

COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

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November 29, 1948

The announcement by State Superintendent, G. Tyler Miller, that the counties and cities of Virginia will need 396 million dollars for school buildings within the next 10 years should surprise no one who has given serious thought to this problem.

The question is "What will Virginia do?"

Our state could convene its General Assembly either upon call of its members or of the Governor and at once do these things.

1. Transfer to the Literary Fund all of its unappropriated balance.
2. Transfer to the Literary Fund a part of the appropriated funds that would not be likely to be used within the next two years.
3. Levy a general sales and use tax.
4. Appropriate such sums of this tax as may be needed to further increase the Literary Fund, and to restore capital funds temporarily transferred from other state building projects.
5. Appropriate all sums possible from the proceeds of the sales tax to the counties and cities for direct use for capital outlays or to pay existing indebtedness. This procedure would tend to head Virginia toward a pay as you go plan which is eminently better than borrowing huge sums which actually become a mortgage upon the real property of our citizens.
6. When at any time the Literary Fund became larger than required appropriate excess funds directly to counties and cities for payment of debts or for additional capital outlays.

Our own county of Loudoun has imperative need for additional space. Any action locally will probably wait for State action.

Also, we must not forget the fact that there is an appalling lack of properly trained and qualified teachers, also, that they too, are worthy of their hire.

Division Superintendent