

THANK YOU!!!

I begin this article by saying “**Thank You**” to all of the voters who believed that the bond issue was a great deal for our school district and county, and voted “Yes” on May 2nd. On behalf of our Board of Education and members of P.A.S.S., it is very gratifying to see that nearly two years worth of effort to get the message out to the voters was greeted by success on the first attempt on the ballot! To have carried 21 out of 30 precincts and to have garnered 55% of the vote (unofficially) says volumes about the taxpayers of our school district.

Soon the design phase for each of three elementary buildings will get underway. Meetings will be held in each of the three attendance areas to gather input from folks in those areas. As I have stated before, all three will have the same amenities, but are not required to look the same. My, I am so excited, for our elementary students and staffs. I can't wait for the 2009-2010 school year to get here!

I must say that there were some interesting and humorous rumors that cropped up in the week prior to the election. I'll share one with you. A staff member contacted me over the weekend following a discussion she had had with some other folks. These folks were suggesting that the bond issue should be defeated because we should hold out for 100% state funding like Ripley did. The fact is that Ripley's building project **WAS NOT** 100% funded by the state. They, too, had a local match that had to be approved by their voters.

It seems to be a natural occurrence with any issue or project that misinformation or partial information abounds. This can be intentional or unintentional. Regardless, as a public entity, we strive to provide facts. As we leave the campaign phase of this project and enter the design phase, please keep in mind that if you hear a rumor that seems too wild to be true, it probably isn't true. Call me. If I don't know the answer, I will certainly check it out. The public has spoken. It's time for all of us to work together for the greater good of all.

I do hope that folks will take advantage of the upcoming community meetings to offer input into the building design process. These new elementary schools will be a great rallying point for each of our communities. Whether you have been for us or against us, you are still invited to participate in this activity. As soon as we know the meeting dates, we will get that word out to the public.

Again, many thanks to all who helped or supported us in any way with the bond issue. The P.A.S.S. folks have done a terrific job. A special thanks to Mike Pell, Joy Bauman, and John Lewis for their tireless efforts. I truly cannot begin to count the hours that these three individuals devoted to this cause. In addition, I extend thanks to Dan Beasley, Julie McClellan, Tony Staggs, Jerry Huntley and Kent Bauman, who served as area co-chairpersons and to Myrl Ralston for serving as treasurer. There were many grandparents, parents, community members, and students who also made valuable contributions to promoting the bond issue. Indeed, this is a great moment in history for

our students in the Adams County/Ohio Valley School District! We will soon be getting started on our \$72 million construction/renovation project. Thank you one and all.

Charles P. Kimble

Superintendent