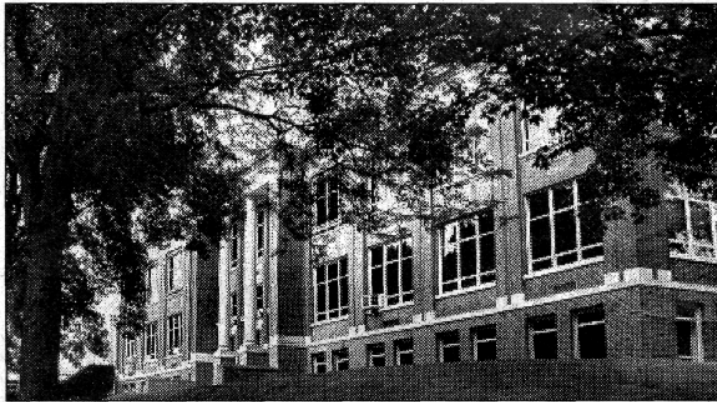


Save Our School



By **RACHEL MENDELL**

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The Save the School group will hold a press conference Tuesday, May 13, at 2 p.m. in front of the 1917 Galion High School to bring media up to date on efforts to save the historic building. The preservation group will then hold a rally on Thursday, May 15, at 6:30 p.m. in front of the Union and Church street school to gather much needed support in their mission to create a shared community space in the building.

The 1917 Galion High School was put on the 2008 List of Ohio's Most Endangered Historic Sites this week, alongside the Warren G. Harding High School in Warren and the South High School in Springfield. Local groups are working to save these high schools in the face of board opposition there as well.

"We are on a tight schedule," said Steven Kemle, member of the group trying to save the building. "We need the community support."

"We have been working our

collective butts off for months to give the board what they are asking for," said Thomas Palmer, also member of the group.

Both sides in the case to save the school met this week to further negotiations. The Galion Board of Education has cut their demands down to three things: \$100,000 cash to purchase the building, \$800,000 in liquid assets for future demolition and an occupancy permit within three years. The Adaptive Re-Use Committee have been working continually to meet the boards demands, including a security structure which they thought would satisfy.

The Save the School group has grown steadily as have the number of petition signers. The group reported last night they are up to 1,500 signatures from the community urging the Galion district to not tear down the building, but to save it for community use.

To view the 1917 site go to: <http://ohiosmostendangered2008.squarespace.com>

Anyone wishing to get involved, get information or just show support call 419-689-2284.