer. We have to modernize our schools and equip our children for the modern age. I really hope this gets passed for the full amount of 60million. Good luck!

-- Now is the opportunity to take advantage of low interest rates. We may not have another opportunity in the future to borrow with lesser impact to the taxpayer.

-- I would still be looking for D41 to lower taxes in other areas.

-- Why don't you have the \$9 million option to just replace the portables at Hadley? Too small an opportunity to lose this much in taxable referendum? Many of us in District 41 do not trust the current Board. Erica Nelson, [REDACTED] Joe Bochenski, Drew Ellis and Patrick Escalante have done anything and everything you have asked and messed up the additions at the elementary schools. Yes, they got built, but you used up so much green space, that building onto the schools is nearly impossible now. Why didn't you have a long-term plan that would have included Full Day Kindergarten at the local schools, if that is what you had wanted back then. Kurt Buchholz and Stephanie Clark have asked and are asking the questions that you guys should have asked when you built the additions. They wanted a second floor option on the schools in order to save green space. You and the Board did not listen to them Dr. Gordon. You should have. Now we are stuck. I doubt that you will get this referendum passed unless it is very small. The majority of the people who I speak to in town, and who vote, do not follow the school board too closey, but they would enjoy their taxes going down. I doubt a lot of them fill out this survey, but I bet they will vote "no." Don't try to pass anything too big. Remember also, that when it comes to advocating for the students in the District, most people trust Mrs. Clark and Mrs. Buchholz much more than they trust the other five board members, you Dr. Gordon, or your cabinet. You could earn our trust, but that would take a lot of work and you would have to actually listen to Kurt and

Stephanie's suggestions instead of fighting them at each and every turn. We also realize that you will be here for maybe 3 more years. We will be here for the rest of our lives, because we love Glen Ellyn. I can barely afford my taxes right now and I have young children in the District. Whatever you build, I will live with for the rest of my life, and you will live with for 2 or 3 more years. Let's take this slow and get more buy-in from the community first. The students will still learn without the fanciest facilities in the world. The students have great parents and some good teachers. Mrs. Buchholz is one of the best. She really changed my kid's life. Hire more teachers like her! It is a shame that you have to hide other teachers who are so bad that no parent wants them. These seem to be people that support your administration and every initiative you have started. These teachers need to find other things to do if they cannot teach students effectively. You love them though, because they support your initiatives like PBL. Why do you keep doing this. We need good teachers who are willing to teach the students well. We do not need the latest and greatest administration initiative, that saps good teachers' energy to implement. Please concentrate on hiring the best. You have not done so on a consistent basis lately. You seem to hire people who will not buck when the next newest administration initiative is proposed. All the Professional Development and Administration Initiative in the world will not make a teacher better. Good teachers spend most of their time caring for and teaching the students, not implementing the newest educational Think Tank initiative. Remember that when you try to implement something new. It really does not matter and is no substitute for good, dedicated teachers who know how to teach and connect with their students. You need to get rid of any teacher that was performing political actions illegally on the taxpayer's dime. I can't believe you have not done this already. It was illegal activity. A slap on the wrist or a letter in their personnel file is not good enough. I can't believe Erica Nelson did not think this was that bad. Dr. Gordon, you have moved from Colorado to Glen Ellyn and you really do not understand this community. Living in Wheaton does not help. You have no skin in the game by living there. Most of the teachers do not live here either because they cannot afford the property taxes. That is a shame. It would be nice to be able to afford all of the additions that you want, but I do not think that the community will support and increase in their taxes like this. We will see how the survey goes, but remember that this is coming from a parent that has young children in the District. My children would benefit from these additions and I am against them. I just can't afford them on my \$62k per year salary. A couple hundred bucks is a lot to me. I know it is different for you since you earn \$250k per year. Have fun spending that money on Wheaton property taxes. I wish part of your salary was coming back to Glen Ellyn so you could feel my pain.

