



Ferry Weekly Update

09/13/2019

Weekly Calendar

Monday	09/16	Fire Drill	10:30 AM
Tuesday	09/17	Student Lighthouse	11:30 AM
Tuesday	09/17	Constitution Assembly	1:30 PM
Wednesday	09/18	PTO Meeting	7:00 PM

15 Sun	16 Mon	17 Tue	18 Wed	19 Thu	20 Fri	21 Sat
	B	C	D	A	B	
	Fire Drill	Student Lighthouse Constitution Assembly				
			PTO Meeting			



Getting Involved at School

Volunteering is a great way to show your kids that you take an interest in their education. Parent volunteers offer a huge resource and support base for the school community while showing their kids the importance of participating in the larger community. Even if you haven't been involved in the past, start now!

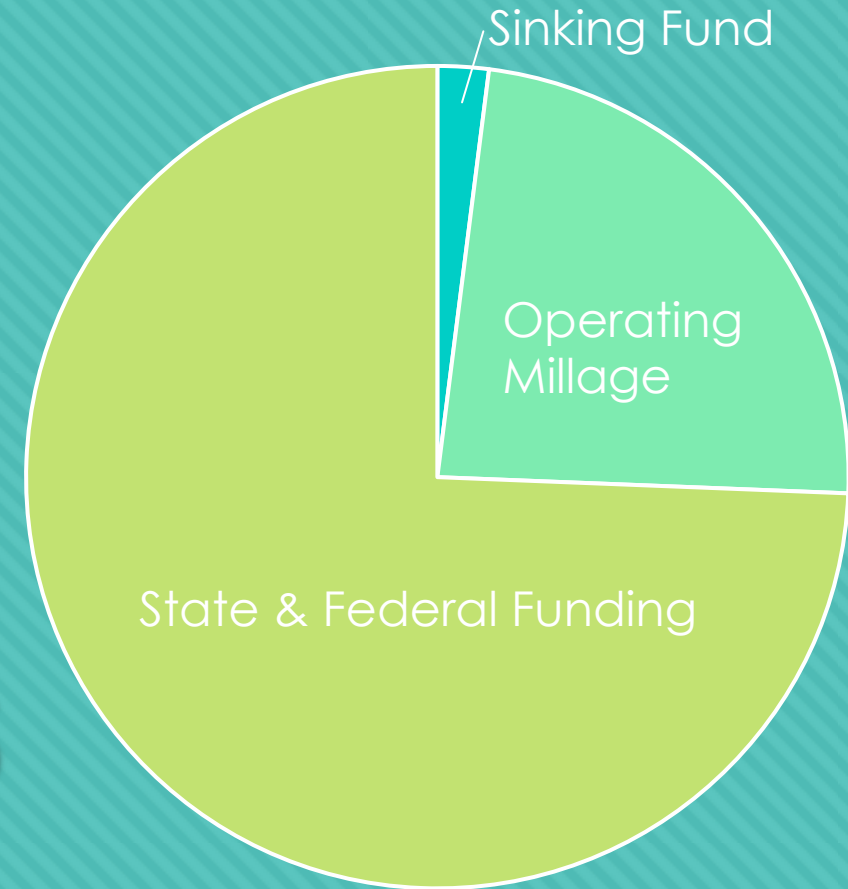
Four questions to consider:

1. What does the ideal volunteer experience look like to you?
2. What are your strengths and interests?
3. How many hours can you volunteer?
4. Is it better to actually be in the school or take things home to work on?

Consider some suggestions:

- Help in your child's classroom
- Have goal setting talks with child/teacher
- Mentor or tutor students,
- Use weekly data-sharing folders
- Help organize, cater, or work at fundraising activities
- Help to plan and chaperone field trips
- Organize or assist with a specific club or interest group
- Have regular personalized communication with teacher/school
- Sew costumes or build sets for theatrical and musical productions
- Volunteer to speak in the classroom or at a career day
- Supervise or judge experiments at a science fair
- Be at parent training events
- Invite school visits to your home

Facts about November 5 Ballot Proposals



November 5 - 25% of the GPPSS budget is on the ballot

Voters will decide whether to reauthorize 2 existing millages

- Tuesday, November 5th, our community will decide **whether to renew two existing millages**
- These two millages make up **25% of our district's budget** (approximately \$26 million)
- These ballot proposals **continue existing millages** for five years, although the ballot language **must say “increase” as the State sets the rate back to zero when they expire**
- **100%** of the funds raised by these millages remain within our district

Operating Millage Facts

- The first proposal (homestead and non-homestead) funds program costs, textbooks, technology tools, and other instructional materials for our students
- These proposals were originally approved by voters in 1995 (after Proposal A passed changing school funding)
 - 18 mills non-homestead - State of Michigan requires districts to levy this millage to insure full State Aid funding
 - 7.863 mills on principal residences (to stay at pre-Proposal A levels, the formula = \$1,893 per student)
- 100% of the funds stay within GPPSS

Sinking Fund Facts

- 1 mill sinking fund for high priority projects which keep our school buildings and grounds safe and in good condition for students and staff
- This is not a new tax – originally approved by voters in 2004
- Sinking fund revenue is for ongoing maintenance and repair and does not duplicate bond projects
- Represents a significant portion of the \$10 million GPPSS must spend annually to protect our buildings (about \$3 million annually)
- Sinking funds cannot be used for salaries/human resources expenses

When is the election?

- Tuesday, **November 5**
- There is no school for students (staff professional development)
- New laws permit absentee voting for all
- Visit www.gpschools.org for more information or call 313-432-3003
- Contact your city clerk
 - For information on how to register to vote
 - For an absentee ballot
 - For your polling location