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A CASE STUDY OF A BOND ISSUE PASSAGE IN A

RURAL COMMUNITY UNIT

(TITLE)

BY

RICHARD B. ADAMS

PLAN B PAPER

SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR  
THE DEGREE MASTER OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION  
AND PREPARED IN COURSE

EDUCATION 485

IN THE GRADUATE SCHOOL, EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY,  
CHARLESTON, ILLINOIS

1967

YEAR

I HEREBY RECOMMEND THIS PLAN B PAPER BE ACCEPTED AS  
FULFILLING THIS PART OF THE DEGREE, M.S. IN ED.

26 April 1967  
DATE

[REDACTED]

ADVISER

27 April 1967  
DATE

[REDACTED]

DEPARTMENT HEAD

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## INTRODUCTION

Problem: How does a small rural school district attempt to pass a proposition to purchase land, build a new school building, add an addition to the present building, and pay the cost by issuing bonds to the amount of \$1,170,000 bearing interest rates not to exceed 5% per annum?

Procedure: This paper will follow the proposition from the conception by the board to the successful or unsuccessful results of the vote. This will be done by interviewing individual board members and examining the school's documents and the local newspaper. The first section of the paper will be background of the district and the second section will be the method used in the attempt to pass the bond.

## I. BACKGROUND OF ASSUMPTION UNIT DISTRICT #9

Assumption, Illinois is located in south central Illinois on highway 51. The population of the 1960 census was 1,439, but is now estimated to be 1,500. The community population consists mostly of retired farmers and factory workers employed in Decatur.

The Assumption Community Unit District #9 was formed January 31, 1948, by an urban vote of 284 in favor and 22 opposed. The rural vote was 277 in favor and 52 opposed. The size of the district at its formation was 99  $\frac{5}{8}$  sections located in Christian and Shelby counties. With the exception of two land exchanges, in which even parcels were exchanged with neighboring districts, there has been no increase or decrease in size. Most of the land in the district is used as farm land and has a valuation of \$250 per acre.<sup>1</sup>

The valuation of the district has increased over the years, with the current valuation being \$20,213,294. This is an increase of \$5,483,193 over the valuation 10 years ago. This is also an increase of \$2,087,699 over five years ago and an increase of \$82,455 over

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<sup>1</sup>Vance A. Kauffold, Educational Directory of Christian County Illinois (Taylorville, Illinois: County Superintendent of Schools, 1966). p44.

last year. The increases of the valuation are due to the increased valuation placed on the land in the district.

The tax rate for the Assumption district in 1966 was \$1.5860 per \$100 assessed valuation. This was considerably lower than the districts of the surrounding area. Tax rates of the area schools are as follows:

TABLE 1

1966 TAX RATES\*

Kincaid (Dual)---\$2.9000	Hillsboro ----\$2.0390
Decatur ----- 2.6370	Maroa-Forsyth- 2.0170
Blue Mound ----- 2.2910	Stonington --- 1.8890
Nokomis ----- 2.2150	Findlay ----- 1.8620
Witt ----- 2.2080	Taylorville -- 1.8560
Mt. Auburn ----- 2.1950	Moweaqua ----- 1.8250
Pana ----- 2.1190	Edinburg ----- 1.8040
Bethany ----- 2.0680	Macon ----- 1.7810
Shelbyville ---- 2.0680	Assumption --- 1.5860

\*Monograph prepared by the Assumption Community Unit District #9 School Board.

This gives the general financial background of the district as they prepare to introduce the referendum.

The existing school buildings in the district with their construction date's are as follows:

TABLE 2

<u>Building</u>	<u>Construction Date</u>
High School	1913
Grade School	1917
Gymnasium addition	1926
Farm Shop and Bus Garage	1948
Band Building	1950
Junior High School	1950
New Grade School	1959

Presently grades three through six are attending classes in the building constructed in 1917, while grades one and two and the administration office are located in the building completed in 1959. The band building and the junior high school building are two reconverted country schools moved in to meet the needs of the district.

Student enrollment in the various grades has gained in the last ten years as can be seen in the following table:

TABLE 3

ENROLLMENT FIGURES FOR ASSUMPTION SCHOOLS

<u>Year</u>	<u>Grades 1-6</u>	<u>Grades 7-8</u>	<u>High School</u>
1957	287	83	179
1958	297	89	170
1959	275	98	176
1960	257	102	184
1961	256	100	173
1962	251	92	187
1963	236	89	223
1964	252	84	220
1965	236	98	214
1966	274	98	222

This gives a general background of the district and brings the reader up to the point where the board starts planning for the new school and the bond issue.