-- Schools and quality education are at the forefront of why we moved to Glen Ellyn. We plan to put our children through the school system here and fully support all improvements necessary to make the educational system great.

-- THE CHART ABOVE IS MISLEADING. IT DOES NOT TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE AMOUNT THAT TAXES WOULD BE REDUCED IF THE EXISTING DEBT WERE TO BE RETIRED AND NO ADDITIONAL FUNDS WERE TO BE BORROWED (USING THE SAME FORMULA APPLIED HERE, NOT JUST THE "EXAMPLE BASED" CHART FOUND ON PAGE 3 OF THE MAILING. I FIND THIS MISREPRESENTATION UNFORTUNATE AND MAKES ME MORE APPREHENSIVE ABOUT SUPPORTING ANY PHYSICAL PLANT REFERENDA (DESPITE MY GENERAL PREDISPOSITION TO THE FUNDING OF IMPROVEMENTS DISCUSSED HEREIN). PLEASE PROVIDE TAXPAYERS WITH THAT "APPLES TO APPLES" INFORMATION IF YOU WANT TO BE COMPLETELY TRANSPARENT AND FORTHCOMING.

-- I will support any improvements to be done at Hadley School. Something desperately needs to be done with the buses. There needs to be a bus lane built.

- Property taxes are already too high - learn to manage money better
- Property taxes are very high in Glen Ellyn. Many seniors are moving out because of that. I believe a town with all age groups residing in it makes the town better. I think your estimates on property taxes are too low. I live in what I consider a modest older home and my taxes were almost \$13,000 this year. when I sell, I can probably get about \$450,000 & my house will most likely be a tear down.
- \$125 a year is a small cost to pay - that comes out to less than a cup of coffee per week. It would be criminal if you did not consider asking the question. Stop letting those that yell the loudest drive the discussion. When you get elected to the board you actually represents ALL taxpayers, not just those who voted for you.
- There needs to be more information shared - especially where you are looking at expanding facilities within District 41.
- A small price to pay for our kids and property value.
- The buildings are paid for--reduce may taxes now! Property values in the district have declined, in part due to high property taxes.
- I will fully support a Referendum for the changes necessary to Hadley. I need more info about some of the changes at the Elementary but again I have a problem with any due to the recent additions. I WILL NOT SUPPORT any referendum that is ASKING to include All Day Kindergarten.
- I am not as concerned about the cost as with the lack of justification behind the referendums.
- Liberal policies - spending other people money like it doesn't matter (it's only this much extra) has got to stop. If it's so little - get rid of some elective classes and teachers and consider begging D89 to combine and save millions by firing duplicate administrative positions.
- Hey Guys! Let's face it - these are all excellent upgrades - wow, replacing portable classrooms and updating building infrastructure, upgrading education support areas!! These sound like initiatives everyone can get on board with (except the full-day kindergarten) - Here are my two main concerns about these - are the public schools currently working with the private schools? Are there discussions that the two are dependent on each other? Are our local private schools "at capacity" - do they also have children in classroom trailers or can they accommodate more classrooms at their institutions? Maybe the local private schools are doing things more, better or different that can enhance our public school system.
- I'm happy to pay for improvements to our schools, but would like to understand the total amount needed for the recommended improvements to get our schools through the foreseeable future.
- WHY DID WE CLOSE SCHOOLS TO THEN NEED NEW ONES NOW???
- This question illustrates everything that's wrong with current D41 leadership. You are asking how much the public is willing to spend, and then you'll back into projects given that budget. Please just come forward with a plan for necessary expenditures, clear justification for the same, and ask for the funds. Look at the recent HS D87 referendum. Unfortunately

at this point D41 has been hemming and hawing over "need" for too long, then added FDK to the mix, and have lost credibility.

-- I would only approve funding for replacement of portables and major replacements of boilers, A/C, etc.

