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McLean County Republicans

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## Unit 5 Tax Increase Proposal: No Means No Vote NO Again!

*We are hearing over and over again that the **Unit 5 Tax Increase** proposal on the April 4<sup>th</sup> consolidated ballot is anything but a tax increase. That's just not true! Consider the words from the proposal itself.*

(a) The approximate amount of taxes extendable for educational purposes under the maximum rate now in force in said School District is the sum of \$63,176,192. (b) The approximate amount of taxes extendable for educational purposes under the proposed increased rate is the sum of \$83,615,548. (c) The total dollar amount of the most recently approved annual budget of said School District is the sum of \$203,153,666; the total dollar amount of said annual budget, if increased by the amount of additional tax which may be levied if the proposition is approved, is the sum of \$223,593,022; the percentage of increase in the total dollar amount of the most recently approved annual budget of said School District, if such total dollar amount were increased by the amount of additional tax which may be levied if the proposition is approved, is 10.06 percent. (d) The percentage of increase between the maximum rate at which such taxes for educational purposes may be levied if the proposition is approved and the annual rate at which such taxes for educational purposes is currently levied is 32.35 percent.

This clearly shows the overall taxes will increase 20 million dollars if this proposal passes. This wording is taken off of a sample ballot. Stop believing the lie that it isn't an increase.

McLean County Republicans have stated many excellent reasons to vote down this proposal. Visit our [ELECTION INFORMATION](#) page to see why. ***We urge you to vote NO again on the Unit 5 Tax Increase Proposal!***

**Stop  
Believing  
the Lies!**

## Unit 5 School Board Membership

*Who you elect will make an enormous difference in our schools.*



Public schools are strongly influenced by their administrations, teachers' unions, and school boards. Administrations represent the interests of the school, unions represent the interests of the teachers, and school boards represent the interests of the community - especially parents. Voters should make ensure that those elected to the school board represent the community, not the administration or union. Be very careful about who endorses whom.

Parents have a special concern for their children and what they are taught in school. School boards representing the community allow parents to push back against ideological content in schools related to gender, critical race theory, sex education, COVID-19, and more. Republicans have been on the vanguard against improper intrusions in these areas. This can even be seen at the Federal level, where the Parents Bill of Rights passed the U.S. House recently, opposed 100% by Democrats. Take your lead from the Republicans if you are concerned about parental rights.

Nine candidates have filed for four seats on the Unit 5 school board. McLean County Republicans support the following conservative candidates who we believe hold values consistent with our own. The following candidates have committed to representing the students and the community, not the administration's or teacher union's point of view:



Their platforms include promoting increased student performance, controlling the significant bloat of administrative roles and related costs, keeping "comprehensive sexual education" and indoctrination out of the classroom, and addressing fiscal challenges.

***The public loses its voice if voters elect those representing the administration's or union's view. Vote wisely.***

## If you are not angry, you haven't been paying attention!

*You will have another thought coming after you read these short news notes!*

Fireworks are flying in **Heyworth**, and it's not even the Fourth of July yet! Parents are angry and letting their local school board and administration know it. A teacher, Sarah Bonner, is no longer teaching Language Arts in Heyworth after parents were informed by their children that sexually explicit teaching materials were being used in Ms. Bonner's 8<sup>th</sup> grade classroom. She resigned shortly after that.

The book's content is too explicit for display here, but readers can find clips from the book ***This Book is Gay*** online. Google Books describes the work as follows, "A funny and pertinent book about being lesbian, bisexual, gay, queer, transgender or just curious - for everybody, no matter their gender or sexuality. Former PSHCE teacher and acclaimed YA author Juno Dawson gives an uncensored look at what it's like to grow up as LGBT." This book and ***Money Shot: The Pornhub Story***... a documentary that examines the pornography industry through interviews with performers and activists – was also made available to students.

If the content of this media is too explicit for dissemination here, what might we say about the inclusion of such materials in our school classroom environment? To learn more, search the news archives of WGLT-FM and Cities 92.9 FM. Consider this when you think about who to elect to your school board.