## II. DEVELOPMENT AND PASSAGE OF THE REFERENDUM

The need of construction had its start at a regular meeting of the school board in October of 1964. At this meeting the board president informed the members that an engineering firm had been contacted to start a survey of the school buildings in order to conform with Circular A #157 of the State Safety Code.

This circular outlines the safety features to which the schools must adhere. The authority for the code was given by Section 2-3.12 of The School Code. Section 2-3.12 of The School Code states as follows:

The document known as "Efficient and Adequate Standards for the Construction of Schools" shall apply only to new school buildings and additions to existing schools whose construction contracts are awarded after July 1, 1965. On or before July 1, 1967, each school board shall have its school district buildings which were constructed prior to January 1, 1955, surveyed by a registered architect or registered engineer as to minimum standards necessary to conserve the health and safety of the pupils enrolled in the school buildings of the district. The architect or engineer, using the document known as "Building Specifications for Health and Safety in Public Schools" as a guide, shall make a report of the findings of the survey to the school board, giving priority in such report to fire safety problems and recommendations thereon if any such problems exist. The school board of each such district so surveyed and receiving a report of needed recommendations to be made to improve standards of safety and health of the pupils enrolled, shall have until July 1, 1970, to effectuate such recommendations, giving first attention to the recommendations in

In a March 1965, meeting of the board, the engineering firm hired to inspect the district's buildings gave a report of its findings. After they reported on the discrepancies found as established by the State Safety Code, the firm estimated the cost to correct them. They further recommended the cost could be more than the buildings were worth.

As can be seen by the report of the engineering firm, there was a need for the building. Also since the Safety Code's standards must be met, the board was faced with the decision of repairing the old building or constructing a new building.

In a monograph distributed before the election, the needs were pointed out as:

The Assumption school facility, with the exception of the new grade addition, is inadequate to meet the needs of today's education. The classrooms are crowded. The science labs are outdated. The heating plant is failing. The electrical system is hazardous. The gym is lacking in seating capacity and adequate shower facilities. The girls shower and locker rooms are poorly situated. The administrative offices are improperly arranged. There is no space for faculty offices for consultation, counsel, or study. The entire educational plant requires a large amount of maintenance and repair each year.<sup>3</sup>

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the survey report having priority status, and shall be authorized to levy the tax provided for in Section 17-2.11 of the School Code according to the provisions of such Section, to make such improvements.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>2</sup>Illinois, The School Code (1965), sec.2-3.12.

<sup>3</sup>Monograph prepared by the Assumption Community Unit District #9 School Board, Assumption, Illinois.

Once the need was realized, the board started planning what could be done to alleviate the needs.

During the meeting at which the engineering firm reported, several building proposals were informally discussed. The board decided it was impractical to spend any large amount of money on the old building, but took no further action as two board members were not present.

The report received from the engineering firm was only an inspection, and did not fully conform with the Safety Code as to contents. At a special meeting held in April 1965, the superintendent was directed to contact the engineering firm to obtain the cost of surveying the buildings as required by the State Building Code. The superintendent reported during the regular meeting of the board in April, that the cost of the survey by the firm would not be more than \$2940. After discussion by the board, it was decided that no further surveys would be undertaken until final action was taken by the State as to the legality of the requirements as set forth by the Safety Code.<sup>4</sup>

During the next four months, the board conferred with several architects and discussed plans for a new building. The county superintendent of schools met with the board and recommended that they start a building program on a different site.

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<sup>4</sup>Minutes of the Regular Meeting, April 14, 1965, Assumption Community Unit District #9 School Board, Assumption, Illinois.

At the August 1965, meeting of the board, a motion was made to start a building program, with all of the members voting in favor. The president appointed various members to check on possible building sites around the community.

Little took place during the months from August 1965, to December 1965, but from December to March 1966, the board was very active. During this time, the board met with various architects concerning the building program and visited various schools throughout the state to see examples of their construction. At a meeting in March 1966, a motion was made to ask for a contract from the firm of Simon, Rettberg, and Garrison from Champaign and Carbondale. Also a motion was made to retain a local law firm to represent the school, with their fee to be determined after the cost estimate of the school building.<sup>5</sup>

Finally on March 14, 1966, a contract was signed with the architect and plans were started to select a site and to set an election date for the referendum.