-- advertise the heck out of this. also - i assume this covers the capital costs. people will have questions on the operating costs. there is a lot of shock over recent tax bills

-- I think the ability to argue that you are using the existing debt structure and reducing a portion is a great position to be in.

-- District 41 is not fiscally responsible. It has refused for YEARS to look for ways to reduce the budget; it has refused to not ask for the most money possible on an annual basis. The last referendum garnered the district an excessive amount of money. The sheer fact that the district was able to put additions on all four elementary schools (two on Churchill) without going to referendum speaks to the excess at the district. I find it unconscionable that the district took so much money from constituents when it did not need it. I can't think of a scenario that would cause me to vote YES on any district 41 referendum with the current fact scenario.

-- I really think other towns (not Glen Ellyn/Wheaton) should pay more. Those students have a bigger burden on the overall budget. I am interested in spending money on education - better technology, programs, field trips etc than buildings etc. A state of the art- STEM program would be awesome.

-- Once I believe that there is a thoughtful and honest plan that takes into account actual needs of our schools and students, I would be willing to support a small referendum. This survey does not accomplish that. Money was just put into the elementary schools to eliminate portables. If space was an actual issue, there were ways in which for a small increase, we could have handled many of these issues in a fiscally responsible way. The Board chose not to do that. I would be supportive of eliminating the portables at Hadley. Beyond that, our cost structure is way to high already and a decrease is merited. The district needs to take a fresh look at the current tax income and find a better way to spend the money it has.

-- our tax bills are exorbitant, and are a priority for most to seek reductions else relocate (most likely out of the state of Illinois). I assume only 10% of the population are unaffected / able to absorb property tax increases (on top of all other sales & income tax increases). thus, we should consider only school improvements that still reduce tax burden, and of course NEVER spend more than we take in on revenue, leaving annual net gains for 'emergency only'. if the information above is indeed true, and our annual \$42M budget would accomplish the school upgrades, over what duration does this occur? 20 years? hopefully less. thus, how much of our budget is available for upgrades, annually? \$2M? I see no need in a referendum to spend more money than we already have. what is the property tax cut per \$1K paid in 2016 for homeowners with no referendum / increase passed? \$30 per \$1,000 per year, or (\$240) for the model bill? need clarification on the tax impacts based on annual spending. may be cheapest to borrow \$20M three different times over the next 6 years+ to accomplish the \$40M - \$60M improvements for the lowest cost (minimizing interest costs).

-- Don't over shoot and try to get the community to bite off more than they would be willing to pay for. Focus on the most important (Portables, full day kindergarten & security). Everything else would be nice but not as high priority.

-- I would take advantage of the loan payoff (which it appears you are inclined to do). I would also suggest that a threshold of 50MM be established. This is roughly 20% greater than the \$42 million investment. I would want to see the cost justification/payoff in order to support a 60MM investment.

-- My taxes are REDICULOUS! Instead of increasing the TOP LINE, how about looking at cutting spending elsewhere? Manage the community like a business. It is not sustainable to keep raising taxes. PEOPLE ARE LOOKING TO GET OUT OF GLEN ELLYN DUE TO OUR TAXES!!!

-- Good schools are critical to our children and community so I would support a level of funding that does not increase our already incredibly high taxes.

-- I feel the district could complete what its immediate needs with keeping our tax bills the same.

-- YES YES YES. I am willing to invest in our children (although it will be too late for mine, who went and are still going to class in those miserable portables) and our schools.

-- Property taxes have been increasing dramatically even as house values decline in Glen Ellyn. With recent multi-million dollar district 87 referendum that denied taxpayers relief as other bonds were paid off. Although not advertised as such that was effectively a tax increase. Now district 41 may propose yet another increase. Ultimately only the very wealthy or those living in small older homes will be able to afford to live in Glen Ellyn and benefit from these improvements.

-- Work on your educational fails - like special ed and high school readiness. Hadley students lack skills to succeed at Glenbard West. Total fail at junior high level to meet rigors expected at West

-- How much debt capacity will the district have after issuing \$60 million?

