

Online Letter: MPSD needs a better plan

Letters to the Editor 7:20 p.m. CDT November 1, 2014



(Photo: File/Sue Pischke/HTR Media)

In her Oct. 26 HTR commentary, Linda Gratz, president of MPSD School Board, says (with regard to the \$2 million referendum questions), "If you don't own a home your cost is nothing."

Ms. Gratz must know that is not true. Property owners pass on taxes to tenants as part of the rent. Why did she say it? It is misleading and has the appearance of an attempt to garner votes.

In the Oct. 29 HTR, MPSD Superintendent Marcia Flaherty explains what recurring does and does not mean, and although MPSD is asking for an extra \$2 million a year, recurring, it may not need all \$2 million every year. But, she says if they spend more they get more state money so very likely they will find a way to spend all \$2 million.

How much of the \$2 million they will need in future years? It is understandable she doesn't know. How could anyone know what they will need five or 10 years from now?

I'm sure Ms. Flaherty is sincere in what she says. The problem is she will not be around forever, but the \$2 million tax will be.

No one is against better schools. We just need a better plan from MPSD. How did they come up with \$2 million if they don't know what they need? We need a reasonable, clearly worded referendum that does not require explanation after explanation. It needs to say exactly how much money is needed, for what period of time, specifically how it will be used, and without the word "recurring."

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