

**Questionnaire  
Suggested Uses for Remaining Funds**

Please complete the following questionnaire in response to the unused funds (see Superintendent's Report on Page 3) from the Ottawa-Glandorf High School Addition/Renovation Building Project. Please return to the Administrative Offices by March 1, 2005.

Ottawa-Glandorf Schools  
Administrative Offices  
630 Glendale Avenue  
Ottawa, OH 45875

**Remaining Money from High School Addition/Renovation Project** (please check only one box)

I support one of the following uses for the remaining funds from the construction and renovation of the high school due to the project completion under budget.

- The District should use the money to pay down the debt on the High School Addition/Renovation Project.
- The District should set the money aside in a special account to earn interest and be used when the elementary buildings are granted.

Other Suggestions: \_\_\_\_\_

**Interest Money from High School Addition/Renovation Project**

- I agree with the construction of an eleven-bay bus garage on O-G Road. I realize that the money used for this will be the interest earned during the construction and remodeling of the High School.
- I do not agree with the construction of an eleven-bay bus garage.

Name (Optional) \_\_\_\_\_



Ottawa-Glandorf Schools  
630 Glendale Avenue  
Ottawa, OH 45875

Non-Profit Organization  
**US POSTAGE PAID**  
Ottawa, OH 45875  
Permit No. 26

**CURRENT RESIDENT**



# TITAN TRADITION

Ottawa-Glandorf Local Schools

February, 2005

**CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT PLAN  
BEING DEVELOPED**

*Mary Jo Williams*

Director of Special Services

The Ottawa-Glandorf Schools began the process of developing a new Continuous Improvement Plan (CIP) in January. The CIP is a document developed by, and used to guide educators, students and their families, business people, and community members in the process of achieving and measuring substantial improvements in a school district's performance. A committee of 27 administrators, teachers, staff, parents and community members are participating in the process this year.

At meetings on January 11 and 18, the CIP Committee reviewed district financial information, workforce data, achievement data from Ohio Proficiency tests and the Ohio Graduation Test, attendance data and graduation rates. We have also compared our data to other districts in Ohio having similar demographics to help us determine relative strengths and weaknesses.

On February 1 the Committee received the results of a survey recently conducted with all students in grades 4, 7, 9 and 12. These surveys addressed issues of school climate and student perceptions, and asked students to respond to items related to such areas as school safety, curriculum, and student activities.

At future meetings the CIP Committee will determine goals for the district that will guide us for the next 3-5 years. Sub-committees will write action plans that identify specific tasks to be completed in order to accomplish the established goals. We plan to review the new CIP at our final meeting scheduled for March 15, 2005.

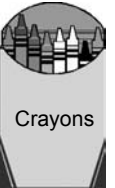
The West Central Regional School Improvement Team (RSIT), funded by the Ohio Department of Education, is helping to facilitate the process. Working with us are Kathy Brickner and John Olds, directors of the RSIT. The expertise and experience they bring to the table is a most valuable resource.

We also wish to thank all of our local participants involved in this important process. The Ottawa-Glandorf Schools definitely have the support and involvement of parents and community, which will help to insure that our district really does continue to improve in future years.

**TITAN T.I.K.E.S. PRESCHOOL  
REGISTRATION**

*LaDonna Hoffman*

Director



Titan T.I.K.E.S. Preschool (Totally Integrated Kids in an Educational Setting) has been in operation since 1990 and many of the teachers have been here since that time. We are now located in O-G High School at 630 Glendale Avenue. We offer morning (9:00-11:30) or afternoon sessions (12:30-3:00) for children who are 3-5 years of age. We currently have 85 children attending our preschool.

**OPEN REGISTRATION  
2005-2006**

**Wednesday, April 13, 2005  
7:00 - 8:00 p.m.**

Registration is limited to residents of Ottawa-Glandorf School District only. Please feel free to call the preschool office at 419-523-6464 for details. O-G Titan T.I.K.E.S. Preschool is funded by a grant through the Ohio Department of Education.

Tuition assistance is available. Please refer to the chart to see if you qualify. Applications for tuition assistance accepted after March 1, 2005.

