

Hand-out 4.2: Annotation: School Bond Levy

Student Sample Grade 10, Argument

Cite evidence from the student sample that shows how the writer is meeting criteria of the standard on argument writing in grades 9-10.

The writer of this piece

- **introduces precise claim(s), distinguishes the claim(s) from alternate or opposing claim(s), and creates an organization that establishes clear relationships among the claim(s), counterclaims, reasons, and evidence.**
 - *This bond allowing _____ School to add more facilities should be passed in order for young students to be provided with a better education.*
 - *Some say that the school doesn't need to have brand new facilities and better classrooms, but it does.*
 - *Another issue that people may be concerned with is the money that taxpayers have to put up for the building.*

- **develops the claim(s) and counterclaims fairly, supplying evidence for each while pointing out the strengths and limitations of both in a manner that anticipates the audience's knowledge level and concerns.**
 - *Just this year the school had to shut down for days.*
 - *Details about the malfunction of the heating system and the falling ceiling tiles in the library support the claim that brand new facilities and better classrooms are needed.*
 - *Another issue that people may be concerned with is the money that taxpayers have to put up for the building. The cost of the project in its entirety will be 2.9 million dollars, meaning that for the next 25 years, taxpayers would pay 40 cents more per thousand dollars in property tax than they do this year.*
 - *Superintendent _____ commented that it would cost the taxpayers much less money now than ten years from now.*
 - *...[The gym] is no longer adequate.*
 - *The school has always been small...[and] it needs to expand.*
 - *Details about the scheduling of class in the library support the claim that the school needs to expand.*

- **uses words, phrases, and clauses to link the major sections of the text, create cohesion, and clarify the relationships between claim(s) and reasons, between reasons and evidence, and between claim(s) and counterclaims.**
 - *The project does cost a significant amount of money, but the school needs it.*
 - *Another issue that people may be concerned with...Many good reasons...Another reason...*

- **establishes and maintains a formal style and objective tone while attending to the norms and conventions of the discipline in which they are writing.**
 - *Another advantage to the bond proposed is that it would provide more space in the school.*
 - *It is clear then, that...*

- **provides a concluding section that follows from and supports the argument presented.**
 - *If the school is inadequate, how can the younger generations be provided with the education and training they need to be successful in the future?*