

EAST CLINTON LOCAL SCHOOLS

Champions and Ambassadors

Eric Magee
Superintendent

John B. Stanley
Treasurer

March, 2019

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ADDRESSING SB 4

Chairman Dolan, Vice Chairman Burke, Ranking Member Sykes, and members of the Senate Finance Committee, my name is John Stanley, Treasurer for East Clinton Local School and joining me today to provide this testimony and to answer your questions is Eric Magee, Superintendent for East Clinton Local School. Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony on Senate Bill 4, which would appropriate an additional \$100 million for the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission.

The East Clinton Local School District is located in Clinton County. We comprise 129 square miles on the eastern side of Clinton County and are a rural community. East Clinton completed OFCC projects back in the mid 1990s to construct two new elementaries and new high school. In August of 2015 we started the conversation with OFCC to begin a planning phase to construct a new Middle School to replace the current one which a portion of the building that was built in 1905, as well as renovate the New Vienna Elementary, Sabina Elementary, and East Clinton High School to current standards and replace critical building systems that are at the end of their life as part of the CFAP program. When the planning phase began, we were part of the OFCC 90s look back period, which would have set our local share at approximately 24% of the cofounded portion of the project based on the local share during the project in the 90s.

As we continued on in the planning process with OFCC because of funding constraints we were pushed down the line until we finally heard in May 2018 that OFCC decided to offer a Special Notice of Conditional Approval that stated East Clinton would seek its local share and then the State would follow with funding instead of the traditional funding method by OFCC. Due to the length of time between when we started the planning phase in 2015 to May 2018 when we received the Special NOCA the time frame to qualify for the 90s look back program had ended, which meant we must now use current calculations, so our local share went from 24% to 47% of the cofounded portion of the project. East Clinton went to the voters in November 2018, based on costs in the OFCC Master Plan and the levy was approved. We are ready and eager to partner with the State of Ohio and the OFCC to deliver this Master Plan on time and on budget to serve our community over the next several decades. The ability to move forward with this project as soon as possible will allow us to take advantage of lower interest rates, avoid unnecessary inflationary costs, and eliminate expenses to aging facilities that have reached the end of their useful life.

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East Clinton's motto of Building Champions and Ambassadors for our community will benefit tremendously with this partnership with OFCC in providing world class facilities to educate the students of the future. On behalf of the East Clinton Local Schools and the other school districts that would be positively impacted, please consider passing Senate Bill 4 and provide the OFCC with the funding that would in turn, build Champions and Ambassadors not only for East Clinton but the whole State of Ohio.

Ladies and gentlemen, thank you again for the opportunity to share East Clinton's story. Our students, staff, and community appreciate your consideration in this matter. We would be happy to address any questions from the committee.

Thank you,

John Stanley and Eric Magee