RIVERSIDE PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT 96

3340 S. Harlem Ave. Riverside, IL 60546
708-447-5007
708-447-3252 *fax*
www.district96.org

To: **Dr. Ryan-Toye & District 96 Board of Education**

From: **Steve Wilder**

RE: **2026 Tax Levy**

Date: **November 12, 2026**

The tax levy is the school district's request for funding provided by local property owners for the operation of the school district. Property Tax funding is the largest portion of our annual revenue. While it's the Board's responsibility to approve a tax levy (our request), it is the County Assessor's responsibility to assess the value of property, and the County Clerk's responsibility to collect property taxes and extend tax revenue to taxing bodies such as ours. The final tax rate is a function of our request and the value of property within the school district.

District 96's levy is straightforward due to the fact that there is very little new construction that occurs annually. As a point of reference, "new property" in the 2025 tax year was $2.6 million, which represented 0.4% of the total EAV in our district. I have contacted the Riverside Township Assessor and neither the final EAV nor value of new property for the 2026 levy is known yet. It's also important to note that the 2026 Tax Year is a reassessment year for our township.

For comparative purposes, I am including the 2025 levy and the proposed 2026 levy that I am asking the Board to approve on December 16. As part of this approval process, the Board will also hold a public hearing at the beginning of the Board Meeting on December 16.

The following represents the key points of the 2026 Levy:

- CPI for this levy is 2.7% (down from 2.9% last year). This levy reflects an increase of 4.94%, but what we will receive is limited to an increase equal to CPI (2.7%) from the 2025 tax extension. Levying above the 2.7% limit allows the district to maximize revenue to provide opportunities for students and support our staff, but the extension will be limited to an increase of 2.7%.

- Although the proposed levy increase is under the 5% threshold for the requirements of a Truth in Taxation hearing, the district has a history of holding such a hearing annually. I believe this is a good practice, and this hearing should be held at the beginning of the regular Board Meeting on December 16.

Original: X
Amended:

ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
School Business Services Division
217/785-8779

CERTIFICATE OF TAX LEVY

A copy of this Certificate of Tax Levy shall be filed with the County Clerk of each county in which the school district is located on or before the last Tuesday of December.

District Name	District Number	County
Riverside School District 96	06-016-0960-02	Cook

Amount of Levy

Educational	$ 25,224,285	Fire Prevention & Safety *	$ 0
Operations & Maintenance	$ 3,300,000	Tort Immunity	$ 6,000
Transportation	$ 606,000	Special Education	$ 2,000,000
Working Cash	$ 250,000	Leasing	$ 0
Municipal Retirement	$ 500,000	Other	$ 0
Social Security	$ 500,000	Other	$ 0
		Total Levy	$ 32,386,285

* Includes Fire Prevention, Safety, Energy Conservation, Disabled Accessibility, School Security, and Specified Repair Purposes.

See explanation on reverse side.
Note: Any district proposing to adopt a levy must comply with the provisions set forth in the Truth in Taxation Law.

We hereby certify that we require:

the sum of 25,224,285 dollars to be levied as a special tax for educational purposes; and
the sum of 3,300,000 dollars to be levied as a special tax for operations and maintenance purposes; and
the sum of 606,000 dollars to be levied as a special tax for transportation purposes; and
the sum of 250,000 dollars to be levied as a special tax for a working cash fund; and
the sum of 500,000 dollars to be levied as a special tax for municipal retirement purposes; and
the sum of 500,000 dollars to be levied as a special tax for social security purposes; and
the sum of 0 dollars to be levied as a special tax for fire prevention, safety, energy conservation, disabled accessibility, school security and specified repair purposes; and
the sum of 6,000 dollars to be levied as a special tax for tort immunity purposes; and
the sum of 2,000,000 dollars to be levied as a special tax for special education purposes; and
the sum of 0 dollars to be levied as a special tax for leasing of educational facilities or computer technology or both, and temporary relocation expense purposes; and
the sum of 0 dollars to be levied as a special tax for _____; and
the sum of 0 dollars to be levied as a special tax for _____
on the taxable property of our school district for the year _____.

Signed this 19th day of November 20 25.

Wesley Cousin
(President)

Stephanie Tanno
(Clerk or Secretary of the School Board of Said School District)

When any school is authorized to issue bonds, the school board shall file a certified copy of the resolution in the office of the county clerk of each county in which the district is situated to provide for the issuance of the bonds and to levy a tax to pay for them. The county clerk shall extend the tax for bonds and interest as set forth in the certified copy of the resolution, each year during the life of the bond issue. Therefore to avoid a possible duplication of tax levies, the school board should not include a levy for bonds and interest in the district's annual tax levy.

Number of bond issues of said school district that have not been paid in full 0.

(Detach and Return to School District)

This is to certify that the Certificate of Tax Levy for School District No. 96, Cook County, Illinois, on the equalized assesed value of all taxable property of said school district for the year 2025, was filed in the office of the County Clerk of this County on _____.
In addition to an extension of taxes authorized by levies made by the Board of Education (Directors), an additional extension(s) will be made, as authorized by resolution(s) on file in this office, to provide funds to retire bonds and pay interest thereon.
The total levy, as provided in the original resolution(s), for said purposes for the year 2025, is $ _____.

_____
(Signature of County Clerk)

_____ _____
(Date) *(County)*

ISBE Form 50-02 (08/2017) ctl2017.xls

ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
School Business and Support Services Division
(217) 785-8779

Original: x
Amended:

CERTIFICATE OF TAX LEVY

A copy of this Certificate of Tax Levy shall be filed with the County Clerk of each county in which the school district is located on or before the last Tuesday of December.