Once the decision to build was made, and the contract signed, the board was faced with the problem of where to build. As has already been stated, the county superintendent had recommended to the board that they build on a site other than the one in use. Since

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<sup>5</sup>Minutes of the Special Meeting, March 2, 1966, Assumption Community Unit District #9 School Board, Assumption, Illinois.

the board president had already appointed members to look into possible sites, the only problem was which ones were available and at what cost.

The city of Assumption is bounded on three sides by farm land and on the fourth side by highway 51, with farm land beyond. Any of the land would be suitable for the building as it is all fairly level and has about the same drainage. The site for a building north of the community is owned by a family who had recently had some land taken by the city for the purpose of building a sewage disposal plant. Upon being contacted by the board, they were not favorable to selling land to the school district.

The east side of the community is highway 51. While there were two favorable sites there, they were tentatively ruled out because of the hazard of having the students cross the highway. Also part of one of the sites was being occupied by a local tavern. The board felt if they were to acquire this site, the cost of the tavern would make the land worth more than the other sites could be purchased.

The site to the south and west of the community is owned by a farmer who had expressed interest in selling the land to the school. However, when the board sent a letter to him in September 1966, inquiring into the cost of the land, he stated in a letter to the board he was no longer interested in selling the land.

The fourth site that was available to the board was located south of the community. This site was already partly owned by the board and currently was used as the agriculture plot and football field. Since this area was already partly owned by the district, it was given priority over the other sites. The only disadvantages to this site was the presence of two large slack heaps left from mining operations and two small ponds left from a tile and brick factory. Also the site was not large enough without acquiring additional land.

After the contract was signed in March of 1966, the board discussed the available sites at several meetings. The board gave consideration to all the sites, but favored the one at the southwest and the one partly owned by the district. As was previously stated, the site in the southwest had been withdrawn by the farmer who owned the land. Upon receiving his letter of withdrawal, the board directed their lawyers to check the title and boundaries of the Baxmeyer land which adjoined that of the district. The board was trying to acquire a suitable site without having to go through the process of condemnation. They also felt in the landscaping of the new building, the slack heaps could be used to fill the ponds, thus they would help the appearance of the community.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>6</sup>Interview with Paul Jones, Board Member, March 13, 1967.

At a meeting in December, 1966, the board voted upon the land partly owned by the district as the site they would propose as the building site. All of the members voted in favor of this site. A motion was made at this meeting to contact the owners of the Baxmeyer land and to negotiate to purchase, exchange, or condemn the land needed to complete the site.

The board, met with the architect, the owners of the Baxmeyer land, and the school attorneys at a special meeting on January 7, 1967. During this meeting, it was proposed to exchange some of the district's land for a portion of the Baxmeyer land and to purchase the rest from the owners. Since all of the board members were not present, no action was taken on the proposal. A letter was sent to the owners of the Baxmeyer land on January 11, 1967, after a special meeting of the board. In the letter, the board advised the owners of the following resolution which had been unanimously adopted:

RESOLVED, that Assumption Community Unit School District #9 of Christian and Shelby Counties, Illinois, acquire, by purchase or condemnation, a portion of the Baxmeyer land, legally described as follows:

The North 17 Acres of even width of the following described tract: Beginning at the Southwest corner of the Northwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 2, Township 12, North, Range 1 East of the 3rd. P.M., Christian County, Illinois, thence due east 902.6 feet, thence due south 923.3 feet, to the place of beginning;

for the purpose of building a new school building

At this same meeting, the school attorneys were directed to draw up a resolution for a bond of \$1,170,000, not to exceed 5% per annum and to assemble tax information on the district.

A letter was received from the owner of the Baxmeyer land and read to the board at a special meeting on January 24, 1967. The owner would accept the trade as mentioned at the meeting of January 7, 1967, and a price of \$1500 per acre for the land the district needed to purchase to complete the site. The trade consisted of the board trading 11 acres of their land for 9 acres with the opportunity to buy 8 more which was needed to fill out the site. With the approval of his letter by the board, they accepted an option to buy the land and to present the site along with the amount of the bond in a referendum to be brought before the public.<sup>8</sup>

Another problem the board encountered was that of

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thereon; and that said School District offer the owners thereof the sum of \$1250.00 per acre therefor; and that unless said offer is accepted by the owners of said tract on or before the 26th day of January, 1967, that Fribley and LaCharite, Attorneys for said District, promptly proceed to institute and prosecute an eminent domain proceeding, where by to condemn and secure title to said real estate described above.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>7</sup>Letter from Fribley and LaCharite, Attorney for Assumption Community Unit School District #9 of Christian and Shelby Counties, Illinois, January 12, 1967.

