

It is less than a month away from the start of the 2014-15 school year. The first day for students will be Monday, August 18. It seems like it was only last week that we were finishing up semester tests and sending the kids home for summer vacation. Several events have taken place since the last day of school on May 28. But the one thing that has consumed a lot of my time is the upcoming millage question. I've gotten lots of questions about this issue since the last newsletter.

A couple of the questions follow.

Question: "What will the 3.8 mills be used for?" Answer: On the MES campus, the 3.8 mills will be used to build 12 new classrooms and a safe room plus will be used for minimal renovations to the H building (new electrical, heat and air). On the MHS campus, they will be used to construct a new building that will house two new business labs, a Family and Consumer Science (used to be called Home Ec) classroom, an art classroom, and new bathrooms which will meet requirements of the American Disabilities Act (ADA). In addition, bathrooms in the gym and campus sidewalks will be renovated to meet ADA requirements.

Question: "How much will this cost me?" Answer: If your Appraised Value of Real Estate (AVRE) is \$35,000, your cost will be \$2.22 more per month or \$26.60 more per year. If your AVRE is \$50,000, your cost will be \$3.17 more per month or \$38 more per year. If your AVRE is \$75,000, your cost will be \$4.75 more per month or \$57 more per year. If your AVRE is \$125,000, your cost will be \$7.92 more per month or \$95 more per year. If your total taxes due on a primary resident are \$350 or less, you will pay no real estate taxes, due to the fact that each primary residence tax bill will receive a credit up to \$350 if the credit is applied for. If you do not own property, the 3.8 mills will cost you very little.

Changes in staff are plentiful for the 2014-15 school year. Those retiring were Andrew Vining, James Hendricks, Phyllis Hensley, Carol Busbee, Tammy McCallister, and Regina Hendrix. We would like to thank them for their many years of service to the District. They will certainly be missed.

In spite of retirements and staff members leaving for other jobs, we feel that we have done what needs to be done to keep

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With staff members retiring and leaving for other jobs, we had a lot of positions to fill. We were diligent in trying to fill those positions without it costing the district a lot of money. We have shifted staff around and didn't have to hire new people in many cases and have reduced staff in secretary, counselor, and librarian positions. We have also combined positions to help cut costs and save money. DOES JILL STEPHENS POSITION NEED TO BE MENTIONED? THAT WE FILLED IT IN-HOUSE? The number of coaches we have is always a topic of concern. (or topic of conversation?) We have 3 coaches on our football staff: Head Coach Lee Sadler, who was hired to replace Kenny Phillips who will now be a fulltime classroom teacher; Assistant Coach Deryk Hibbard, who replaces Brad Harris who left to take a job at another school; and Assistant Coach Dusty Clark who was on staff last year. We have had 3 coaches in football for many years now; these are not new positions. We have over 75 kids signed up for football in grades 7-12 for next year. Kelby Drennan remains the boys' basketball coach. Richard Nash has been moved from his present position to coach girls' basketball. Each coach will teach in the

classroom for 5 periods a day and will coach for 2 periods a day. IS THIS STATEMENT TRUE FOR NASH? We would like for everyone to understand that our athletic coaches help MHS meet the academic requirements of the 38 units we are required to teach, that they don't just coach, they also teach academic classes. If we didn't have these coaches, we would have to hire classroom teachers to replace them. NOT SURE ABOUT PUTTING THIS IN THERE. SOMEONE WILL POINT OUT WE COULD SAVE A SALARY BY NOT HAVING ANY COACHES, JUST CLASSROOM TEACHERS.

Because of these retirements, there has been a lot of shifting positions. Tommy Welch, in addition to being Director of Alternative Learning, will replace Mr. Hendricks as Director of North Central Career Center. Trena Ellison has been moved from NCCC and AE to take over the duties of Ms. Hensley as MHS secretary. Kenda Dearing has been named District Math Instructional Facilitator to replace Mrs. McCallister and will also teach Physics.

Other changes: Robin Morris, counselor at MHS for many years, has been named principal at MHS. James Ray and Lisa Cox will now share counseling duties at MHS. Donna Casto will move into the library at Marshall High. Becky Sullivan will administer federal programs and ?????? Kenny Phillips is moving from football coach to fulltime classroom teacher. Lee Sadler will be in the classroom for 5 periods a day and will coach football for 2 periods. Assistant Football Coach Brad Harris took a job at another school. Deryk Hibbard has been hired as his replacement and will teach health and physical education for 5 periods and be assistant coach for 2 periods. Richard Nash will be the girls basketball coach.