



## BOB HUNT & ANDY GEISTFELD

UPPER ARLINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT

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2026-2027

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For make up locations, check the club web site or call the make-up hotline at (614) 470-1002.



**Glen Dugger** introduced the speakers, Superintendent **Bob Hunt** and Treasurer **Andy Geistfeld** of the Upper Arlington School District. Bob and Andy provided information on Issue 7, the combined bond issue and operating levy that will be on the Nov. 3, 2026 ballot, after an extensive master planning process and extending the timing of the operating levy by an additional year.

To ensure complete accuracy, your editor is using the following language from the District website about Issue 7:

The \$273.5 million bond issue (an estimated 2.25 mills above current collections) would fund the second phase of the master plan, while the 4.9-mill operating levy would provide funding to maintain the district's current educational programs, services and daily operations. Combined, the measures would result in an estimated increase of approximately \$1,250 per year (or \$105 per month) for a home valued at \$500,000 according to the Franklin County Auditor.

The second phase of the master plan would address both the physical and educational needs of the district's aging middle school buildings as well as Burbank Early Childhood School, replacing aging building systems (HVAC, plumbing, mechanical, electrical) and creating new learning spaces to meet today's standards. The second phase also includes a third-floor addition at Upper Arlington High School,

above the district offices and music classrooms, that would serve as a temporary location for Jones Middle School grades 7-8 during construction and a permanent asset to support future district needs — for approximately the same cost as temporary modular classrooms. This addition is possible because the infrastructure was put in place during construction of the high school in the event that an addition would be needed in the future.

With respect to Hastings Middle School, the bond issue:

- Builds a new three-story building on the west side of the site, where the athletic stadium currently sits.
- Builds a new stadium complex and practice field on the east side of the site along Reed Road.
- Educates students in the current building during construction.
- Updates the stadium complex and installs a turf field, bringing the field space back online as quickly as possible after construction.

With respect to Jones Middle School, the bond issue:

- Retains and renovates the original 1923 three-story building and builds a new three-story structure around it, with a new gymnasium, auditorium, cafeteria and classrooms.
- Relocates students during construction to a new wing at the high school (grades 7-8) and modular classrooms at Tremont Elementary School (grade 6).

**CLICK HERE** to view this meeting and all previously recorded Rotary meetings



## GREETERS

### October 6

Susan (Sue) Coady  
Robert Hunt

### October 13

Bob LeBoeuf  
Tim Irwin

### October 20

Jim Henson  
Andy Geistfeld

## REGISTRATION DESK

### October 6

Sandra Cotter  
Jeanine Hummer

### October 13

Ted Foster  
Brendan King

### October 20

Rick Barth  
Tom Westfall

## CALENDAR

### October 6 - Scioto CC/ZOOM

Rich Simpson, "Where Have All the Great Men Gone"

Host: Glen Dugger

### October 13 - Boat House/ZOOM

Heather Tuttle, Executive Director of the Ohio Wildlife Council – "Update on Ohio Wildlife Council"

Host: Herb Gillen

### October 20 - Scioto CC/ZOOM

Election 2026: Ohio House of Representatives District 7 Candidate Forum

Host: Brad Frick

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Submit your volunteer opportunity to [herb@herbgillen.com](mailto:herb@herbgillen.com) for inclusion in the Rotaryview Newsletter.

## SOCIAL EVENTS

Please submit your social event reminder to [herb@herbgillen.com](mailto:herb@herbgillen.com) for inclusion in the Rotaryview Newsletter.

## OUR NEXT MEETING

**OCTOBER 6TH**  
Scioto Country Club / ZOOM

Upper Arlington  
**Rotary**  
Club



# BOB HUNT & ANDY GEISTFELD

UPPER ARLINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT

- Updates the stadium complex and installs a turf field, usable by both middle schools during construction.

With respect to Burbank Early Childhood School, the bond issue:

- Builds a new two-story building on the north-west area of the site, where the north parking lot is currently located.
- Includes additional classrooms to better meet programmatic and community needs.
- Educates students in the current building during construction.
- Retains the existing outdoor play area.

Why is there no "zero-cost" option? Hastings, Jones and Burbank have been very well-maintained, which has extended the life of the building systems beyond what is typically expected. However, the building systems — plumbing, electrical, mechanical — are now simply nearing the end of useful life. According to third-party physical assessments conducted in the fall of 2024, it would cost an estimated \$124.8 million to repair and maintain all three schools to keep them safe, dry and secure for students and staff.

Why do suburban school districts keep asking for operating levies? In Upper Arlington, approximately 96 percent of district revenues are fixed, with little or no room for growth. A major factor in this is House Bill 920, a state law passed in the 1970s that ensures voted operating levies do not grow as property values increase. As property values increase, the millage collected for each voted operating levy is reduced to ensure the district's funding from the operating levy remains flat. Generally speaking, the only way school districts see an increase in property tax revenue is when voters approve a new operating levy.

Upper Arlington Schools last passed an operating levy in fall 2022 to support daily operations, with a commitment to return to voters in three years. The district has successfully stretched that levy an additional year, but as expected, expenditures are now outpacing revenue. As a result, the district is returning to the ballot this fall to request the operating funding needed to maintain current programming and operations.

## THE MEETING



**Glen Dugger** opened the meeting, which was held at Scioto Country Club and on Zoom.

**Dave Hammond** provided the invocation and led the pledge of allegiance.

There were no guests or visiting Rotarians.

## NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



**Ned Clark** conducted pickleball-related harassment.

**Peggy Concilla** provided a heads up that fourth quarter bills are coming out shortly, and she encouraged prompt payment.

**Chip Knoop** noted that the Community Service Committee would be convening by email to consider the one funding request before it.

**Chip** also asked for, and obtained, volunteers for the Bed Brigade build event on the upcoming Saturday morning.



**John Krauss** provided a reminder of the Dog Party at the Krauss Family Farm in Sunbury on Sunday Oct. 4, from 2-5 pm, serving as a food and supply drive for the Franklin County Dog Shelter and Adoption Center. See John's recent email for more details.