

AIKEN COUNTY



Vote **NO** May 1

Did you know that the Aiken County School Board is back once again, asking to increase your property taxes to build new schools?

This time, they hired the same company that has stirred up trouble for school districts across our nation, including busing students from one end of town to another. The school board used this company's forecast to take small needs in Aiken County Public Schools and exaggerate them into a massive building program.

It's hard to believe, that after our school board rejected the parents' request to stop the busing, they immediately turned around adding insult to injury, and asked us to vote in favor of their request for **\$90 million** dollars to build schools.

It's actually **\$144.5 million** when you add the **\$54 million** interest!

Folks, we are facing \$144,500,000 million in new property taxes through 2038!

Remember the One Cent Sales tax that passed in 2014?

Since June 2015 the Aiken County Schools have collected **\$39.1 million**, of the new 1% sales tax and they are estimated to bring in an additional **\$158.2 million** in sales taxes through 2025. Don't forget they also passed another 125 Million bond (property tax increase) on the same ballot as the sales tax.

Here's the real kicker... If this bond passes **May 1st**, with the debt already on the record from other bonds (debt) not requiring our vote, the board is projected to drain a total of **\$786,562,000 Million** (that's $\frac{3}{4}$ of a Billion) in sales taxes and property taxes out of our small county to build schools in the future.

That's \$116,000 per day every day 365 days of the year!

Their own projections total **\$817,000 per week** of total tax collections out of Aiken County the first eight years! **Yes, nearly \$1 million per week!**

Tie this into a family-disrupting scheme to bus many children all over the county and we have chaos!

Did you know the truth about enrollment? Well, it (45-day count) has actually decreased the last three years according to the SCDE so crowding is not a system-wide problem. 2016 was 24,871, 2017 was 24,823 and 2018 was 24,584.

For heaven's sake... What are the school board's priorities? Our children's test scores are way below average and how on earth can our teachers improve this when Superintendent Alford will not support their efforts to discipline the student bullies, who are radically disrupting their classrooms? Even respectful students learn far less in that environment.

Keeping the same policy in brand new school buildings won't help the students who are being academically cheated!

Stop the bullying of the teachers,
students and taxpayers!

Join us May 1 and Vote NO!

For more information or if you need help finding your polling location check out our website:
www.WeThePeopleAikenCARE.org

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