

**PRESENTED BY: MAURER, SOYARS, DEBEVEC
ENDRES, LYSENKO, WAGNER, MEGYES, AVANT & FREY**

**RESOLUTION NO. 112-2012
SPONSORED BY: MR. WAGNER**

TITLE: SCHOOL LEVY ENDORSEMENT

**A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BARBERTON
ENDORING THE BARBERTON CITY SCHOOLS FIVE-YEAR, 8.52 MILL
EMERGENCY OPERATING LEVY, KNOWN AS ISSUE #3, ON THE AUGUST 7,
2012, SPECIAL ELECTION BALLOT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

WHEREAS, Barberton City Council feels strongly that quality education be offered to the children in this community; and

WHEREAS, the District has not received *new* operating money in seven years. The last levy passed in March 2005; and

WHEREAS, reductions in funding from the Federal Government (which accounts for 9% of the district's operating money), the State (which accounts for 62%), and the devaluation of real estate values in Barberton for the past several years (which is 29% of their operating money) have led to a loss of almost \$4,000,000.00 in operating money; and

WHEREAS, this levy will only allow the district to replace lost revenue; and

WHEREAS, over the past five years, the Board of Education and district administrators have cut spending over \$4 million by: eliminating 50 positions over the past two years, including 36 teachers this year; reducing administrators by 32% over the last five years; negotiating with teachers and administrators to take a 3-year pay freeze with no step increases and to pay a larger share of healthcare insurance; reducing the coaching staff; shortening the school day for the Middle School and the High School; and reducing elective offerings at the Middle School and High School; and

WHEREAS, although operational expenses are being reduced by consolidating buildings, without additional revenue, there will be a reduction of busing transportation; a Pay-to-Participate for athletics, clubs, band, etc.; elimination of field trips; half-day kindergarten; elimination of music and art for Grades K-4; reduction of elementary school hours; further cuts of elective classes for middle school; reduction of gifted services; and

WHEREAS, the passage of Issue #3 will allow our children to be better prepared to enter college and the workforce upon graduation; and

WHEREAS, Barberton City Council strongly supports the emergency operating levy for the Barberton City Schools and urges the passage of Issue #3 on August 7, 2012.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Barberton, State of Ohio:

SECTION 1. That this Council hereby endorses the Barberton City Schools five-year, 8.52 mill emergency operating levy, Issue #3, on the August 7, 2012, special election ballot.

SECTION 2. That it is hereby found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the passage of this ordinance were taken in an open meeting of this Council and that all deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were meetings open to the public in compliance with the law.

SECTION 3. That this resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, safety, convenience and welfare of the City of Barberton and the inhabitants thereof, for the reason that it is needed to show support prior to the August 7, 2012, special election, and provided it receives the necessary votes required by the City Charter, shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval; otherwise to be in full force and effect from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

Passed _____ 2012

Clerk of Council

President of Council

Approved _____ 2012

Mayor