<sup>8</sup>Minutes of the Special Meeting, January 24, 1967, Assumption Community Unit District #9 School Board, Assumption, Illinois.



money. Sections 17-5 and 17-5.1 of the School Code limits the amount a board may accumulate in building funds to 5% of the equalized assessed valuation without a referendum approved by a majority of the voters. This would limit the amount the board could borrow to \$1,010,664 based on the current valuation. The district owes \$50,000 from a previous bond. This is to be paid off in 1968, with a payment of \$25,000 this year and final payment of \$25,000 in 1968. After deducting this amount, the borrowing power of the district is reduced to \$960,664. To cover the difference of \$209,336 between the proposed bond and bonding power, the board is making arrangements to borrow the amount from the Illinois School Building Commission. This amount is to be paid back at 6% of the principal yearly. As has been pointed out, this can only be done with the voters approval of the referendum.

The board was still faced with the problem of when to present the referendum to the voters. The original plans of the board were to offer it to the voters in the early fall. Due to the difficulties of deciding upon a suitable site and an approaching junior college vote, the board decided to wait until a later date. Once the negotiations had been undertaken to acquire the land, the board set an election date of February 18, 1967. This date was selected to precede the junior college election of April 1, 1967, due to its failure in the early fall. The date would

also give time for the notice of the election to be printed in the local papers at least 10 days before the election as required by Section 9-11 of the School Code.<sup>9</sup>

Since it is necessary for the voters to approve the referendum, the board decided to make every effort to inform the voters of the needs of the district, their plans, and to answer any questions. The methods they used were designed to reach the greatest number of the voters.

As has already previously been pointed out, voter approval is vitally important. The board decided to organize a citizens committee to help inform the general public at a meeting in August of 1966. This group of citizens was to be invited to a general meeting where the board's actions and plans would be explained. After informing this group, they would explain the boards plans to the general public. Through this method, the board planned to reach a large number of the voters in the district.

The thirty families selected for the committee, represented both the urban and rural factions of the community and included some who were not in favor of the referendum. At a meeting in early October of 1966, the board and architect met with this group to answer

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<sup>9</sup>Interview with C.J. Myer, School Superintendent, February 23, 1967.

any questions they may have. After this initial meeting, no further action was taken by this group as a unit, but were very helpful as couples and individuals.

Another attempt by the board to inform the voters was through their personal appearances before various organizations of the community. During the months between early October 1966, and February 1967, the school board members spoke before twelve various groups. Most of these group meetings were during the last two months before the election.

The groups before which the members spoke ranged from church groups to an open meeting for the community held by the Chamber of Commerce. They included such groups as the evening adult agriculture and home making classes, social organizations such as the Garden and Music Clubs, and service clubs such as the Parents and Teachers Association and Rotary.<sup>10</sup>

At each of the meetings, the group was provided with circulars explaining the need for a new building and the cost of financing. Also the board member present had floor plans of the proposed building which were explained to the group.

Usually the meeting consisted of the board member presenting his material and than opening the meeting for a question and answer period. As can be expected, in

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<sup>10</sup>Interview with Robert Corzine, School Board Secretary, February 28, 1967.

a small community, several of the people heard the talk several time, but as the question and answer period was never the same, the person could still profit from the meetings.

The board depended upon the informal questions at the coffee shops, feed mill, and gas stations to reach those people who were not members of the groups in the community. To answer these questions, the board relied a great deal upon the citizens group to take part in these informal discussions.

Besides the two circulars used at the group meetings, the board used other types of printed material other than the local newspaper to reach the public.

One of these was a monograph which was mailed to the voters of the district a week prior to the election date. This monograph contained information concerning the election and the proposition to be voted on, on the first page. The second and third pages were devoted to the problem, the proposal, the cost, and asked the voter to consider carefully all of the questions involved. The back was a reminder as where to vote, and a picture of the proposed building. This was all folded and mailed as a letter without an envelope.

Also used to reach a large number of the community was a flyer which was rolled up and included in the evening paper the day before the election. The information reminded the people that the school was an

important part of the community and that they should vote yes in the election the next day.

