



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: DECEMBER 18, 2018
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New School Bond Proposal to be Put Before Voters in May Special Election
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After falling just shy of passage in November, the Charlotte Board of Education has carefully listened to community concerns and voted to put forth a new bond proposal in May that features more than \$2.1 million in reductions. The new proposal shaves some of the costs that were of most concern to community members, but still features the critical safety, instructional, and extracurricular components that are necessary to continue preparing our kids for a successful future.

Utilizing information obtained from a community survey and input from the public Bond Steering Committee, the school board voted unanimously to put a revamped proposal in front of the voters during the May election. Careful consideration was taken to reduce the overall proposal from \$29.85m to \$27.75m, reducing the mil increase to 0.80. If passed the amount of mills assessed for Charlotte schools would still remain lower than surrounding schools districts such as Olivet, Grand Ledge, Potterville and Bellevue.

With 8,400 votes cast in the November election, the previous proposal failed by only 49 votes. The 4,177 that voted in favor shows that there is a strong desire to improve the schools. Some of the concerns that have been addressed include reductions in new classroom furniture and Weymouth upgrades and an acknowledgement of the need to keep the interest cost low.

The School District will now work with its financial advisors and the state Department of Treasury to finalize the details of the application and prepare for the May election. Look for more updates soon as details are completed.