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**Sent:** Wednesday, May 20, 2009 11:03 AM  
**To:** Daggon, Jill  
**Cc:** Lashway, Lisa  
**Subject:** FW: News from the Mount Olive BOE [Scanned]

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**From:** MOMS  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 20, 2009 9:34 AM  
**To:** MOMS  
**Subject:** News from the Mount Olive BOE [Scanned]

### Mount Olive Public Schools IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

I am writing to let you know that the 2009-10 school budget was finalized on Monday May 18. As you may know, the BOE's proposed budget was defeated by the voters of the town a few weeks ago. In accordance with state law, the Mount Olive Town Council reviewed the 09-10 school budget and cut an additional \$550,645.

On Monday, May 18, the Mount Olive Board of Education formally adopted many of the budget reduction recommendations of the Town Council bringing the 2009-10 budget into balance with the authorized tax levy. Unfortunately, due to a lack of sufficient funding, a number of budget expenditure requests had to be denied and services reduced or eliminated. Among the items cut were a:

1. **Reduction in "courtesy bussing"**. A total of **nine routes** were eliminated for high school students that live inside of Routes 206 and 46. Those students residing on either side of HWY's 46 or 206 **will continue to be bussed** as we have in the past. However, MOHS students that live closer then 2.5 miles from the school and **inside of 206 and 46 will no longer be bussed**. A letter verifying the transport status for each student will be mailed home within the next few weeks.
2. **Reduction in the number of bus routes for all other schools. Five additional bus routes** were cut from the 2009-10 school budget. The reductions will not result in the loss of riding privileges however. Instead, to enable the remaining buses to maximize their efficiency by "triple stacking" their routes (each bus driver transports students from all three levels of school; elementary, middle, and high school), all school start and end times will change next fall. The projected **new start/end times** will be:

<b>High School</b>	<b>7:17 AM - 2:17 PM</b>
<b>Middle School</b>	<b>7:50 AM - 2:50 PM</b>
<b>Elementary</b>	<b>8:45 AM - 3:40 PM</b>

These changes save over \$50,000 without resulting in a loss of services for students.

3. **Reduction in the number of "late" bus runs**. The Mount Olive schools provide after school clubs and activities for well over one thousand students each year. Currently, students are provided a bus ride home after school, regardless of their home's distance from school each day. Going forward,

the so-called “late bus routes” will be **reduced** to only **two days per week** of service (as opposed to five days of service). To compensate, most clubs and activities will move their meeting day to a day when “late runs” are provided. Student athletes will most likely be affected however because most teams practice every day in season.

4. **Elimination of proposed musical instrument leases.** The school district will cancel its plans to procure new musical instruments. (We had planned to replace expensive instruments like tubas and tympani).
5. **Reduction in technology expenditures.** The District’s plan to procure new student-based technology was cut by 38%. We will move forward to provide new computer labs in MOHS, moving the high school computers to the elementary buildings next fall.
6. **Reduction in the projections for fuel and energy expenditures.** District projections for energy-related expenses were cut by 10%.
7. **Cancellation of proposed furniture purchases.** High school choral risers and school furniture purchases have been canceled.
8. **Elimination of planned new bus, digital cameras, and transportation software.** All items were cut.
9. **Elimination of proposed special education teachers at MOMS and MOHS.** 1.6 (fulltime equivalent) positions were eliminated from the budget
10. **Cancellation of a plan to restore middle school sports.** The plan to restore middle school sports programs was scrapped.
11. **Elimination of an additional secretary position at MOHS.**
12. **Termination of District funding for School Resource Officer program at MOMS.** It is expected that the SRO will continue until the end of funding sometime in the winter of 2010.

These reductions are in addition to the:

Elimination of Chinese program at MOHS, elimination of German teaching position at MOHS, elimination of an elementary art teacher, elimination of all 8 central office “supervisor” Department Chair grade 6 – 12 positions, one central office secretary, and the Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Personnel position, elimination of 5 regular ed. aides, elimination of one secretary at MOHS, elimination of teacher Access stipends, elimination of the hall monitor stipend at MOHS, elimination of the transportation expenses for the MOHS ice hockey program, and the elimination of one nurse at MOHS/MOMS. In addition, the District will close buildings this summer one day per week to save money, reduce 1 contracted bus run, and institute a Student Activities User Fee at MOHS (the new fee will be \$100 per student, per sport for athletics and \$25 per student, per club or activity).

Because all future services to Mount Olive students are dependent on the Town’s willingness to lend financial support, all of us associated with the Mount Olive Public Schools will do our best to provide the very best education that we can with the resources you provide.

Mark Werner, President Mount Olive Board of Education