-- I'm relatively unsure on my decision, but I would support a plan where there's at least SOME tax savings. I would not support something where my taxes increase. Taxes and cost of living in Glen Ellyn are extremely high already and don't want to see any sort of increase.

-- Please consider making decisions that will serve the district and accommodate our population on a long-term basis.

-- \$50 is a lot of money. If you make bidding competitions and focus only on the most necessary and efficient improvements I would support this but really seems like the school district spends a ton of money on improvements of questionable need and too much money on sports and recreation for students when education should be the main focus

-- Use 40 to have improvements Done as much as possible. Reassess once projects are done and paid off. Operate within budget without more tax on us tax payers.

-- Full day Kindergarten is the most important to me!

-- would not support if full day kindergarten were included.

-- Go back and reconsider the 2001 never ending rising referendum and then we'll talk.



-- I would support a referendum that addresses the current infrastructure needs at Hadley and our four grade schools with a long-term plan in place for growth. What is the current need and population forecast to support to all that you are asking with the referendum? That would be helpful for the community to better understand.

-- The state budget crisis is sure to cut our funding and pension funding requirements are likely to increase. Therefore, the ed fund will need a tax increase soon. Please, please propose a modest referendum amount. People here feel overtaxed already.

-- For how many years have our taxes increased? Time to give the overburdened taxpayers a break and reduction. Government spending only increases as Government will constantly find a need/reason to spend more and more money.

-- What you are leaving out is what would be scared if debt was retired. The public is not uneducated, so you should praid transparency. Please.

-- From what I added up it would be possible to do quite a bit of the items on your repair/update list with that much money. It's really time this state learned to live within it's means; let's start at the community level and show them (Springfield) how it's done!

-- What you are leaving out is what would be save if debt was retired. Public is not uneducated, so ya should praid transparency. Please.

-- It is sad that the district wants to build more but not pay for human beings to help teach our children because you don't want to pay health insurance.

-- Our taxes are already too high-I think projects should be prioritized to stay within current tax rate (no raising taxes)

-- I think \$40 million would cover a new school, replacing the portables, and making infrastructure updates.

-- 20-30mm will be considered if definite plans od what would be provided were outlined.

-- The increase in taxes is killing us retirees and mailing us consider moving out of I E.

-- Many of the projects should be dependent in enrollment projections. Yet, none of that data is presented. Why? Makes me question the transparency of this project.

-- Appreciate this format of feedback and involvement.

-- Do not trust direction of district 41- poor planning !

-- How much more than \$60 million? I have found estimates are always low. I would want to know what future enrollment will be as well as prior estimates and actual numbers. G E seems to over build, sells off a school, then needs to expand in 6-10 years.

-- The district is not debt-free. How much overhang is there related to D41 teacher pensions?

-- We need a better long range plan

-- Taxes are just so high right now. Our schools are fantastic, but the taxes can be crippling. I'd prefer to see the priorities phased so that urgent infrastructure needs are addressed first

and more "luxury"-type needs (better music acoustics, for example) are phased in later. I know there is a risk that the luxury items will never be attended to, but my experience is that when a certain reasonable facility standard exists, it's the teachers that make more of a difference than the facility or equipment.

-- We need taxes to go down as much as possible. We currently pay too much taxes. Government needs to cut spending not spend more.

-- Although physical improvements are necessary I think the community wants to see academic educational advancements + improvements as well. Some forward thinking and future planning. These overcrowding issues should have been, addressed (explained for) years ago. The turnover at the supt. Re turnover at the supt. position has had an impact.

-- Schools are a community's primary resource. They need to be funded accordingly, and the funds must be used with discipline and foresight. Assuming that the spending was not wasteful I support paying more taxes to help improve our community as a whole.

-- There is no such thing! Taxes do not go down, never have, never will.

-- I'd like to know what the priorities are. So if funding is only \$20M what gets addressed and what doesn't?

