



**to help save
Keeth Elementary**

Dear Keeth Families:

Seminole County Public Schools is faced with difficult challenges. Due to reductions in the Seminole County Public School's operating budget, drastic cuts need to be made to accommodate a \$20 million dollar deficit for the 2012-13 school year. One option in bridging this financial gap is the closure of 1 or possibly 2 County schools. A list was compiled by the School Board and publicly released last Tuesday. **Our school is listed as #2 on the list of schools to potentially be closed.**

How was this decision made? The Seminole County School Board met on Tuesday, 1/16 and reviewed information about eight elementary schools on a list of possible school closings. George Kosmac, the Deputy Superintendent of Operations, presented the information. After reviewing schools that had student populations of 751 students or less and were not impacted by the Longwood closing, they looked at three criteria; facilities improvement costs, bus transportation counts and whether or not a closed school's students could be absorbed by a school in an adjacent zone. Geneva and Keeth ranked first and second followed by Casselberry, Hamilton, Stenstrom, Wekiva and Carillon (Lake Orienta was also on the list, but is not being considered due to there absorbing the students from Hopper Center that is closing this year).

What can YOU do?

1. **Attend Meetings**

- Get informed and show your support for Keeth wearing blue and purple and anything that identifies you as a Keeth supporter!

2. **Contact the School Board**

- Focus on not selecting Keeth.
- Request a vote for the 1-mil tax increase, we support this tax!

3. **Contact our State Legislators**

- Ask for Emergency Funding for the Seminole County School District, this would eliminate the need for immediate closures.
- Ask for them to not pass SB2100 that would cost SCPS \$6.7 million.

4. **Educate Others**

- Ensure that your neighbors and friends understand the impact of a Keeth closure.
- Share how everyone can make a difference in our community.

Our time line is short. Decisions will be made about school closures by the end of February. The time to act is now! If our school is selected the doors at Keeth will close at the end of this school year!! Don't let this happen. This handout has contact information for the Seminole County School Board as well as key State Legislators. Please, make phone calls and send emails. Key information is listed next to each group to help identify important talking points. Additional information is available at KeethPTA.org. This site will be continually updated with the latest information on potential school closing.