## Normal Town Council

Progressives are good at mislabeling things, thinking that labels will win the day. In recent campaign literature, progressive candidates are running under the mantle of “responsible leadership.” Two are incumbents, and one is a new candidate. Of the two incumbents, it’s hard to say that they have demonstrated responsible leadership when they are responsible – at least in part – for the \$100 million indebtedness of Normal. The new candidate is clearly on the record showing contempt for those who dare disagree with his liberal views.

***Twenty years ago, before the current mayoral leadership, the Town of Normal was debt free.*** Since that time, there has been a constant tax and spend mentality that has moved this town toward wreck and ruin. The trainwreck will continue if conservative candidates are not elected to balance the out-of-control town council. Unless changes are made, wasteful spending will continue while critical problems go unaddressed in any meaningful way.

Liberal council members have consistently voted to raise taxes and fees, prioritize bike paths over the roads, throw the people’s money at the railroad underpass project, ***and 99% of the time back whatever the Mayor or Town Manager presents.*** Now, we are looking at the Uptown South project – an 8-acre development the town wants to create at ***taxpayer expense.***

The past two mayoral races have shown the Town of Normal is divided in half, but the council is highly one-sided. We recommend the following candidates who will represent “We the People” instead of “We the Government.”



- Stan Nord – incumbent: Stan strives to lower taxes, reduce spending, and represent the voice of residents.
- Marc Tiritilli – Marc’s platform includes “better prioritize spending, invest more in infrastructure, address unfunded pensions, and embrace representation in local government.”
- Karl Sila – Karl is a taxpayer advocate who will fight to increase public input, cut wasteful spending, and reduce debt.

## Bloomington City Council

The City of Bloomington’s budget has ***increased from \$160M to \$290M over the last ten years, yet the population is about the same.*** Currently, they’re spending \$16M for a water park and \$28M for remodeling the library, whose largest category of circulation is video rentals. ***These projects cost as much as the Coliseum, which continues to drain the city’s finances 20 years later,*** despite the lack of support from residents to build it in the first place. Streets are in major disrepair, and sewer and water infrastructure need significant investments. Yet, the council agendas are dominated by new project after project, rubber stamping the staff recommendations with no boundaries as to the cost to the taxpayers.

There are only two contested races – Wards 4 and 6. The opposing candidates are far-left liberals running partisan campaigns with funding from outside the county. These two races will determine the future direction of Bloomington. Bloomington needs fiscally responsible common sense council members – not activists. We recommend the following candidates:

- Donna Boelen – Ward 2 incumbent (uncontested): Donna has demonstrated an analytical approach to decision-making, is pro-business, and supports first responders.
- Steven Nalefski – Ward 4: Steven’s priorities include priority spending on infrastructure, fiscal responsibility, public safety, and listening/responding to the residents of Ward 4.
- Jordan Baker – Ward 6: Jordan’s priorities include public safety, investing in infrastructure, supporting downtown, safe neighborhoods, and efficient municipal services.
- Kent Lee – Ward 8 (uncontested): Kent’s priorities are safety, economic opportunity, and infrastructure.





## Your Vote Is Your Voice. VOTE WISELY!

***Stand for what you believe in the April 4<sup>th</sup> election.***

The "Responsible Cities" political action committee recently sent a postcard endorsing progressive candidates across the board in McLean County elections. ***If you want to know who NOT TO VOTE FOR in the April 4 consolidated election, then you can take this postcard as a guide.***

Check out the Illinois Sunshine website to see who funds the Responsible Cities PAC. Its list of supporters is jam-packed with influencers that conservative voters don't want to see in control of their schools and communities. Check out their supporter list at <https://www.illinoisunshine.org/committees/35984/>

The "Responsible Cities" political action committee would have us believe that they represent the voice of reason and are both responsible and reliable. We beg to differ.

- If you want a \$30 million railroad underpass in Normal while the streets fall apart, vote for progressives.
- If you want to see more trails, parks, and community expansion projects on the public nickel, vote for progressives.
- If you don't mind our communities swamped with taxes and sinking in debt, vote for progressives.
- If you want to elect people who represent "big government" rather than "we the people," then vote for progressives.
- If you want representatives who will listen only to liberal and progressive voices, then vote for progressives.
- If you want your community led by people who reject our traditional values, vote for progressives.
- If you want more time and energy wasted on Critical Race Theory and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in our public schools while our students fail, vote for progressives.