-- You should include an option around 'not spending the money and reducing our tax burden'

-- I don't get a sense that I've been given the full economic picture or a greatest needs assessment. Everything suggested would be wonderful, of course. I don't know what Springfield's contribution is to this "pot," but if funds are redistributed to less affluent communities, what effect will that have on our bottom lines?

-- I would aim for a "0 tax impact" referendum to the breakeven point (btw 40 - 50 million)

-- Obviously, I don't want to pay more taxes. They are already too high, but I feel D41 is not keeping up with other surrounding schools by not having newer facilities, all day kindergarten, and I have heard that Hadley is in poor condition and lacks proper space for instruction. I think we can and should do better for the district.

-- I find it worrisome that our elected school board members and the district administration cannot manage the budget over time to pay for these proposed facility improvements. This is the same administration that only speaks in slogans and now appears to set a low goal on standardized tests for our kids. This same administration is not forthcoming with the community that the research shows no long term benefit for full day kindergarten. But let's not let this inconvenient truth muddy the district's desire to gain more control of our kids and our earned income. Oh and by the way what are the projected capital expenses (beyond those listed in this survey) and how are those being managed? Any thinking adult would hesitate to support a referendum based upon the current status of the district.

-- Give me my tax dollars back. I am tired of being nickled and dimed by the taxing bodies in our area, state and Federal gov't.

-- Full Day K should be TOP priority for our district. We can do this with \$40M and still have \$10 left to make other infrastructure needs. Some things like larger cafeteria or getting rid of mobiles can wait a few years.

-- Property taxes are significant in this area. It is likely that property owners living on fixed incomes and/or those who do not have school age children would not be in favor of a \$40 - \$60 million dollar referendum. As good stewards of education, school administrators must be sure that every square inch of their buildings is put to the best use possible before any plans are finalized.

-- I would be open to charging tuition to support all-day K if that is what is required. But I am also supportive if it is offered for free.

-- Open to tuition for all-day K if needed.

-- Funny this survey is being mailed to Wisconsin ! So no one in our district (i.e. local) could be hired to handle the survey ? Typical.

-- You cannot guarantee increase in taxes. That is an incorrect statement. We pay over \$1000 a month just to open a front door already our kids are overcrowded, where is the money going ?

-- My taxes just went up a ton. Even though I support education, I can't afford for my taxes to go up any more, so \$40 would be my max if I agreed with the projects.

-- I believe in good education I think funding should be different. The stated needs to increase their obligations or better meet their obligations.

-- I am sorry but I don't believe this. I have seen at times how this is a deception.

-- Our property taxes are approaching 1/4 of our take home income and we paid into the system for 12 years before our kids the system for 12 years before our kids started using the school system so we view tax increases with extreme caution.

-- I don't believe you. Then there is the Glenbard and Park District, and others wanting our dollars. Taxes are too high and need to be reduced when ever possible.

-- Love how you break it down for everyone. Thank you.

-- We owe it to our community to invest in our schools.

-- the district has mismanaged money for decades. They are still paying off a loan from the most recent addition. Only two BOE members Buchholz and Clark are good stewards of the money. The rest spend blindly until there is a new BOE seated in the spring of 2017. I will not be supporting a referendum.

-- The community should be provided with operating cost reduction plans in conjunction with any referendum options. I do not feel comfortable expressing support to affect taxes without visibility to cost saving initiatives.

-- I would support a referendum that provides full day kindergarten in home schools, increases security, replaces portable classroom at Hadley and fixes infrastructure needs. I am sure that is not 60 million, hopefully, it is more like 30 or 40 million.

-- I would go up to \$42M as long as property taxes do not go up. The time is right to ask for this, but it will not pass if taxes increase as a result.

-- Don't understand why, with all of the large homes paying more than 20K in taxes that

there is not enough money already to do what is needed. Most of the taxes go to elementary schools, so there is no reason to need more money.

