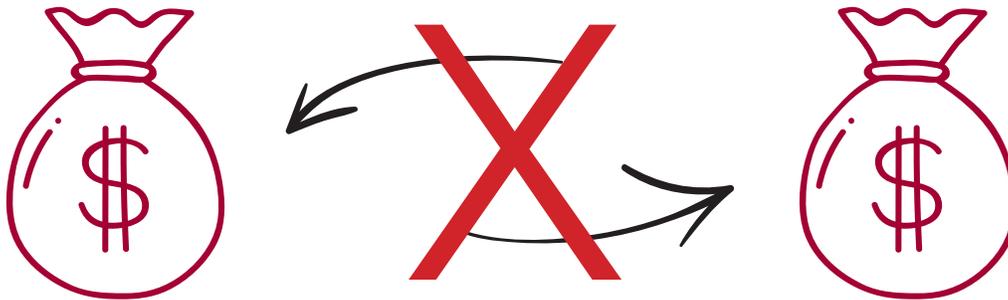


OPERATING FUNDS VS. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUNDS

State of Ohio law makes a distinction between operating funds and capital improvement funds, essentially creating two “buckets” of money for public school districts.

Funds in the capital improvement bucket **CANNOT**, by law, be used for any operating expenses.



OPERATING FUNDS

Operating funds are those that allow the district to run and operate.

These include day-to-day expenses, such as:

- Supplies
- Utilities
- Transportation
- Student programs and activities
- Staff salaries

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT

Examples of Capital Improvement dollars include:

- Bonds issued to build new or renovate district facilities
- Permanent Improvement projects, such as significant structural building repairs, technology, parking lots, vehicles and maintenance equipment

Capital Improvement funds cannot be used for operating costs.

On May 8, the Woodridge Local School District will have Issue 5, a five-year 8.19 mill emergency operating levy, on the ballot.

- The state of Ohio’s new biennial budget cut funding to Woodridge by 25.9%. These cuts, along with state funding to charter schools, forces us to rely more heavily on local tax dollars. The district must make up for the loss of this funding in order to maintain our vision of excellence.
- When Woodridge passed its last operating levy in 2012, we informed the community we’d be back on the ballot for new money in 5-7 years. The way school funding is structured in Ohio means districts have to generate new operating dollars every five years or so. This levy falls in line with that cycle.
- **Regardless of the bond issue passed in 2015, Woodridge would have been back on the ballot for operating dollars.**

If the May 8 operating levy does not pass, it will be devastating to the Woodridge Local Schools. **We will have to make \$5.6 million in cuts, which would include significant decreases in faculty and staff, as well as student offerings.**