

# Letters to the editor

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After reading the July 8 edition of this newspaper I feel it would only be fair to correct some obvious poor reporting on the paper's behalf.

I am tired of hearing that the first discussion of the fate of the old school buildings was Sept. 24, 2007. Being a former board member, I went to my files and pulled out minutes dated Feb. 24, 2004. In these minutes, the board voted to grant authority to the Galion Alumni Association, until Jan. 1, 2006, to investigate all possible grants and opportunities for their organization to utilize the high school building and site unless the site is chosen for the OSFC building site.

Further research shows that flyers for the Aug. 5, 2003 bond issue show money appropriated for the removal of the old schools. Some people read the newspaper and believe what is in black and white to be gospel. It is your duty to the populace to correctly cover a story and give both sides of the issue.

As for the pictures on the front page bashing the BOE, remember, it's not money for their education they are dealing with, but for the education of our sons, daughters and grandchildren for years to come. Don't hold a grudge against our children's education by voting no on a levy because a few bricks were lost. It's not the building that creates the memories, but the people that walked the halls. Don't be so quick to criticize the board until you have walked a mile in their shoes!

**Ken Green  
Galion**

**Editor's note:** *According to a levy campaign flyer containing facts about the new school issue (May 2003), \$2,729,357 (Ohio Schools Facility Commission 76 percent, Galion district 24 percent) was set aside in the bond issue money for demolition. However, that statement did not appear in the ballot language for the May 6, 2003 election: "Shall bonds be issued by the Galion City School District for the purpose of constructing, furnishing, equipping and otherwise improving school district buildings and facilities and acquiring, improving and equipping real estate for school purposes ..."*

*The decision whether or not to demolish or save old buildings has been left up to individual districts receiving state funds for new building projects, according to the OSFC.*

*In those flyers sent out by the Galion board of education Tax Levy Committee during the campaign (May 2003) for the bond levy, a paragraph concerning the issue of whether or not to demolish the buildings was addressed in question and answer format:*

*"What is going to happen to the 1917 portion of the High School building?"*

*"A final decision on the future of any of our six buildings does not have to be made now. It was proposed to the Community Committee that a portion of the 1917 building could be converted to central office space. However, that proposal was contingent on two factors: the availability and willingness of private donations to fund restoration of the auditorium and the feasibility costs associated with remodeling the entire 1917 section. The Board allocated only \$540,000 for central office space."*