If you want a more detailed analysis of the present situation, then you can find out more about Responsible Cities through the following link:

<https://blnnews.com/.../responsible-cities-pac-the-list.../>

## Green Beans, Chicken Breasts and Red Skin Potatoes

(Serves 4-6, prep time 15 minutes, bake time 60 minutes)

### INGREDIENTS

- 3 skinless chicken breasts cut in quarters
- 2 heaping cups fresh or frozen beans cut in 1-inch pieces, or 2 cans drained
- 6 large cut up red skin potatoes in quarters (golden russet are good too).
- 1 pkg zesty Italian dressing mix 1.2 oz
- 1 stick melted butter

### DIRECTIONS

- In a 9" x 13" pan, place cut chicken breasts in the center, green beans on one side & potatoes on the other
- Sprinkle Italian dressing mix over the top
- Drizzle melted butter over it
- Cover with aluminum foil
- Bake at 350° for 1 hour
- Share!



## Heritage Foundation Speaker – the Room was Packed!

Education Specialist Jonathan Butcher of the Heritage Foundation spoke about "Critical Race Theory" as it impacts our schools at a community brunch on March 18<sup>th</sup>. Butcher is the author of *Splintered: Critical Race Theory and the Progressive War on Truth* (Bombardier Books, April 2022). He co-edited and wrote chapters in *The Critical Classroom* (The Heritage Foundation, 2022), discussing the racial prejudice that comes from the application of critical race theory in K-12 schools. During his presentation, Mr. Butcher explained how Critical Race theory came into being and its impact on American school children.



Fired up by this introduction, attendees heard Matt Crouch, Regional Coordinator for Heritage Action for America speak about becoming a Heritage Action Sentinel Program leader and holding elected leaders accountable.

Following Matt, attendee and Randolph 03 Republican Precinct Committeeperson Joanne Knipmeyer hosted a political action meeting in Heyworth on March 28<sup>th</sup> to address concerns about their recent Middle School events and inappropriate teaching materials.

To learn more about the Heritage Action Sentinel Program and what you can do for your family, your community, and your nation, visit <https://heritageaction.com/about-sentinel>



**Here you will find the *SPECIFIC* recommendations you've requested!**

Visit the McLean County Republicans' *Election Information* page for the 2023 Consolidated Election through the link below. The election will occur on April 4 (with early voting beginning February 23).

Want to know how we stand on the candidates and the issues? Learn who we recommend for councils and school board? Curious why we made a "Vote NO Again!" recommendation on the Unit 5 tax increase proposal defeated in last November's election? The wait is over.

We present our advice and reasoning in a new *Election Information* page that is just chock full of information. Check out our recommendations (and reasoning) through this link: <https://www.mcleancountyrepublicans.org/election-info-consolidated-april-2023>



**Join McLean County Republicans – 2023 Membership Drive  
FAITH, FAMILY, AND FREEDOM**

Please support the McLean County Republicans in 2023 by getting or renewing your membership. What will your donation do in 2023? First and foremost, it will help us stand for faith, family, and freedom. With your donation, you:

- support the work of recruiting and electing solid conservatives to run for office in city/town councils and school boards within McLean County.
- provide funds to assist the campaign costs of county Republican Candidates
- help recruit and train grassroots representatives- our Precinct Committeemen
- all us to create practical communication tools to inform and educate voters.

***The stronger our party the more voice you will have in what happens in McLean County!***

Help the MCGOP via a monthly reoccurring online donation plan OR an annual donation plan via card or check. You can also make a one-time donation. There are many giving levels. Follow the link below to assist the efforts of our party for all of 2023 at [https://www.mcleancountyrepublicans.org/become\\_a\\_2023\\_member](https://www.mcleancountyrepublicans.org/become_a_2023_member)

***Thank you for supporting the McLean County Republican Party's efforts to defend FAITH, FAMILY, & FREEDOM.***