

SPECIAL  
POINTS OF  
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# Supt's On in Laurel

VOLUME 2 ISSUE 2

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## New Schools for ALL Children

The Laurel School District is embarking on an unprecedented endeavor to replace all five schools within the next six years.

The State of Delaware has determined it is more cost effective to build new schools than to renovate our current buildings for student use. They are backing this up with 74% funding of the entire cost of \$137 million. The local share will be \$35 million.

In order to make this happen for our children, we must first pass our referendum on February 10, 2010. Voting will take place at Laurel High School library from 10 am-8 pm. ALL residents of Laurel School District are encouraged to come out and vote in favor of new schools for all

children in Laurel. A successful referendum will allow us to move forward with the selection of an architectural firm in the spring and site work and archi-



### Vote yes for the children of Laurel School District!

tectural drawings will begin in the fall of 2010. Construction would begin in the fall of 2011 on the middle school/high school complex with completion of the high

school section in the fall of 2013. This complex would contain an 800 seat auditorium that would not only be used for student presentations, but it could become a cultural hub for the community.

The middle school section would be completed within the next year with occupancy projected for fall, 2014. Construction would then begin on the elementary school with completion in 2016.

The 1921 section of the current middle school will be renovated for central office staff, maintenance and transportation, and our technology department. There will also be rooms for community use and school board meetings.

## What exactly are we doing?

The District has permission from the state to move forward with the following construction projects:

- A new 700 pupil high school
- A new 700 pupil middle school
- A new 1200 pupil elementary school

• A new high school football field and track

• Renovated 1921 Middle School for Central Office

• Dunbar Elementary may be transferred to a local neighborhood organization

• North Laurel Elementary will

be demolished

• Laurel High School will be demolished

• Intermediate School and Field House will be demolished

• Current High School football field will be demolished



It's all about the students. They love technology and will be able to access it successfully in their new schools.

*It will take the entire community to rally around our students and support the new schools..*



Victory is just a vote away!.

# How will it all happen?

We will be holding a referendum at which time the voters of Laurel School District will have an opportunity to make a significant impact on the lives of the children in our District. All Laurel School District residents are eligible to vote on February 10th at Laurel High School library for our new schools. The hours will be from 10 am—8 pm.

In preparation for the referendum, two community meetings will be held for residents to find out the latest information on our proposed building program. The first community meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 12th at Dunbar

Elementary School from 6-7 pm. The second community meeting will occur at North Laurel Elementary School on Thursday, January 14th from 6-7 pm.

In order to promote the passage of the referendum, we are not allowed to use local or state funds to advertise. As a result, we will be holding a fund raising event at the Georgia House in downtown Laurel on Monday, January 11th from 5-8 pm. It's an all-you-can-eat event with musical entertainment for just \$20. per person. You can get tickets ahead of time at Central Office or simply show-up that evening.

There will also be various public presentations during the month of January, i.e. Laurel Town Council, Bethel Town Council, Lioness Club, Century Club, and other public forums.

Each principal has a notebook with additional information or members of the Referendum Committee can provide the latest information as well. Members of the committee include the following:

- Karen Hughes, Sue Darnell, Pam McCumbers, Jan McCoy, Linda Schenck, Dave Brown, Jennifer Givens, Judy Noll, Cristy Greaves, Susan Whaley, Dean Ivory, Jerry Mears.

## How will it all happen, cont'd

More members include:

- Brian Cass, Bill Champlain, Mark Collins, Clarence Giles, Amy Handy, Joan Hart, Dot Hickman, Nathan Hudson, Greg Johnson, Garrett Lydic, Pat Murphy, Bill Otwell, Cathy Parker, and Joyce Sessoms.

This committee has met twice in December and is scheduled to meet again January 7th from 4:30-5:30 pm at Central Office. We are also planning a celebration event on Thursday, February 11th...need I say more!



# Tax Implications and Investment

Estimated calculations show that a homeowner whose house is valued at \$100,000 and assessed at \$7100, will pay an additional \$14.70 in taxes the first year. It will increase each year until the 6th year when it tops off at \$197. It

then decreases each year for the remainder of the bond years.

New schools are an investment from which all residents will benefit. Schools are the lifeblood of a community. There is no stronger school

spirit and support for schools than what is found here in Laurel! Our buildings will be constructed in a colonial, Williamsburg style that represents the conservative, family-oriented community in which we live.