

**REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT: FINANCIAL UPDATE  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING \* NOVEMBER 17, 2008**

This evening I would like to update the Board of Education and community on the results of our November 4 levy and what that means for the students who reside in our district.

According to the web site of the Hamilton County Board of Elections, Issue 46, the Winton Woods levy was defeated, 51% to 49%, by 312 votes. As a result, our treasurer has indicated that I need to recommend to you \$1 million in cuts in order to balance next school year's budget. I will make those recommendations, some of which may be recommended for immediate implementation, at the first Board meeting of January 2009. The quicker we can reduce costs, the less we will have to cut, beginning with next school year.

As you know, I have repeatedly said that the \$1 million in cuts will come from 3 major areas:

1.     Transportation Expenditures  
With the failure of the March levy, high school busing was eliminated. The district currently transports K-8 students who live 1 mile or further from their public or private school. Due to the failure of the November levy, the district will transport K-8 students using the state minimum standard of 2 miles or more. Mrs. Hooper, the district's transportation director, has been instructed to review all bus routes to see how she might be able to eliminate a bus and driver position in order to save transportation costs. Once completed, Mrs. Hooper will also review non-transport areas before parents are notified of any changes.
  
2.     Extracurricular Athletics Expenditures  
Athletic offerings for secondary athletics have been reviewed with the athletic director, Mr. Woeste. I will recommend some specific coaching supplements and associated transportation costs for 2009-2010 be eliminated.
  
3.     Personnel Expenditures  
Due to the fact that the majority of any district's expenditures are personnel and benefits, most of my budget reductions will involve reductions in staff. I will recommend eliminating approximately 18 positions in order to balance the budget by 2009-2010. These positions will include certificated and non-certificated staff and where possible, they will be eliminated by second semester. Elimination of teaching positions will impact middle and high school class size and educational programming, and for that

reason Mr. Campbell and Dr. Holden have been instructed to begin reviewing their projected class size and course offerings in order to assist me in this reduction.

I will make recommendations to cut \$1 million to this Board of Education in January 2009 to include reducing K-8 busing, our secondary athletics program, and approximately 18 staff positions. Rest assured that despite limited funds, we will do our best to operate as efficiently and effectively as possible. Our primary goal remains providing a world-class education to every Winton Woods student.

In conclusion, I would like to thank the 6,511 voters who voted for the levy. The staff and I appreciate your support, especially in light of the economy. As I have said many times before, a vote for education is a vote for the future of our children and our community. As superintendent, I respect the voters' decision and will do what is necessary to remain within budget in 2009-2010.

The reductions that I will ask you to approve in January will be permanent unless significant other revenues or cost-saving measures can be found or negotiated. These reductions do not preclude the need for a levy in CY 2009. We still need a levy. If a levy is not passed in CY 2009, substantial reductions will need to be made in addition to the ones that I have outlined tonight. All of these reductions assume the state funding remains constant.

Members of the Board: That concludes my update on district finances this evening. Thank you.