

The proposed school tax increase is coming to a vote this November 1st. We should vote yes for our children and their futures. It's the right decision to make in spite of living in tough financial times. The world is more competitive than ever as more undeveloped countries join the developed countries competing for market share. A quality education (along with opportunity and motivation) is the key for future success. The 6 million dollar budget cut our county schools face is huge. Let's put our kids and our communities in a position to excel. I grew up in a city of 90,000 people in central Illinois during the 1960's. As the population aged, school referendums tax increases were repeatedly voted down. Other economic factors have played out since the 70's, but I can tell you that as the schools suffered budget cuts, the population decreased as young people and young families relocated to other areas. Growing corporations chose other more desirable cities to add locations. Consequently, fewer taxes were collected causing more budget cuts for schools infrastructure and services. In 1970 there were 5 high schools in Decatur, Illinois – By 1990 these were three and the population had shrunk by 10%.

We need to take a long look at the future ramifications of reduced school revenues. We are all tightening our belts these days. Let's give our kids and communities the best chance of succeeding in the future. VOTE YES FOR SCHOOLS ON NOVEMBER 1st.

Steve Moore

Novus Windshields