3A. Action Date: September 12, 2005

SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF TAX LEVY ORDINANCE FOR 2005-06 FISCAL YEAR

**BOARD GOAL:** Budget and Finance

FISCAL NOTE: Revenue from Local Taxes

## **Background Information:**

1. Tax rate must be set before September 30.

- 2. Required Ordinance to set tax rate
- 3. The Ordinance must include the individual and combined rate to be set.
- 4. The recent 79<sup>th</sup> Legislature enacted a law that has been interpreted by the comptroller's office to require all taxing entities to calculate an effective tax rate and make a statement in the adopted ordinance, the motion to approve and a web posting to include a statement if the tax rate will exceed the effective maintenance and operation tax rate.

## **Administrative Considerations:**

- 1. There are three options for the Maintenance and Operations Tax Rate to support the 2005-2006 budget. All three options will exceed the effective tax rate as defined by SB18 of the 79<sup>th</sup> Legislature.
  - a. Adopt the published proposed rate of \$1.4511, with the excess revenue to go to fund balance.
  - b. Adopt the rate that will fund the adopted budget at \$1.4384 with no excess funds.
  - c. Adopt the same rate as 2004-2005 at \$1.4336 and utilize \$359,630 of the district's fund balance. Currently, before closing the 2004-2005 school year the fund balance is approximately \$26 million.
- 2. Set the Debt Service Tax Rate at \$0.2822 and utilize \$2,463,940 from the Debt Service fund balance to support the district's 2005-2006 fiscal year obligation for previously approved bonds voted by the public including the 2005 bond issue.

- 3. Set a combined tax rate as set forth in one of the options below for the 2005-2006 fiscal year.
  - a. The published proposed combined rate of \$1.7333 (\$1.4511 for Maintenance and Operations and \$0.2822 for Debt Service).
  - b. The rate that will fund the budget without fund balance of \$1.7206 (\$1.4384 for Maintenance and Operations and \$0.2822 for Debt Service).
  - c. The combined rate of \$1.7158 and utilize \$359,630 of fund balance for the Maintenance and Operation Fund (\$1.4336 and a rate of \$0.2822 for Debt Service).

The administration recommends the Board of Trustees approve the Tax Levy Ordinance for the 2005-2006 school year that establishes the combined tax rate at \$1.7158 of which \$1.4336 will be for Maintenance and Operations and \$0.2822 will be for Debt Service and use \$359,630 of the Maintenance and Operations fund balance for Maintenance and Operations and \$2,463,940 of Debt Service Fund Balance for Debt Service.

Respectfully submitted,

Kent Morrison Chief Financial Officer