

## **Know the Truth. What you hear may be wrong.**

- ▲ The School is not involved at all with the proposed housing development. School funds are NOT being used.

School funds are not being used? Is that other than part of the \$1,500,000 for dirt work to move half a hill and provide utilities?

- ▲ There is NO plan whatsoever to displace any homeowner in Germantown. Such talk is totally unfounded.
- ▲ Site costs include far more than just dirt work. Parking, drives, bus drop, and on site water and sewer are included.

That is exactly the point. Moving off-site immediately adds tremendously to the overall costs of any project. Who stands to gain the most by moving off-site? Bankers, builders, landowners? Perhaps, but certainly not the tax payers.

- ▲ City taxpayers will NOT be obligated now, or ever, for TIF financing for streets and utilities annexed into the city limits.

If not the city, then who? Why would the developer assume the risk?

- ▲ 30-Yr. bonds are now being offered because of low long term rates. This means more benefit from the ethanol plant and other future growth.

A prominent banker in Ponca said that 30 year bonds were a bad idea. This was shared with a participant at a public informational meeting for the first bond in 2004.

The real reason for the 30 year bond is to get the payments down. "Ignore the sticker price on that expensive import, I can get you in this baby by stretching out the loan and lowering your payments." But unlike a car, you can't sell a school!

### **Committee for Kids and a Positive Future**

Honorary Chairmen: Byron Kruse, Phil Knerl, Fran Kingsbury, Don Dohma, Russ Fleury, Leon Conrad,

Harold Von Minden, Dave R. Watchorn, Paul Blatchford, Dick Taylor, Pete Temple, Wayne Lamprecht

Chairs: Jamie Hamar, Joe O'Neill, Bob Curry, Barb Bauman - Debra Krause, Treas. Box 63 Ponca, NE 68770

A treasurer? Does that mean the Ponca Pride group, er, whatever their name is, has finally filed with the state?

## **The truth is simple. Be cautious of what you hear.**

- ▲ The School plan is NOT elaborate. It is similar to other normal Class C schools. The size has been reduced, twice.

Oh, really? The proposed plan dated January 17, 2005, was 82,061 square feet.

The building cost estimates provided by Superintendent Wineland shows the estimated size at 82,294 square feet. The blue mailer from the Committee for

Kids postmarked January 26, 2006, says "The proposed building is 84,816

square feet". That's a funny way to "reduce" the size of the proposed school!

- ▲ The net levy increase is 26.5 cents per \$100 valuation. After 15 years, and probably less, ethanol and city TIF's will be paid and the levy will go down substantially. This IS the truth.

Wow! Now this Committee is GOOD! They can see 15 years into the future and call it the truth, as if it were beyond dispute. We sure could use their committee to make investment picks. Then again, maybe not.

- ▲ Today's construction cost per pupil is not a responsible comparison. How many students will use this school over the next 75 years? Thinking long term is responsible.

No matter how you compare, other schools built in the upper midwest with bonds cost MUCH less per student. This proposal is 2- to 5-times as costly, regardless of how long it might last. We do agree with long-term thinking. It is irresponsible to strap the very kids we profess to be "helping" with a huge, unnecessary debt.

- ▲ Let's get the school that is needed approved now, and start working together to improve our great communities.

We agree! Unfortunately, this proposal is not the school we need now.

It dedicates only 20% of the square footage to academic class rooms.

Too much cost is attached to sports and athletics.

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