



Prop I+N Fact Sheet

An operating tax levy + bond issue on the Nov. 8, 2016 election ballot

What are Props I+N? What happens if Props I+N pass?

Props I+N are proposals designed to provide long term financial stability for Affton School District by balancing the budget, avoiding further cuts in staff and programs, maintaining the ability to pay teachers a competitive salary, and enabling the district to continue its program of keeping buildings well maintained with up-to-date educational spaces.

Voter approval of Props I+N will enable Affton to maintain and protect the quality of programs and staffing in the district, eliminate deficit spending, allow for improvements at every one of the District's schools, and secure property values for district residents.

Why are Props I+N needed?

- Affton School District is 87 percent locally funded, meaning it relies on local assessed valuation and property taxes for the majority of its revenue.
- Affton has faced a relatively flat revenue since 2010. Three factors contribute to the need for more funding: declining property values, reductions in state funding and continued tax appeals by large commercial property owners. (In the last year, Affton has had to refund more than \$546,000 in taxes to commercial property owners.)
- Affton School District has aggressively reduced non-instructional operating costs to maximize dollars for the classroom. Since 2014, the District has cut \$2 million from its operating costs. This includes reducing administrative staff, eliminating instructional support positions, and reducing budgets for supplies and equipment.
- Further cuts will significantly impact existing programs and services for students and undermine the strides the district has made in the academic achievement of its students, which has earned the district and its schools state and national recognition.
- It's been 12 years since voters approved a tax levy, which was the last time the District has asked taxpayers for an increase. In 2004, with the increase provided by Proposition 1, it was projected that the District could remain fiscally sound through the 2008-2009 school year. Through careful planning and strategic data-driven decisions, Affton School District has been able to extend that projection for an additional 8 years.

What happens if Props I+N fail?

Without added revenues, Affton will face additional cost saving measures, which could include:

- Reducing additional positions, resulting in fewer teachers, support staff and administrators and higher class sizes;
- Cutting valuable student programs;
- Cutting math and reading assistance for students;
- Eliminating transportation less than three miles from school (the state minimum);
- Charging fees for students to participate in sports and after-school activities, which could increase parents' annual out-of-pocket expenses;
- Eliminating building improvements and reducing maintenance efforts; and
- Cutting an additional \$500,000 from the budget in 2017-2018 and another \$1 million in 2018-2019.

What will Props I+N cost me?

The following chart illustrates the impact the propositions would have on property tax bills:

Home Value	Annual Cost	Monthly Cost	Weekly Cost	Daily Cost
\$100,000	\$165.30	\$13.77	\$3.18	\$0.45
\$139,000	\$229.77	\$19.15	\$4.42	\$0.63
\$200,000	\$330.60	\$27.55	\$6.36	\$0.90

What is the ballot language?

Proposition I

For the purpose of attracting and retaining quality teachers and staff, protecting programs and class sizes, and eliminating deficit spending, shall the Board of Education of the Affton 101 School District, St. Louis County, Missouri be authorized to increase the operating tax levy ceiling of the District by \$0.38 per \$100 of assessed valuation? If this proposition is approved, the adjusted operating levy of the District per one hundred dollars of assessed valuation is estimated to be \$5.7480 for residential real property, \$5.9972 for commercial real property and \$5.8931 for personal property.

Proposition N

For the purpose of (a) acquiring, constructing, improving, renovating, repairing, furnishing and equipping school sites, buildings and related facilities for school purposes, including safety and security upgrades and classroom renovations and (b) refinancing leasehold obligations, shall the Affton 101 School District, St. Louis County, Missouri issue its general obligation bonds in the amount of \$25,000,000? If this proposition is approved, the adjusted debt service levy of the school district is estimated to increase \$0.49 per \$100 of assessed valuation of real and personal property from \$0.00 to \$0.49 per \$100 of assessed valuation of real and personal property.

Eight Things to Know Before November 8

1) Affton has excellent accreditation and student achievement

In the past 3 years, Affton School District is 1 of only 2 districts in St. Louis County to earn an accreditation score at the highest level from the state of Missouri and increased our score on an annual basis (94.3% in 2013, 95.7% in 2014, and 96.8% in 2015). Overall state test scores put Affton in the top 15% of districts statewide, far surpassing previous years when we were at or below the state average. In 2013 and 2016, the Missouri Governor visited Affton to congratulate staff and students on accreditation accomplishments.



2) College and career readiness is at an all-time high



The Class of 2016 had 87% of graduates attend a 2-year or 4-year college and in 2014 the district earned Advanced Placement Honor Roll distinction by the College Board. In addition, Affton High School is recognized as one of

U.S. News & World Report's America's Best High Schools. Affton started 1 of only 22 programs nationally that earned designation as a Center for Advanced Professional Studies (CAPS) which promotes professionalism and an entrepreneurial mindset. In 2016, the Missouri Education Commissioner and State School Board Members visited Affton's CAPS program.

3) Students have a variety of opportunities

From our special education programs to theater arts programs, athletics to Affton Community Volunteer Organization (ACVO), SAIL gifted education to music, writing to science, world language to industrial technology, family and consumer science to visual arts, robotics to ballroom dance, early childhood to STL CAPS, all students are inspired to grow as highly capable, curious and confident learners.



4) Our students are competitive inside and outside of the classroom



In 2016, the boys volleyball team won the state championship and the football team was recognized as the Top High School Football Program by the National Football Foundation.

Our students have also qualified and earned awards at the state and national levels in business, marketing, art, music, entrepreneurship, math and science.

5) Great staff care about and inspire students



Affton is becoming a destination district, not only for families who value excellence in education, but also for educators who appreciate the focus on customized learning in a strong, caring community. In fact, each of our schools and buildings are home to Affton alumni who teach, inspire and serve our students every day.

6) National leader in technology and innovation

Affton is 1 of only 48 districts across Missouri that has committed to being Future Ready for student success by offering personalized, research-based digital learning, and was 1 of 10 districts nationwide to launch the #GoOpen digital resource initiative. Our partnership with Dell ensures that our teachers learn from industry experts and that every Affton middle and high school student has a Chromebook to fuel their individualized learning.



7) National and state leader in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM)



In 2015-2016, Affton School District was 1 of only 9 districts across the state of Missouri to have a nationally-recognized STEM curriculum for students in grades K-12, and is the only district in the St.

Louis area to offer this curriculum to all students during the school day. At the high school level, there are nationally-certified college and career readiness programs in the areas of engineering, biomedical sciences and business.

8) Community confidence in the District

In a recent independent survey of the Affton community:

- 83% recognize the growth and improvement in Affton School District over the past 5 years.
- 88% believe we cannot sacrifice the quality of schools we have achieved.
- Over 90% believe we are a source of pride for the community.



AFFTON
SCHOOL DISTRICT