**FAMILY INCOME GUIDELINES**

*(figures based on 2004 guidelines,  
may change slightly)*

Household Size	Annual	Monthly
1	17,224	1,435
2	23,107	1,926
3	28,990	2,416
4	34,873	2,906
5	40,756	3,396
6	46,639	3,887
7	52,522	4,377
8	58,405	4,867
For each additional member add	+ 3,180	

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# FINANCIAL REPORT

*Michelle Ellerbrock*

Treasurer

## Building Project

In May of 2002, Ottawa-Glandorf District residents approved a bond issue for the purpose of renovating and adding on to the existing high school. The project budget for the high school renovation and addition was \$13,685,000. As the project draws to a close, the actual amount spent on the project will be approximately \$11,700,000, nearly \$2,000,000 under budget. This money is currently being held in the District's building fund along with over \$600,000 in interest that has been earned on project funds since the project began. Funds remaining from the construction project may only be used as stated in the ballot language.

When the bond issue was approved for the high school, the state expected Ottawa-Glandorf to be eligible for funding in 2008-2009. This is no longer the case. The state has made some changes to their program which will result in Ottawa-Glandorf receiving state funds later than expected. The biggest reason for this is that the state implemented the Accelerated Urban Initiative which sent funds to Ohio's eight largest schools. Ottawa-Glandorf is currently #338 on the Ohio School Facilities Commission Eligibility Ranking List FY05. In 2002, Ottawa-Glandorf was #307. The further down the list a district is, the lower the state share. The good news is that by participating in the state program with the high school, Ottawa-Glandorf locked in its state share at 49% for the high school and the elementary buildings.

The state ranks school districts based on their 3-year adjusted property valuation per pupil. The ranking changes annually as property values and enrollment fluctuate. Ottawa-Glandorf's placement on the list is affected by changes in the district's valuation and enrollment relative to the changes occurring in the other 612 school districts. The state funded 18 projects in 2004. There are currently 141 districts eligible for funding ahead of Ottawa-Glandorf; however, all of these districts may not participate in the program.

If you have any questions or have a topic suggestion for the Titan Tradition, please call me at 419-523-5690. Thank you for your continued support of Ottawa-Glandorf Schools.

## Philip's Settlement

In November 2003, a settlement agreement was reached between the Village of Ottawa, Ottawa-Glandorf Schools, Ottawa Township Trustees, Putnam County Commissioners and LG Philips. Under the agreement, Ottawa-Glandorf Schools was to receive a total of \$1,562,839 over a four-year period. Our school district received its first payment of \$558,157 in December 2003 and expected to receive the remaining \$1,004,682 over the next three years. In December 2004, however, LG Philips notified the Village of Ottawa that they were going to take advantage of the early pay discount offered in the agreement. By paying the three remaining payments early, LG Philips received a 4.9% discount. In December 2004, Ottawa-Glandorf Schools received the final payment in the amount of \$910,475.

The Philips settlement had already been included in the District's five-year forecast over the next three years. Instead of receiving the \$1,562,839 over four years as expected; Ottawa-Glandorf Schools received \$1,468,632 over two years. The money received from LG Philips will be reflected in the District's cash balance at the end of the fiscal year. As a result, the cash balance at the end of 2005 will be higher than projected; however, the cash balance will decrease over the next three years as the District will not receive any further payments from LG Philips. In summary, Ottawa-Glandorf Schools received the money from LG Philips sooner than anticipated. The trade-off is that the District received \$94,207 less and now has the challenge of earning 4.9% in interest to make up this difference.

## OPEN ENROLLMENT

Ottawa-Glandorf Schools are now accepting applications from non-resident students wanting to enroll for the 2005-06 school year. Anyone interested should complete an application. Applications can be found at

<http://og.noacsc.org/OG/forms.html>

or are available in the Administrative Offices located in the High School. Completed applications should be mailed to:

Ottawa-Glandorf Schools  
Administrative Offices  
630 Glendale Avenue  
Ottawa, OH 45875

Applicants are considered on a first come, first serve basis and must meet the qualifications set by district policies and guidelines.

Please feel free to call the Administrative Offices at 419-523-5261 if you have any questions regarding open enrollment.