The local newspaper was also used to inform the people. The information that was printed in the paper was the same as the monograph sent through the mail. Besides this, there was an open letter signed by all the board members answering some of the questions most frequently asked during their meetings. The editor of the paper also wrote an editorial in which he stressed the importance of an education and the importance of keeping the school in our community. These articles were all printed in the paper of Thursday, February 16, 1967, so the full impact was brought to the voters just before the election.

Not all of the printed material was favorable to the referendum. In the same issue of February 16, 1967, a letter was printed from a local farmer concerning the higher increases of his taxes. He also pointed out the proposed junior college in the area would raise taxes still more above the present level. Criticism was also directed by the letter to the choice of sites. Due to the location away from the main highway, he felt the school building would be hidden.<sup>11</sup>

Other opposition to the referendum was verbal and centered around the increase in taxes and the choice of

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<sup>11</sup>The Prairie State Tribune, February 16, 1967, p.5.

sites. Through the use of the methods previously described, the board by election day felt they had done the best they could in informing the public and answering their questions.

All of the legal formalities and publishing of notices of election had been conformed with as required by state law. The judges had been appointed and informed of their duties, so that on February 18, 1967, the district was ready to vote on the below proposition:

Shall the Board of Education of Community Unit School District Number 9, Christian and Shelby Counties, Illinois, purchase additional land adjacent to the present school property on which the athletic field is located and build and equip a new school building thereon and also build and equip an addition to the present school building commonly known as the "West Grade School Building", and to pay the cost thereof issue bonds of said School District to the amount of \$1,170,000, said bonds to bear interest at the rate of not to exceed 5% per annum?<sup>12</sup>

During the hours the polls were open, 902 voters cast their ballot. Of this number, 539 ballots were in favor, 347 ballots were opposed, and 16 ballots were spoiled. Since this was well over the majority, the referendum passed.

In assessing the success of the election, the consensus of opinion was the referendum passed for the following reasons:

1. The public felt there was a need for a new school if they were to continue to provide an adequate education for their children.

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<sup>12</sup>Ballot offered voters in Assumption, Illinois during the special election of February 18, 1967.

2. The public had pride in their community and realized that by providing adequate educational facilities, they might attract new residents to the community.

3. The campaign that was carried out by the school board was complete and showed a sense of good timing.

It was these reasons and the complete effort of all the interested parents and community members that the passing of a bond issue in Assumption Community Unit School District #9 was a success.

APPENDIX



# **TO THE RESIDENTS OF THE ASSUMPTION SCHOOL DISTRICT**

## **SCHOOL ELECTION**

**COMING:** A special election to vote on the proposal to build a new Junior-Senior High School, and to complete the addition to the grade school.

The following is given to explain this proposal. Your approval is needed. Please read this brochure carefully.

## **ELECTION INFORMATION**

**TIME:** 12 noon to 7 P.M., Saturday, February 18, 1967

**PLACE:** Masonic Hall, 207 N. Chestnut, Assumption, Illinois

## **PROPOSITION TO BE VOTED ON**

"Shall the Board of Education of Community Unit School District Number 9, Christian and Shelby Counties, Illinois, purchase additional land adjacent to the present school property on which the athletic field is located and build and equip a new school building thereon, and also build and equip an addition to the present school building commonly known as the "West Grade School Building," and to pay the cost thereof issue bonds of said School District to the amount of \$1,170,000, said bonds to bear interest at the rate of not to exceed 5% per annum?"

**THIS IS YOUR SCHOOL**

**Be Sure to Read the Following Pages and VOTE!**

Monograph mailed to the district voters

## THE PROBLEM

The Assumption school facility, with the exception of the new grade school addition, is inadequate to meet the needs of today's education. The classrooms are crowded. The science labs are outdated. The heating plant is failing. The electrical wiring system is hazardous. The gymnasium is lacking in seating capacity and adequate shower facilities. The girls shower and locker rooms are poorly situated. The administrative offices are improperly arranged. There is no space for faculty offices for consultation, counsel, or study. The entire educational plant requires a large amount of maintenance and repair each year.

We could probably struggle along for a few more years with these facilities and still give our young people a good education. But pressure is being brought upon us. Our school plant does not meet the requirements of the "Life Safety Code" of the State of Illinois. We have been given until June of 1967 to prove that we are making progress in updating our school, and until 1970 to have this job actually completed. This means one of three things. **We must renovate our old building, build a new one, or lose our school altogether. We do not want to lose our school.** This means, then, that we must either build or renovate.

