

# ACT NOW! STOP 4K PLAN!

To Hold the Line on Your Property Taxes!

December 20<sup>th</sup> is the Decision Day!

There is No Public Vote!

Your Property Taxes Will Go Up if the Mequon-Thiensville School Board votes to create an Unnecessary Public 4K Preschool Program that they claim will:

- **Increase District's Local Property Tax and State Funding Revenue.**  
Adding 4-year old students raises the total District enrollment tied to funding limits.
- **Improve Transition to 5K Public School.**  
Individual private school 4K programs are said to not properly prepare 4K students for transition to 5K public schools.
- **Collaborate with 4K Private Schools.**  
Workable cost program must place publicly funded students in local 4K private schools.
- **Result in Future 4K Program Funding Surpluses.**  
After 3 deficit years, program projects a funding surplus in the 4th or 5th Year based upon estimates of future 4K enrollment, operating costs, local property values and State funding.

**VS**

**The Facts as We See Them:**

- **4K is Optional!**  
There is no State requirement to provide public 4K instruction – it's all about the money.
- **Private Sector Does the Job Now!**  
A public 4K program will be a taxpayer-financed duplication of a private sector service now being provided by more than 20 existing 4K schools in the area.
- **Not a Taxpayer Responsibility!**  
More than 90% of the 4K aged students in the M-T School District are now enrolled in existing private schools at parent's expense.
- **Loss of Local Control!**  
The proposed M-T School District program will place public school students in the private schools at taxpayer expense provided those schools meet State requirements and adopt a common State 4K "one size fits all" program.
- **Religious Conflict!**  
Church sponsored schools that accept publicly funded students will have to eliminate all religious instruction and displays in the classroom during the school day.
- **No 4K to 5K Transition Problems!**  
Existing 4K private school directors now meet with M-T School District 5K teachers to voluntarily coordinate the contents of their individual curriculums to prepare students for a smooth transition to the 5K public system.
- **Operating Deficit!**  
The proposed 4K program will increase District operating costs for at least the next 3 years even with an increase in State funding (?) and an increase in your property taxes!

(Over for “The Rest of the Story”)

### **M-T District Financial Situation:**

- **\$ 1,000,000 Underwater!**  
The M-T School District must reduce expenditures by over \$1,000,000 for the next fiscal year and for several years to come.
- **Current Programs Not Sustainable!**  
We are told expense reductions must come from higher fees, teacher concessions and/or curriculum cuts such as in music education and languages.
- **Additional 4K Funding No Help!**  
Additional tax revenues justified by creating a public 4K program will not help fix the current financial problem since the program costs more than the revenue it generates.

### **The Public 4K Program Will:**

- **Benefit only the few parents who no longer have to pay for their choice to enroll their child in an optional 4K program.**
- **Add to everyone’s property taxes year after year.**
- **Increase the M-T School District’s financial problems now and for years to come.**

### **The Mequon-Thiensville Property Owners Association Believes:**

- **The Mequon-Thiensville School District cannot tax and spend its way to a sustainable financial position!**
- **There are no compelling educational nor financial reasons that justify the establishment of a M-T School District 4K Program now or in the reasonably predictable future!**

**Call or Email Before the December 20<sup>th</sup> M-T School Board Meeting - Tell the Members to Vote No!**

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**Voice Your Opinion!**

**Remember, There is No Public Vote on This Issue!**

*Published by the Mequon-Thiensville Property Owners Association*