

Mike Thomas

President Local 1236

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After hearing a well organized and very good presentation from those involved with the District 428 School Referendum our organization DeKalb Firefighters Local 1236, decided to get behind the referendum and publicly support it. The timing of our decision to support the referendum is difficult but according to our organization, it is time to act and vote yes on February 5th.

We understand that our School system and our students need help, the capacity is only getting worse regardless of the many reasons that have been discussed. We fully believe that this referendum is necessary not only for the students but also as a way to support current and future businesses that may look to locate/relocate in our community bringing good jobs and increasing our tax base which will help us all.

While we understand it can be difficult to pay for these things, increasing our tax base will help the average homeowner and the municipalities responsibility to serve its public. Our School District is in a position to send the message that by passing this referendum "we" have fixed the problem thanks to the help from our strong community.

If we wait it becomes more expensive and if we wait for someone else - Springfield - to "fix" the problem, our kids will continue to suffer in an overcrowded, unsafe learning atmosphere. Let's not wait for others to fix our problem, let's send the right message by voting YES on February 5th.

The DeKalb Firefighters Union
AFFI-IAFF Local 1236