TAX

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county could avoid the more expensive option of building a new high

"An all new high school would cost about \$70 million," said Jaynes. "This way we can utilize the building we have. A new elementary is about \$40 million. The goal is the utilize our existing build-

To pay for all of that, Iavnes is proposing that Carroll increase the county's property tax for education by 10 cents per \$100 assessed valuation, which he said would generate another \$917,000 in annual revenue in addition to the roughly 4% annual increase in assessed valuations. The move would increase the school district's bond potential — the amount of money the county can borrow for school facilities based on its ability to make annual payments — to \$37 million and provide the funds to make

the proposed changes. Jaynes said the county already pays 5 cents per \$100 based on the nickel tax implemented with the legislature's Kentucky Education Reform Act in 1990, but while Carroll's tax has remained that same nickel the last three decades, many other counties have increased their local school taxes by one or two more nickels to pay for improvements like those now proposed for Carroll. He said the actual cost to property owners for the 10-cent increase breaks down to about \$2.15 per day on a \$100,000 home in a county where the median

home price is \$122,300.



Carroll County Schools Superintendent Casey Jaynes addressing Carrollton City Council about a proposal to raise the local school property tax to pay for universal preschool and other improvements in the school system. Jaynes noted the school tax has remained the same — other than increases in assessed property valuations — since implemented by the Kentucky Education Reform Act in 1990.

preschool up and operating within 18 months if the necessary funding the property tax increase — can be approved this year. He said his visits to city council, fiscal court and other local stakeholders is an effort to gauge support for the proposal before it is ever put before Carroll County Board of Education.

"I'm only here for informational purposes,' said Jaynes, adding that he was "trying to find some advocates" for the proposal. "The next 18 months could really set up Carroll County for the future ... but there's been no proposal to the board yet. If we get feedback from the community that they don't want it, you won't hear from me again about it."

Jaynes said by gauging the county's interest in Jaynes said the facili- paying higher taxes for ties plan being developed better schools he hopes

has targeted having the to avoid a contentious battle on the issue, with residents demanding that the issue be placed on a ballot and voted on.

"We want to be above board ... this will not go on a ballot unless there is a petition for a recall," he said, noting a recall vote would have to be requested within 45 days of board approval with a petition signed by at least 10% of the county's residents who voted in the last election. "I don't want to get to that point."

The next step is a series of public meetings to explain the proposal in more detail and interact with the community to see who the taxpayers actually feel about the proposal.

"If the county says at those meetings we do not want to do this, I will not make that recommendation to our board of education," Jaynes said.

MUSIC

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going all in on food service. We currently have a somewhat limited menu of smoked foods and sides, but we are putting in a full kitchen so we can really expand the menu very soon. We were fortunate to hire Tori Miller, who used to manage Crystal and Jules, and she has brought so many great ideas and insight to get us going."

"As far as music goes," adds Travas, 'we think it's important to the experience, and we are committed to being part of Indiana's Music City. We have our daughters, Ambree and Olivia, doing a lot of the band booking. We're still figuring out the economics of hiring bands and all the rest, but we'll find our groove. Just wait until the weather warms up and we can open the doors and really make this a fun and festive

place! "We want people to love Mad Paddle as much as we do, and we want to be a big part of the Madison community. I encourage everyone to give us a try, whether you were an old Mad Paddle fan or you've never visited. We think

you'll like the friendly vibe we've created here."

HOT TIP OF THE WEEK

Keith Scott is coming back to town this weekend! Keith is a "real deal" Chicago bluesman, having played with many of the great post-war blues legends who called the Windy City home. Several years ago he made a connection and came to Madison to play a gig, and Indiana's Music City has been one of his favorite haunts ever since. This weekend he's doing a "three-fer," first on Friday at Tailgators on the hilltop, then on Saturday at Mad Paddle downtown, and finally on Sunday at The SPOT art gallery. His energy and smile are infectious, and his blues guitar is mean and dirty! His shows will be on my to-do list this

weekend. Another Saturday show that jumps off the calendar is the "Pajamas & Candlelight" party at Thomas Family Winery, with the great duo of Mike & Justine providing the music. Steve Thomas always knows how to create a warm and fun atmosphere, so don your jammies and check this one out!

Charlie Rohlfing is a retired advertising man and partner in The Red Bicycle

Hall music venue. Look for his distinctive fedora bobbing above the crowd, anywhere live local music is happening.

MUSIC EVENTS SCHEDULE

Friday, January 17 VFW Post 1969 Rock Steady (8 p.m.-Midnight)

Tailgators — Keith Scott Blues Band (8 p.m.-Midnight) Mad Paddle — Ruben Guthrie (7-10 p.m.) Rivertown Grill

 Liquor Box (9 p.m.-1 a.m.) The Drake — Jimmy

Davis

Saturday, January 18

Tailgators — Crossfire (9 p.m.-1 a.m.) Mad Paddle — Keith Scott Blues (7-11 p.m.) Off Broadway Taproom — Jimmy Davis Band (9 p.m.)

Thomas Family Winery — Pajamas & Candlelight w/Mike Oberst and Justine Cefalu (7 p.m.)

Rivertown Grill — Karaoke (9 p.m.-1 a.m.) The Drake — Justin Chappel Central — Ragtop Deluxe

Sunday, January 19

Rivertown Grill -BD32 "Brett Denney" (7-10 p.m.) The SPOT on

Mulberry — Keith Scott (5-8 p.m.)

SNOW

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in that district may visit the school's website and KSBA.org for additional information on the qualifications and requirements for the position.

Meanwhile, the board staff members are not Jan. 22.

is considering changing its meeting days and times to the third Tuesday of the month with meetings beginning at 4 p.m. with reports from principals and academic staff before concluding with voting business following by reports so that administrative

required to stay for the entire meetings. A discussion and action on that change will be on the agenda for the Jan. 22 meeting for a final

The next Board of Education meeting is at 6 p.m. on Wednesday,

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