



New Lenox School District 122

102 South Cedar Road, New Lenox, Illinois 60451

Phone 815-485-2169 Fax 815-485-2236

Margaret M. Manville, Ed.D., Superintendent

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New Lenox School District 122 2016 Tentative Property Tax Levy

(New Lenox, IL, November 16, 2016) – The New Lenox School District 122 Board of Education met Wednesday night at its regularly scheduled Board meeting to discuss the 2016 Tentative Levy. Detailed information was submitted to the Board of Education and District Administration publically presented additional information during the meeting.

According to the NLS D122 Business Manager, local property taxes fund 79% of New Lenox School District 122's operating budget. The State contributes 13%, the federal government contributes 3%, and other grants, taxes and fees contribute about 5%. The State of Illinois' school funding laws determine how various school districts are funded. New Lenox is considered to have relatively higher property values and lower poverty, therefore, the State of Illinois requires local property tax payers to fund a higher percentage of the schools. The NLS D122 Business Manager says that one benefit to being in this situation is that at least you know that your tax dollars are being reinvested into your neighborhood schools and not being sent to the State level to then be re-distributed to other areas of the State.

According to the NLS D122 Business Manager, New Lenox School District 122 has worked diligently to keep operating costs as low as possible over past years. On average, expenses have increased less than ½ of a percent per school year over the past 7 years. The most recent state average operating expense per pupil for elementary school districts is \$12,173 per student. NLS D122's average is \$1,319 per student lower at \$10,854 per student. Keeping operating costs under control help to keep tax bills as low as possible.

The total NLS D122 property tax extension for 2015 was \$49,255,433. The total expected NLS D122 property tax extension for 2016 is \$50,571,909. This represents a 2.67% increase. The NLS D122 Business Manager says that it's important to note that \$8,709,563 of the tax extension is obligated to pay the debt costs associated with school buildings built under approved referendums in the past.

Although the total extension is increasing 2.67%, New Lenox has experienced significant property growth and therefore the new property added to the district will help to offset some tax costs. An average market value home of \$250K should see an approximate 1.2% (\$37 per year) increase in the amount of tax due to NLS D122 for the 2016 levy. The NLS D122 Business Manager says that each individual tax bill is unique and can fluctuate based on your individual exemptions and your home's most recent re-assessment. The estimated overall average residential property value increased about 2.94% for the 2016 tax year.

The final 2016 property tax levy will be discussed and voted on at the December 21, 2016 school board meeting. A public hearing will be held for comments and discussion on December 21, 2016 at 6:30PM. The location of the public hearing and board meeting is 102 S. Cedar Rd. New Lenox, IL 60451.