

*Springboro Community Schools
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IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Levy Loss....Oh So Close!

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Treasurer

On May 5 the Springboro Community voted against the proposed 4.11 mill Emergency Operating Levy. The loss by 137 votes was a drastic improvement over the 3 previous election drubbings. This marked improvement can be attributed to many factors: improving economy, Board budget cuts including the 2 mile radius busing limits, pay to participate, staff reductions and a building closure. But one factor that certainly played into the improved support of the levy was the amazing campaign ran by the Neighbors for Springboro School's (NFSS).

This group worked tirelessly for the betterment of the district and therefore the community. Their efforts included weekend neighborhood walks, fundraisers at Max & Erma's, Community Town Hall meetings, postcard mailings, Facebook postings, email chains, levy website development and weekly strategy meetings. To all the members of the NFSS the Board, Administration and all the staff of Springboro schools say thank you!

Now the big question, what happens next? The Board of Education approved \$1 million in budget cuts at its February 24th Board meeting that were to go into effect in the event the May 5 levy failed. Since we failed, these cuts will be instituted next school year beginning in July 2009. To see detail on the cuts please go to the following link:
<http://www.springboro.org/files/levy/iflevyfails.pdf>.

Next up for the Board and administration is to develop and submit a new 5 year forecast to the Ohio Department of Education. This forecast will encompass both the loss of the levy and the new funding bill being considered by the state legislature.

Another issue is when and what to place on the ballot. The Board has many options to consider: do we go again in August? November? May? Is an emergency levy the right type of levy? Is 4.11 mills enough with the reduced funding from the state? Is an earned income tax the way to go for the schools? Many questions that make for many tough decisions ahead.

The only facts we know for sure are that more kids are coming, our costs are going up, our revenues are not increasing and we have one of the highest rated school districts in the state of Ohio.

**THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO SUPPORTED SPRINGBORO SCHOOLS ON
MAY 5!!!**