

# PROGRESS - YES EMINENT DOMAIN - NO

Using YOUR tax dollars, the Avon School Board has voted to begin the process of Eminent Domain to seize fellow Avon resident, Mary Jane Wolfe's land for development of a new middle school. These proceedings have begun without any public input on the matter. On March 18<sup>th</sup>, nearly 100 outraged members of the community attended the most recent School Board Meeting to determine whether this was the most viable option for the future of our schools. Those in attendance were not given any reasonable explanation for the apprehension of this land.

The Avon School Board needs to be held accountable for such rash decisions that directly affect not only innocent home owners in Avon, but also hard working tax payers that will front the bill for the legal expenses involved when invoking such proceedings.

**\*The Avon BOE spent \$536,991.71 on legal fees from August 2003 to September 2007\***

A request for public records was made and the Avon School Board obliged. However, they refused to disclose the specific purpose behind **\$397,922.47** that has been dispersed over this time frame. According to *The Cleveland Plain Dealer*, the Avon School District spent \$193 per student on legal fees for at three year period ending October 15, 2006. This was the **highest amount per student spent on legal fees in Lorain County** and seventh highest per student on legal fees in a nine county area in Northeast Ohio.

WE, as citizens, are paying to strip Mary Jane of the land that has been in her family for generations without having a say. The Avon School Board has determined, that despite there being available land that is FOR SALE in Avon, they want HER land. WE, as citizens, need to stand up for what is right and help Mary Jane Wolfe in her battle to keep the land that is rightfully hers. The best way to do this is to formally voice your opinion by contacting the Avon School Board members and local newspapers.

**Please help our fellow neighbor by expressing your concerns in writing to any and all of the following people:**

## Avon Board Members:

**Jim Reitenbach**  
Superintendent  
246 Crestview Drive  
Elyria, OH 44035  
(440) 365-6683  
[ReitenbachJ@avon.k12.oh.us](mailto:ReitenbachJ@avon.k12.oh.us)

**Dale Smitek**  
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**Susan Harrison\***  
3701 Williams Ct.  
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\*voted against Eminent Domain  
at 2/19/08 Avon BOE Mtg.

**Kevin Romanchok\***  
36285 Southington Ct.  
Avon, OH 44011  
(440) 934-0734  
[for-avon-schools@roadrunner.com](mailto:for-avon-schools@roadrunner.com)  
\*voted against Eminent Domain  
at 2/19/08 Avon BOE Mtg.

## Local News Affiliates:

**The Lorain Morning Journal**  
[tskoch@morningjournal.com](mailto:tskoch@morningjournal.com)  
Attn: Letter to the Editor  
1657 Broadway  
Lorain, OH 44053

**The Chronicle**  
[letters@chroniclet.com](mailto:letters@chroniclet.com)  
Attn: Letter to the Editor  
225 East Ave.  
Elyria, OH 44035

**The Avon Lake Press**  
[LSwitaj@2presspapers.com](mailto:LSwitaj@2presspapers.com)  
Attn: Letter to the Editor  
158 Lear Road  
Avon Lake, OH 44012

**The Sun News**  
Attn: Letter to the Editor  
28895 Lorain Road  
N. Olmsted, OH 44070

**The Cleveland Plain Dealer**  
[www.cleveland.com/contactus](http://www.cleveland.com/contactus)

If you are interested in obtaining additional information or to volunteer your time, visit

[www.AvonCitizensforChange.com](http://www.AvonCitizensforChange.com)