-- I don't accept the "no increase over the taxes paid in 2016" promotion that you are offering. This is the same LIE from the Illinois Tollway where the tolls never cease, only increase. Your actions to date do not warrant further trust. Our district needs to develop a long range facilities plan - period. If you don't have the in house talent, then hire a professional consultant.

-- It would be refreshing to have the tax impact included if no referendum was passed. In other words, what is the tax decrease for property owners if no new bonds were issued?

-- My property taxes have gone up 25% in two years. The quad annual property tax assessment in Glen Ellyn was just completed. I do not support any increase in taxes.

-- The increase in property taxes for residents is very small compared to the benefit of improving our schools. Better schools is good for our children and also good for homeowners because home values will increase.

-- I would support a referendum that provides for the upgrades and expansions necessary to improve D41 schools and modernize the learning experience. I am supportive of a plan that is tax-neutral to our current tax rate (i.e., takes on additional referendum debt but maintains a minimum impact to the taxes property owners pay today).

-- We pay enough in taxes.

-- The priority should be to DECREASE taxes.

-- I would probably support a referendum that would keep the taxes the same, but our community will not support it. I have work on failed referendums in this community before and they were not this amount of funds, people want tax refunds your battle will be difficult.

-- Have you considered the option of cutting back on cost in other places? Our property taxes just went up by 30% and the vast majority is going to the School District. At the price we are paying in property taxes allocated to the school, we could send our child to a private elite boarding school.

-- This is playing with figures. Please retire the existing bonds and reduce existing real estate taxes. Have each bond just stand on its own.

-- I am all in favor of improving the schools as needed for the kids, but definitely need more information and specifics before specifically supporting any amount at this time. I just want to make sure that any money spent is done so wisely and not just have the newest and nicest facilities and equipment because other districts have them or because they are now available. There will always be something newer and possibly nicer to incorporate at the schools, but just like each household there is a budget to adhere to and just because something is available does not mean that it is needed. The teachers, aids, support staff, administration, parents and kids are the most fundamental and important pieces of education no matter the location or supplies available. Investing in the people is more important and can achieve much more than a renovated classroom or updated utilities.

-- Hadley needs the portables removed and many other infrastructure improvements, and our elementary schools need more classroom space, improved security and more support space. This should be addressed before we seek funding for full-day kindergarten plan.

- The only idea that I would support would be removing the portable classrooms at Hadley.
- The chart above is designed to lull the residents into thinking that it's no big deal to spend \$40 million. Show the no referendum savings above and you would get a more accurate response. But, that's not what you want.
- Lets celebrate the payoff and save for improvements
- The 'no increase in taxes' line is tired, old, and borders on dishonest. What are my taxes scheduled to be once the old bond expires? Any new debt and taxes is an increase over the current plan. Why can't you let me have my money back? Why are you sell determined to extract as much as possible from me? Why can't you just figure out how to do your best with the available resources? You can be sure that if you try to push a referendum, I will be out in full force informing people of the many reasons why the silent majority should stand up to you and the central plans of you community organizers. You will lose, just like the park district lost, and just like you lost in the presidential election. Then you can go cry in your safe space that you built for yourselves with my money.
- I would like the debt to retire and get a break on property taxes.
- I support this if we are to add on to existing elementary schools. I do not support building a new elementary school.
- You already spend too much. And I don't believe for 1 second that you can add all these facilities and keep operating costs at the level they are currently at, which is already too high. Costs and maintenance will go up, and it's not worth it. These leading questions are really getting annoying. How about phrasing the option to NOT build as an "opportunity to SAVE", huh?!
- Todo es muy Interesante e Importante, proyectos que Mejorarían lo Ya Existente!
- These funds should be used to improve Hadley and provide safety improvements at all schools.
- Property taxes are already too high. The district needs to seriously consider how they are going to accomplish these projects and future ones without raising property taxes. Property taxes are too high and need to decrease considerably. It's not just the children who come first. It should be the children AND the taxpayers as the top priority. Continually increasing property taxes hurt home values and will continue to drive people out of Illinois.
- I have been involved in the district continuously since 1976 - as a student teacher, parent of kids, and resident. I recall the decision to close 4 out of 8 schools due to population projections, with 2 building destroyed and 2 used by other governmental agencies, as well as a tax rate increase. In a few short years the need for additional space was apparent and the portables arrived in time for my own kids, and my grandkids just missed them. My point is that the board and administration have not done the best job planning for the future, other than to borrow money without a referendum. What makes me think that this time they know any more and could plan any better than they have in the last 40 years? Answer: nothing. The immediate future is too uncertain to pursue long-term borrowing, regardless of the current interest rates.
- We are well overdue for offering full-day kindergarten. Hoping a referendum can be passed and forward progress can be made.

