

*Springboro Community Schools  
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**IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **Nixle, a New Messaging Service**

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It is 4:30am and last night's weather forecast was not promising. Outside, the snow is falling one inch per hour and the street crews are struggling to keep the roads passable. Not much time to make the decision to call off school and notify student families and staff in short notice. Finally, I receive the call from George Long, our Business Manager and I log on a secure website from my home PC, enter a short text message, and click submit. Within seconds, my cell phone alerts me of an incoming message, "Springboro City Schools will be closed today due to inclement weather". Across town, an incoming email chime announces the same message in a user's inbox. How was all this accomplished so seamlessly? Using Nixle.

Nixle was established in March of 2009 and is "the first standardized, secure, and certified communications platform for local police departments, municipalities, and their agencies". It is a free service, offered to government agencies to push out important information to local community residents. Residents who sign up may elect to receive information alerts via SMS text messages, email, web, or any combination of the three. Additionally, residents may choose to filter their notifications in increasing order of severity including Traffic, Community, Advisory, and Alert. There is also a chance that voice notification may be available in the future.

Along with Springboro Community City Schools, many other city, township, and county agencies are employing Nixle to keep citizens in the know. The City of Springboro police department used Nixle to push out traffic alerts, road closings, etc. Clearcreek Township has just made the decision to begin using the service. They are planning on pushing alerts from their Administration, Police, Fire, Road and Parks, and Zoning departments. Warren County is using Nixle for the following departments: County Combined Health District, County Dog Warden, Educational Service Center, Emergency Management, Engineer's Office, Juvenile/Probate Court, Sheriffs Office, Child Support Agency, and Public Safety Network.

In addition to local notifications, you may add locations away from Springboro. A great use for this is to monitor towns where your children attend college, or where your parents or family reside.

To get started with Nixle, go to [www.nixle.com](http://www.nixle.com) and click on the link “Sign Up Now”. Create a username and password, and supply your email account as well as mobile phone number where alerts will be sent. Click “I Accept” after reading the Terms of Service, and you are now ready to configure what you would like to monitor. Standard text messaging fees will apply.

For Springboro Schools, any emergencies will be sent as an Alert. Cancellations due to snow or unforeseen circumstances will be sent as an Advisory. Any other notifications such as meetings, general information and so on, will be sent as Community alerts.

In summation, Nixle provides Springboro Community City Schools a safe, secure, and free instant notification method. Sign up now!