

BUDGET DEFEAT PROCESS

FACT SHEET

In the event that the budget does not meet voter approval on April 20, 2010, a series of legal mechanisms ensue to set the certified tax levy for the 2010-2011 school budget.

After consultation with the board of education and Dr. Carmine M. Centuolo, Union County Executive Superintendent of Schools, the Municipal Governing Body is to determine and certify the amount to be raised by local taxes.

If the tax levy certified by the municipal body for the base budget is less than the amount proposed by the board of education, the municipal body in the form of a resolution must present to the board of education and the executive county superintendent a statement of the **specific line-item reductions or increases to budgeted revenues** and a statement that the revised budget is sufficient to provide a thorough and efficient education. The board of education is not bound to the specific reductions identified by the municipal body, only the total amount of the reduction in the tax levy. There are also opportunities for the board of education to appeal to the commissioner of education the decision of the municipal governing body.

Note: The final determined budget must be sufficient to provide a thorough and efficient education or maintain the stability of the district under the terms of the law. Additionally, the amount of tax levy appropriated for this purpose must be sufficient to meet the local share required by law (N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-5).

The following programs and services that the Board of Education offers would be under consideration for elimination or modification in the event the budget is not approved on April 20th:

- Total elimination of the Pre-Kindergarten Program
- Reducing all-day Kindergarten to a half-day program
- Reducing the Basic Skills staff up to two (2) positions
- Elimination of the summer school program for basic skills (maintaining special education programs only)
- Elimination of the School Resource Officer Program
- Reductions to the Technology budget
- Additional reductions to athletic & extra-curricular programs
- Reduction of lunchroom and playground supervision
- Reductions to the secretarial and clerical staffs
- Reductions to preventative facilities maintenance items
- Elimination of participation in the Middle States Program
- Elimination of Summer Guidance Staff
- Modification of elective opportunities including but not limited to Fine Arts, Music, World Languages and Home Economics
- Additional privatization of custodial services including day shift, grounds and maintenance personnel
- Modifications to nursing services and library services

The above programs/items are not in priority order