

# KEEPING SYCAMORE EXCELLENT SCHOOL BOARD

By: Sarah Jarnicki

**D**ue to budgeting issues, life at school was a little different. Teachers were let go, certain classes were no longer being offered, and activity buses were cut. The school had reduced spending up to \$6.1 million. In order to make such a significant cut, unfortunately, more than 60 positions had been cut.

On the flip side, **Principal Dr. Keith Kelly** climbed the ladder on the administrative staff. The Board of Education has promoted **Kelly** to become the Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources and Operations.

What this meant for the high school, was we had a new principal! **Mr. Kenji Matsudo**, former assistant principal moved up to be the head of the school.

"I will miss the kids and the support of the excellent staff...but I am looking forward to working with the Board to

making Sycamore a better place," said **Kelly**.

Students missed **Dr. Kelly's** daily "GO AVES!" on the morning announcements, but were excited for the changes ahead for the high school.

"I was really excited for him to be the whole school's principal, since for the last 3 years he's been our grade's principal. And I mean, he's a fabulous guy!" said

As things changed, our school continued to be rated excellent. Ranked 524 nationally by Newsweek, and with enrollment up our school remained a great place to learn. We have maintained our excellent rating on the state report card.

"I feel this place has prepared me for my future, as it has given me a great education," said **Megan Frank, 11**.



**Head of the district, Dr. Karen Mantia superintendent makes very important decisions for the community and the schools.** She has served the district for the past four years. Her chief decisions are calling off school for snow days, working with the budget, analyzing school board policies and rules, not necessarily in that order.

## SEE WHAT THE STUDENTS THINK...

Changes to the school are difficult, because even if you change one thing, someone will be personally affected by it.

- **Nicole Smile, 12**



I'm really glad the levy passed. It was really scary how it almost failed though and just how close of a call it was. It was a real eye opener.

- **Alex Androski, 11**



## ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR

### 2004-2005

**Graduation Requirements changed. Student's no longer have to take Careers and have to take one less Gym class.**

**The school board found a way to budget our school's funds by cutting 60 teachers.**

**The levy passed!**

**This is where all of the decisions are made!** The Board of Education building is located on Cooper Road. Former **Principal, Dr. Keith Kelly**, began to spend a lot of time in this building as Assistant Superintendant.



**The school board meets twice a month to discuss various issues affecting the community.** These meetings occurred at E.H. Greene School and Blue Ash Elementary School. All meetings were open for the community to attend.

