

Say 'no' to mill for Bedford's schools

On Nov. 4 Bedford taxpayers will receive a 0.5-mill tax bail-out. All we have to do is say "NO" to the renewal of the school sinking fund. It's time for Bedford residents to end this entitlement mentality. Clearly, this school board cannot fix the problems they have created without the help of the taxpayers. We will make these changes mandatory. By saying "NO" we will force them to address those tough decisions such as consolidation, privatization, spending restraints, concessions, planning, maintenance, etc. These concepts when applied will ultimately restore the general fund and enable more financial attention to be directed at upgrades in the most important area — education.

Taking in \$38 million-plus a year, and painting themselves into a corner by negotiating upward of 85 cents of every dollar on wages and benefits is clearly a recipe for bankruptcy. Ask the auto industry, building trades, retailers, just to name a few. These taxpayers lost homes, wages, pensions, stocks, medical benefits and countless dreams. It's time to break the cycle of running to the taxpayer trough to cure bad decisions and poor planning. They should tighten their belts like the rest of us and operate within their means or that sleeping giant that they awoke back in May with that \$70 million wish list will say no again, and again.

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