- We recently moved here from La Grange in Cook County to escape incredibly high RE taxes. In the two years we have been here, our taxes increased by approximately 22%. I would love to see minimal borrowing with absolutely no increase in RE taxes.
- Attaining funding for 2/3 of the projects while giving residents a welcome (albeit small) tax reduction seems like a good win-win.
- My support here is only an estimate of improving Hadley and other infrastructure improvements and NOT for building another school. If the community supports FDK that is an entirely different need altogether and I likely will not support it.
- What are the figures for a \$10 million or no referendum? Educational benefits have to be balanced against huge cost to our community of high taxes. As a result of high taxes people are already moving out of the community after their children are through school, to the detriment of the community as a whole. High taxes also prevent others from moving in, limiting diversity.
- When adding my threshold I am at 15 million...
- I would not support a referendum that bundled multiple projects together. My property taxes went up 40% due to re-assessment in 2016. Some reduction through bond retirement would be most welcome.
- The District and the BOE need to prioritize spending; there is enough money to do what truly needs to be done if all programs are evaluated and prioritized.
- I would only support a referendum if I knew the district had done due diligence in prioritizing need. With the historic mismanagement of monies ( overpaid superintendent, top-heavy administration, PBL coaches, FLES, impulsive additions ) I have difficulty trusting the direction of this referendum. If there is a referendum next spring I would probably vote no. I might change my mind if Buchholz and Clark had more board support and /or Gordon was fired.
- I feel this is a minimum tax impact for a HUGE gain in the quality of facilities our students will be educated in. It is past time for the community to move forward with removing the portables at Hadley and making space for FDK
- This district has to start planning ahead and live within its means like the rest of the world. You tried for a Referendum before and the answer was a resounding NO. What has changed since then?
- I think a \$15 million dollar referendum would cover the critical things that need done in the district right at this time.
- Hadley can be done for less than \$20 million. That's all that needs addressed at this time. Make small improvements to the elementary schools if critical.
- Whatever the specific plans, strongly suggest bus and staff parking is removed from streets, as much as possible.
- If we add up all of these potential projects the cost seems more than \$60M - but we would still be willing to pay the additional taxes. If D41 wants to be a top-tier school system we need to invest in it. Not just to bring things up to code, but to compete in the educational

arena in general.

-- It is imperative that we offer full day kindergarten. Most communities offer full day kindergarten including D89. It has been shown that students' test scores rise when full day kindergarten is offered. Once, again it is an investment in our children & their futures and in our community. In many families, both parents work outside the home. For these families, full day kindergarten is nearly a prerequisite.

-- Overall this survey does not properly identify it's market. We live in GE and our kids will attend district 41 schools but they are still in preschool. This survey also does not fully explain the dependency on full day kindergarten and how that may impact other questions. This survey also does not provide additional material where you can research in detail the proposed changes. For example the increased security for the entrances of some grade schools, why it would cost 2-3 mil?

-- I dont trust this given the recent developements with the dist and the board

-- Let the tax go down, retire the debt. Thank you.

-- There may be a major cost.