

The citizens in Conneaut are being asked to support a \$1.2 million dollar five-year emergency levy on March 4th to assure a positive future for this school district.

The Board of Education listened to the community, who said we needed to reduce the dollar amount of the levy, make additional reductions in expenditures, and do so while protecting the overall educational experience. The Board will continue to listen to the community through the engagement process regardless of the outcome of the levy.

We have put in place a package of up to \$500,000 in reductions for the 2008-09 school year. If the levy fails, we will make an additional \$200,000 in reductions for the 2008-09 school year. Please see the chart below for further information, including the reductions already made for the 2006-07 school year which totaled over \$1.2 million dollars.

		<b>SAVINGS</b>
<b>These reductions will be made regardless of the outcome of the levy on March 4,2008</b>		
Cut instrumental music at GES, one section of Kindergarten, 1 <sup>st</sup> grade, and 5 <sup>th</sup> grade (which eliminates four teaching positions)	\$262,570.00	
Replace retiring teachers(projected) with lower salaried staff	\$186,920.00	
Saturday school during week - which would eliminate paying custodial overtime	\$3,400.00	
Cut CMS Drama, Vocal, Instrumental supplemental contracts	\$5,470.00	
Reduce four custodial staff 3rd shift positions– from 12 month positions to ten month positions	\$21,660.00	
Reduce classified overtime by 50% reduction in current costs	\$20,000.00	
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$500,020.00</b>
<b>These reductions will be made <i>only if the levy fails.</i></b>		
Cut Varsity Wrestling, Boys & Girls Soccer, Tennis, and Golf (the four sports that cost the most to run)	\$40,000.00	
Cut Middle School Wrestling, Tennis, and Track	\$15,000.00	
Cut the faculty manager (athletic director) position at CMS	\$3,500.00	
no busing for high school students or any student (K-8) within the two mile limit	\$82,100.00	
Double Pay to Participate fees	\$35,000.00	
Institute General Fees in grades K-12 at \$20/student	\$25,000.00	
		\$200,600.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$700,620.00</b>
<b>The \$1.2 million in reductions for the 2006-07 year were as follows:</b>		
Wages and insurances for certified staff (retired/attrition/not replaced)	\$820,944	
Wages and insurances for classified reductions	\$100,000	

Savings in utilities from leaving Liberty St Administration offices	10,000	
Reductions of extracurricular contracts (coaches/advisors) and money received for pay to participate	\$105,000	
Savings from wage freezes for classified and certified staffs	\$219,200	
<b>Total</b>		\$1,255,144

It has now been 17 years since the district has received new monies from a levy for operating expenses (there have been renewals, but no new money). It is the desire of this board to impact the least number of students if the levy fails, and we must balance the budget.

This situation that we find ourselves in is difficult for each and every person. I know that tax payers in this community do support the schools and are facing rising prices for gas and food. I recognize how tough this is. My hope is that when voters go to the polls their decision will be based on the future of the Conneaut Area City Schools.

Mary D. Zappitelli  
 Superintendent  
[mary.zappitelli@neomin.org](mailto:mary.zappitelli@neomin.org)  
 440-593-7200