November 3, 2026
1% Earned Income Tax Levy with a 1.7 mill Property Tax Reduction

Sylvania Schools remains committed to providing a high-quality educational experience for every student while being responsible stewards of community resources. For many years, the district has worked to carefully manage costs, maximize efficiencies, and extend existing funding as long as possible, all while maintaining strong academic programs, extracurricular opportunities, and student supports. This levy represents an opportunity for the community to consider how best to sustain those opportunities in the years ahead.

What is an Operating Levy?
An operating levy provides funding for the ongoing expenses to support regular educational and operational activities.

Operating levy funds may be used for areas such as: Teachers and support staff, Classroom Materials, Technology, and Instructional Resources, Student Support Services, Transportation, Math and Reading Intervention Services, Nursing Services, Utilities and building operations, Safety and Security Needs, and Extra-curricular activities.

What is on the November 3, 2026 Ballot?
Sylvania Schools is asking the voters to consider a 1% Earned Income Tax with a 1.7 Mill Property Tax Reduction.

The 1.7 Mill Property Tax Reduction would decrease property taxes by $35 for every $100,000 of assessed home value. For example, a home valued at $300,00 would save about $105 per year with a 1.7 mill property tax reduction.

Who Pays the Earned Income Tax?
The 1% applies to earned income only (W-2 and self-employment profit) **not** to retirement income.

Earned Income from W-2 wages is found in Box 1 of your W-2. The tax is applied *after all pre-tax* deductions are subtracted such as Traditional 401(k)/403(b) contributions, health, dental, and vision insurance premiums, Flexible Spending Account (FSA), and Health Savings Account (HSA) contributions.

Applies Only To:
✅Wages, salaries, bonuses, commissions - all employment income
✅Self-employment income (Sole proprietorships, Independent Contractors (1099), Farm Income)

Does Not Apply to
🚫Social Security and Pension Income
🚫IRA, 401k, 403b, 457, and Roth Distributions
🚫Investment Income – Interest, Dividends, Capital Gains
🚫Estate, Trust, Inheritance, Gifts, Life Insurance, Disability, Workers' Comp, and Alimony Distributions
🚫All other Retirement Benefits and Distributions

Only residents of Sylvania Schools pay the tax. Non-residents working inside the district do NOT pay the tax.

How long has it been since school district taxpayers have approved additional operating money?
The last time Sylvania Schools taxpayers approved additional operating money was in 2016.

Why is Sylvania Schools requesting this levy now?
Sylvania Schools is requesting this levy to preserve the high-quality educational experience and opportunities that our students, families, and community have come to expect.

Over the past decade, the district has worked to responsibly manage resources while continuing to provide strong academic programming, extracurricular opportunities, and student supports. However, like many school districts across Ohio, Sylvania Schools is now facing a combination of rising costs and limited revenue growth.

What happens if the levy doesn't pass on November 3, 2026?

Failure to receive operating revenue in calendar year 2026 would require the district to reduce expenditures in order to balance the budget for 2027–2028 school year to maintain financial stability.

Projected reductions in order to balance the budget would include, but would not be limited to:

Teaching and Learning
1/2 Day Kindergarten
Eliminate Reading and Math Intervention in non-title buildings
Reduce/Eliminate Band (6-12)
Reduce/Eliminate Orchestra (6-12)
Reduce/Eliminate Choir (6-12)
Reduce/Eliminate Art (6-12)
Eliminate GATE
Reduce/Eliminate AP/Honors Classes
Maximize all class sizes K-12
Eliminate JH Exploratory, German, and AP Foreign Language
Eliminate Media Specialist at HS/JH
Eliminate Elementary/HS Resource Consultants
Eliminate JH Reading
Eliminate 6th Grade Double-block Math
Eliminate SVA
Eliminate Summer School
Reduce Career Tech Offerings
PROJECTED REDUCTIONS: $4,262,500

Student Support Services
Eliminate Bi-Lingual Assistants
Eliminate EL Family Liaison
Eliminate Social Workers
Reduce EL Teachers
Reduce Elementary Counselors
Reduce JH Counselors
Reduce HS Secretary
Reduce HS Dean of Students
Reduce Nursing Services
Eliminate Grandfathering K-8
Eliminate Intradistrict Open Enrollment
PROJECTED REDUCTIONS: $1,375,000

Special Education/PK
Eliminate Coordinators
Reduce Intervention Specialists to max caseloads
Reduce Related Services (OT, SLP, Psych) to max caseloads
Eliminate COTA's
Reduce Special Education Paraprofessionals
PROJECTED REDUCTIONS: $1,094,000

Business Operations
Reduction and Reorganization of Custodians
Eliminate Grounds Crew Members
Eliminate Maintenance Employee
Eliminate Delivery Driver Classification Employee
PROJECTED REDUCTIONS: $857,856

Transportation
State Minimums for Elementary/JH
Eliminate HS Busing
Reduction of Extracurricular and Field Trips
Reduce transportation office staff
PROJECTED REDUCTIONS: $745,000

Student Activities
Eliminate All Extracurriculars/Athletics/Supplementals
Eliminate Athletic Secretaries
Eliminate HR Supplemental Secretary
PROJECTED REDUCTIONS: $1,763,000

Administration
Eliminate Elementary Assistant Principals
Eliminate Assistant Transportation Director
Eliminate Assistant Special Education Director
Eliminate HS Athletic Directors
Eliminate Alumni Coordinator
Eliminate Communications Coordinator
PROJECTED REDUCTIONS: $1,219,000

July, 2026
Eliminated an Elementary Assistant Principal
Absorbed Career Tech Coordinator
Absorbed Director of Business Operations

REDUCTION: $380,000

TOTAL PROJECTED REDUCTIONS $11,316,356