## 2004-05 MAKE-UP DAYS and 2005-06 CALENDAR

Due to inclement weather, Ottawa-Glandorf Schools will have several make-up days for the 2004-05 school year. Our first make-up day will be on Monday, February 21, 2005. A complete list of the make-up days, as well as the 2005-06 school calendar, can be found at

<http://og.noacsc.org/OG/cal.html>

## HIGH SCHOOL ADDITION AND RENOVATION COMPLETED \$2 MILLION UNDER BUDGET

On January 23, 2005 the Ottawa - Glandorf School and community celebrated the rededication of our "new" high school. The jackhammers are now silent, the dust has settled, and the construction workers are no longer in the building. What they left behind is a beautiful, modernized school, which will meet the needs of our staff and students for many years. We were very fortunate to have quality workers and understanding students and staff throughout this process. Without everyone working together it would not have been completed on time, and certainly would not have turned out so nice.

The Ottawa - Glandorf Schools not only completed this project on schedule but perhaps the best news for the residents of Ottawa-Glandorf is that we completed the addition and renovation approximately 2 million dollars under budget. The Ohio School Facilities Commission estimated this project to cost \$13,685,000. After a few remaining punch list items and unexecuted change order requests, we are projecting the total cost of the project to be around \$11,700,000.

There were several reasons why this project was completed under budget, however, the two most important factors were:

- 1) O-G Schools utilized their existing staff to monitor the project as opposed to hiring a construction manager, and
- 2) O-G Schools hit the bidding market at precisely the right time. Many contractors were looking for work and the price of steel and other construction materials were down.

Ottawa - Glandorf Schools are now confronted with the situation of determining what to do with the remaining dollars. Law prohibits us from using this money to pay for operating expenses such as salaries and benefits for employees, utility bills, educational supplies, etc. According to the ballot language used to pass this bond issue, we can only utilize the money in the following manner:

- Renovate, improve, or construct additions to existing school buildings, including a bus garage.
- Upgrade the technology equipment and wiring at the elementary buildings.
- Use the money to pay down the debt. (This would amount to a \$8.73 estimated semi-annual savings, on a \$100,000 house for 25 years.)
- Set aside this money in an account to earn interest and be invested to be used when our new elementary buildings are granted by the state.

As I stated in the rededication ceremony, this is the taxpayers' money and I feel that the Ottawa - Glandorf community should have a voice in determining the utilization. As the Superintendent, I feel compelled to make a recommendation but will consider all responses I receive. My recommendation is to set aside the money in a special account, (*viewable to the community at any request and disclosed in the annual report*) to be used for the construction of our new elementary buildings in both Glandorf and Ottawa. The district will earn interest, which should help offset the increased cost of construction due to inflation over the next eight to ten years. We will still need to pass a small bond issue for our elementary buildings and by keeping this money, we should be able to keep the millage required at a lower rate.

Along with setting aside the remaining project money, I am also proposing that we use the interest earned to date from this project to construct a new eleven-bay bus garage. Since the passage of the 2002 bond issue we have earned approximately \$600,000 in interest which would almost cover the cost of a new garage. When the new Glandorf Elementary building is built, it will require the demolition of the old bus garage next to the existing Glandorf building. This existing bus garage is in very bad shape and is becoming limited in its usage. New school transportation laws prohibit us from over loading school buses by 10% of the capacity. Therefore, we have been purchasing 84-passenger school buses. These buses are four feet longer and do not fit in the Glandorf bus garage. We need to protect our investment in school buses since most of these buses last over twenty years with proper care. Using the interest money earned over the last three years, I propose we build a new eleven-bay bus garage on O-G Rd. next to the existing garage. This would also permit all of our buses to be housed in one location.

I am interested in your thoughts and encourage you to complete the questionnaire in this issue of the Titan Tradition. Please have the survey completed and returned to the Superintendent's office by March 1, 2005. If you have any questions or comments that you would like to discuss with me personally, please stop by my office or give me a call and I would be more than willing to listen or answer any questions you might have. The telephone number is 419-523-5261 and my e-mail address is [og\\_supt@noacsc.org](mailto:og_supt@noacsc.org).

Thank you!  
*Kevin Brinkman*  
Superintendent

### SURVEY RESPONSE REQUESTED

Please take time to complete the questionnaire on the back page of this newsletter. Your input is very valuable to us.

*Thank you!*