

Ridgefield Supt. seeks ballot question, again

Cheryl O'Brien , Staff Writer, @CherylDaleNews 1:47 a.m. EST November 15, 2016



(Photo: RICHARD BOUHET, AFP/Getty Images)

RIDGEFIELD — Superintendent Frank Romano wants the Board of Education to ask voters early next year to approve spending \$1.14 million to hire more teachers after a similar proposal was rejected last week.

Voters nixed the tax levy in a 1,207 to 845 vote on Election Day.

If the referendum was approved, school officials would have hired faculty in science, business and world languages, among other subjects. School officials would have hired counselors, media specialists and a maintenance worker. Some funds would have been set aside for repairing school buildings.

"This is something they have never tried in Ridgefield," Superintendent Frank Romano said, adding many public referendums pertain to "brick and mortar" improvements, such as adding building space. "It's the physical things people see, feel, and touch — not about improving programs."

If approved, the tax would have cost the average homeowner, with a home assessed at \$389,090, more than \$270 per year. School officials said that it would cost about 75 cents a day.

He is planning a volunteer public relations campaign for approval of the question in January.

obrienc@northjersey.com

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