For Immediate Release

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Oaks Elementary Staff Take the Weight Off during Annual Spring-Ford Area School District Competition

Oaks—Spring-Ford Area School District employees competed to be the biggest losing school in the 4th annual Weight Loss Challenge. This program supports the Students Need an Alternative Party post-prom program. The five Oaks Elementary School participants took the title with a combined loss of 4.37 percent of their starting weight.

"I was thrilled to participate once again in the Weight Loss Challenge. Our team of five encouraged each other along the way, supported one another on a bad day and celebrated the amazing results. Winning was a great boost of self-esteem," Oaks Elementary School Counselor Jennifer McVay said. "The best part was knowing that the money raised would be given to Students Need an Alternative Party, a wonderful event, organized by so many, to ensure a safe, entertaining evening for all juniors and seniors."

Over the four weeks, the 63 staff members who represented nine of the Spring-Ford Area schools encouraged each other to exercise and eat right. While Oaks Elementary won the competition, participants lost a collective 286.5 pound and raised over \$600 for SNAP.

"It's fantastic to see the staff take part in an activity that benefits their health, promotes student safety, and contributes financially to a great cause" Evans Elementary Certified School Nurse Laura Murphy said. "Our loss is our students' gain!"

Over the past four years, the program has encouraged staff to lose over 1,500 pounds and raise \$3,190 for post-prom. In order to participate in the Weight Loss Challenge, staff members contribute \$10 to the post-prom program.

SNAP is a group of concerned parents and community members working with the Spring-Ford Education Foundation to provide a spectacular post-prom event for all district juniors and seniors in order to keep students from participating in dangerous after prom activities.

Editors' Note: For more information contact Caitlin Burns at 215-884-6499.