Dear Monroe County Community Members:

Monroe County Community School Corporation (MCCSC) has a lot to be proud of. Our students are learning in incredible schools from our amazing and talented teachers and staff. Our community is supportive of public education having approved operating levies in both 2010 and 2016. But our most recent voter-approved operating levy expires this year.

Over the last 12 months, MCCSC has been analyzing its finances and assessing educational priorities. When the School Board recently adopted a strategic plan, it identified school corporation priorities for 2021-2025 including a goal to “expand funding based on needs and evaluate expenditures for sustainable enhancements.” Initial assessments indicate a number of educational priorities that are not funded or underfunded; this includes a desire to attract and retain a talented and diverse staff in part through competitive salaries and wages. In addition, if our current operating levy is not renewed, significant budget reductions unfortunately will be required to maintain a balanced budget.

In the spring of 2022, Dr. Hauswald interviewed more than 1,000 students, parents, students, staff, principals, and community members to seek input on MCCSC’s strengths and challenges and to gauge community support for our educational priorities. Later this spring, MCCSC staff, parents, and community members will be asked to participate in a community engagement process to further clarify priorities and determine what level of funding will be required to support them. The Board is likely to support seeking voter approval of another operating levy – the question is, how much revenue is required to fund our priorities, and what can our community support. The school board will use input from the community to propose a funding strategy by June 2022.

Please consider sharing your time and thoughts with Superintendent Hauswald and your School Board by attending a community meeting or by reading additional information on our website to better understand how you can support your school corporation.

If you have any questions, please see our referendum webpage at www.mccsc.edu or by emailing referendum@mccsc.edu.

Sincerely,

Brandon Shurr
President, Board of School Trustees