

Le Roy Central School District Bus Purchase Public Vote

March 19, 2019

2 p.m. - 7 p.m. in the Wolcott Street School Media Center

PROPOSITION 1

Le Roy Central School residents are being asked to authorize the district to borrow money for the purchase of new school busses in an amount not to exceed \$370,000. This dollar amount would purchase three (3) full size 65 passenger school busses equipped with a two-way radio and a video surveillance system, one (1) 16-passenger mini bus with interior surveillance equipment and two-way radio package. These purchases will replace existing vehicles.

Le Roy Central School District has implemented a 10-year replacement cycle for all school busses. This replacement cycle is based on a history of mileage and usage. The District has found that maintenance costs, body repairs, rust damage and safety issues increase significantly once a bus reaches approximately 10 years of age, particularly as school busses must pass New York State D.O.T. inspections twice a year. Additionally, the strain of typical driving patterns create a faster wear on busses as an average school bus makes an approximately 100 stops and starts during a single day.

All public schools in New York State receive a reimbursement from New York State for such school bus purchases over a 5 year period. Le Roy Central School District's reimbursement ratio is currently 87%, thus the taxpayers would be responsible for the remaining 13%. The District's plan is to borrow these funds to align the debt repayment with the reimbursement period.

What Does This Mean for Taxpayers?

Cost of 4 Busses: \$370,000

NYS Reimbursement at 87%: (\$321,900)

Local Cost of 4 Busses: **\$48,100**

The total Le Roy taxpayer cost would be \$48,100 for this proposition, which when divided over a five year payback period is approximately \$9,620 per year from the General Fund Budget. When this amount is then divided into the assessment value total for the entire District, each taxpayer will pay approximately two and a quarter cents per thousand dollars assessed value each year. In other words, if your home is assessed for \$100,000 you would pay less than \$2.25 a year for this proposition. If we factor in the salvage value of the old busses, this amount is even less each year.