District Name	District Number	County
Riverside SD	96	Cook

Amount of Levy

Educational	$ 26,360,452	**Fire Prevention & Safety ***	$ 0
Operations & Maintenance	$ 3,448,643	**Tort Immunity**	$ 6,150
Transportation	$ 714,011	**Special Education**	$ 2,049,102
Working Cash	$ 256,136	**Leasing**	$ 0
Municipal Retirement	$ 512,277		$ 0
Social Security	$ 512,277	**Other**	$ 0
		Total Levy	$ 33,859,048

* Includes Fire Prevention, Safety, Energy Conservation, Disabled Accessibility, School Security, and Specified Repair Purposes.

See explanation on reverse side.
Note: Any district proposing to adopt a levy must comply with the provisions set forth in the Truth in Taxation Law.

We hereby certify that we require:

the sum of 26,360,452 dollars to be levied as a special tax for educational purposes; and
the sum of 3,448,643 dollars to be levied as a special tax for operations and maintenance purposes; and
the sum of 714,011 dollars to be levied as a special tax for transportation purposes; and
the sum of 256,136 dollars to be levied as a special tax for a working cash fund; and
the sum of 512,277 dollars to be levied as a special tax for municipal retirement purposes; and
the sum of 512,277 dollars to be levied as a special tax for social security purposes; and
the sum of 0 dollars to be levied as a special tax for fire prevention, safety, energy conservation, disabled accessibility, school security and specified repair purposes; and
the sum of 6,150 dollars to be levied as a special tax for tort immunity purposes; and
the sum of 2,049,102 dollars to be levied as a special tax for special education purposes; and
the sum of 0 dollars to be levied as a special tax for leasing of educational facilities or computer technology or both, and temporary relocation expense purposes; and
the sum of 0 dollars to be levied as a special tax for _____; and
the sum of 0 dollars to be levied as a special tax for _____
on the taxable property of our school district for the year 2026

Signed this [Day] day of [Month] 2026 .

_____
(President)

_____
(Clerk or Secretary of the School Board of Said School District)

When any school is authorized to issue bonds, the school board shall file a certified copy of the resolution in the office of the county clerk of each county in which the district is situated to provide for the issuance of the bonds and to levy a tax to pay for them. The county clerk shall extend the tax for bonds and interest as set forth in the certified copy of the resolution, each year during the life of the bond issue. Therefore to avoid a possible duplication of tax levies, the school board should not include a levy for bonds and interest in the district's annual tax levy.

Number of bond issues of said school district that have not been paid in full 0 .

(Detach and Return to School District)

This is to certify that the Certificate of Tax Levy for School District No. 96 , Cook County, Illinois, on the equalized assesed value of all taxable property of said school district for the year 2026 was filed in the office of the County Clerk of this County on _____ , 2026 .

In addition to an extension of taxes authorized by levies made by the Board of Education (Directors), an additional extension(s) will be made, as authorized by resolution(s) on file in this office, to provide funds to retire bonds and pay interest thereon. The total levy, as provided in the original resolution(s), for said purposes for the year 2026 , is $ _____ .

_____
(Signature of County Clerk)

_____ _____
(Date) *(County)*

School District

2026 TAX LEVY ANALYSIS - CONSERVATIVE SCENARIO

Prior year EAV	$ 653,623,908	Cap rate (CPI)	2.70%
Current EAV less new property, etc.	751,667,494	Prior year extension excluding bonds and Levy Adjustment	$ 32,266,405
Current new property, etc.	1,000,000		
Total current EAV	$ 752,667,494	Limiting rate (calculated)	4.409

	Levy Amount	Loss Amount	Total Levy	Tax Rate Ceiling	Maximum Allowable Levy	Limited Levy	Preliminary Tax Rate	PTELA Reduction	Final Extension	Final Tax Rate
Education	$26,360,452	$ 790,814	$ 27,151,266	$ -	$ 27,151,266	$ 27,151,266	$ 3.6073	$ -	$ 25,838,529	$ 3.4329
Operations & maint.	3,448,643	103,459	3,552,102	0.5500	3,600,431	3,552,102	0.4719	-	3,380,361	0.4491
Transportation	714,011	21,420	735,431	-	735,431	735,431	0.0977	-	699,874	0.0930
IMRF	512,277	15,368	527,645	-	527,645	527,645	0.0701	-	502,134	0.0667
Social security	512,277	15,368	527,645	-	527,645	527,645	0.0701	-	502,134	0.0667
Liability insurance	6,150	185	6,335	-	6,335	6,335	0.0008	-	6,029	0.0008
Life safety	-	-	-	0.1000	654,624	-	-	-	-	-
Working cash	256,136	7,684	263,820	0.0500	327,312	263,820	0.0351	-	251,065	0.0334
Special education	2,049,102	61,473	2,110,575	0.4000	2,618,496	2,110,575	0.2804	-	2,008,531	0.2669
Total Cap Funds	33,859,048	1,015,771	34,874,819			34,874,819	4.6330	-	33,188,657	4.4100
Bond & Interest	-	-	-	-		-	-		-	-
Total All Funds	$ 33,859,048	$ 1,015,771	$ 34,874,819			$ 34,874,819	$ 4.6330		$ 33,188,657	$ 4.4100
Truth in taxation increase	104.94%					Reduction factor		95.1651%		

Increase attributable to cap rate (CPI)	$ 871,193
Increase attributable to new EAV	51,059
Total increase from prior year extension	922,252

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