The architect has made a complete study of the two alternatives. His findings show that it would take about \$850,000 to bring the present Jr.-Sr. High School buildings up to standards. But this would still leave the school on a crowded campus situation with no room to expand should it ever be necessary. It would still be separated from the athletic field. And it would still be an old building with simply a facelift.

The cost of a new school building on a new, roomy campus would run a little over \$1,000,000. This would provide new, modern buildings with room to expand should the future call for it. It would insure a plant which would meet state requirements. It would be a big asset and a boost to the morale of our entire school and community.

## WHAT IS PROPOSED

The proposition is to build a new Junior-Senior High School on the Baxmeyer property to the southeast of the presently owned school land where the athletic field is located. This would include:

1. Larger, up-to-date classrooms
2. Modern science labs
3. Adequate administrative offices
4. Individual faculty offices next to their classrooms
5. A gymnasium with seating for 1500; boys and girls shower rooms
6. Band room with practice areas and instrument storage
7. Kitchen and cafeteria
8. Shop and industrial arts areas
9. Material resource center — this is the heart of the scholastic center with books, tapes, records, periodicals, fine arts, reference collections, study carrels (some with electronic equipment)
10. Language labs
11. Health center for emergency first aid needs
12. Space for up to 450 students (easily expandable if necessary)

In addition to this, and to complete the modernization of our entire system, included in the proposal is the completion of the grade school. This job was started in 1959, and the promise was then made that it would some day be finished. The old grade building definitely needs to be replaced. It is past time to get this job done.

## WHAT IS THE COST

The complete cost, including construction, equipment, and purchase of land, as estimated by the Architect, is \$1,170,000.00, to be paid for by the sale of School Building Bonds.

Based on the present assessed valuation of the School District over the 20 year life of the Bond Issues at an interest rate of 4%, the average annual cost to the taxpayer is 42.8 cents per \$100 assessed valuation.

To illustrate the tax cost of the project:

Taxpayers Assessed Valuation	Taxes To Pay For Bonds
\$1,000	\$ 4.28
3,000	12.84
5,000	21.40

It is estimated that the average residence in Assumption has an equalized assessed valuation of \$5,000.00. This means that the average taxpayer will pay only \$1.78 per month for the new Junior-Senior High School and addition to the Grade School Building.

The tax rate for our District (Assumption) in 1966 was \$1.5860 per \$100 assessed valuation. The average annual cost for the \$1,170,000.00 Bonds over the life of the Bond Issue will be 42.8 cents per \$100 assessed valuation. Adding the bond tax to the 1966 rate, the rate would be \$2.014. Following is a comparison chart with other Districts:

### 1966 Tax Rates:

Kincaid (Dual)__\$2.9000	Pana ----- 2.1190	Findlay ----- 1.862
Decatur ----- 2.637	Bethany ----- 2.068	Taylorville ----- 1.8560
Blue Mound ----- 2.291	Shelbyville ----- 2.068	Moweaqua ----- 1.825
Nokomis ----- 2.215	Hillsboro ----- 2.039	Edinburg ----- 1.8040
Witt ----- 2.208	Maroa-Forsyth -- 2.017	Macon ----- 1.781
Mt. Auburn ----- 2.1950	Stonington ----- 1.8890	Assumption ----- 1.5860

## CONSIDER CAREFULLY

We believe our community is as progressive and up-to-date as any in the area. But we cannot justly be proud of our educational facilities. Our children do not now have adequate, safe, uncrowded educational opportunities to which they are entitled. Your Board of Education has devoted many months of careful study and consultation with state officials to this building program. We believe it is the best answer now available to meet this problem. We realize that every one is facing increased demands, but our community can no longer postpone facing this issue. Your careful consideration of this matter is urged. Should you have any questions not answered by this brochure, you are urged to contact any member of the Board of Education, or the Superintendent's office. We will be glad to speak with you individually, or to any concerned group in the community.

We hope you will support this program.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

**Be Sure To Vote**

**ELECTION -- SATURDAY, FEB. 18, 1967**

Hours: 12:00 Noon to 7:00 P.M.

Polling Place: Masonic Hall



PROPOSED NEW JUNIOR-SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

*Important!*

**SCHOOL ELECTION  
INFORMATION**

•  
Community Unit School  
District No. 9