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HAL GREGORY, Superintendent

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7/21/20

Dear OCS Community,

On behalf of the OCS Board of Education, District Treasurer, and myself, we are informing our community OCS will **not** be placing an operating levy on the upcoming November ballot. At this time, we have taken the necessary measures internally to reduce our budget through targeted permanent reductions over \$2,100,000 along with significant savings from the mandatory school closure during the last quarter of the 19/20 school year. In addition, the projected state reductions for this upcoming year are not as high as previous guidance suggested. We had assumed a state budget reduction over 10% and recent guidance suggests a reduction closer to 3.7% for a positive difference of \$1,200,000. These items along with the economic climate in our state, county and community, influenced this decision.

Our focus for the upcoming school year will be educating our students in the era of COVID-19. We will take all necessary steps to keep our students and staff safe along with providing as much typical education to our students as possible. It is very hard to predict what positive or negative financial impacts will occur during the upcoming school year. With this uncertainty, we feel a levy is not in the best interest of our district or community at this time.

Each year our district Treasurer, Jane Fruth, updates the district's "five-year forecast" which details our financial picture and predicts when we will need additional revenue. This forecast is completed each October and May. Upon the completion of the October 2020 forecast, we will re-evaluate our financial situation and determine if a levy is needed in the Spring of 2021. School funding continues to be a shared responsibility with state and local funding both sharing the balance.

We will continue to keep the community informed as our financial conditions change.

Stay Strong, Stay Healthy, Stay Safe!

Respectfully submitted,

Hal D. Gregory
Superintendent
Oregon City Schools - Go Eagles!