

To: Board of Education
From: Margo Empen, Superintendent
Subject: Action Item, Approve the Tax Levy, Dec. 18, 2024

PROPOSED MOTION BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

That the Board approve the tax levy, as presented.

Moved by _____; Seconded by _____

YEA	NAY	YEA	NAY
____ David Fritts	____	____ Brandon Rogers	____
____ Melissa Gates	____	____ Jon Wadsworth	____
____ Kathleen Schaefer	____	____ Linda Wegner	____
____ Linda LeBlanc-Parks	____		

Background:

On November 20, 2024, the Board of Education received the proposed 2024 Tax Year Levy. At that meeting the Board adopted a resolution necessary to begin the levy process. The Board of Education is required to determine the estimated amount of taxes necessary to be levied at least twenty (20) days before adopting the levy. The attached resolution, Certificate of Levy and Truth in Taxation Certificates of Compliance will complete the levy process. The District’s levy must then be filed with both the Lee and Ogle County Clerks by the last Tuesday in December which is the legally established deadline for doing so.

This levy will be extended in the spring and summer of 2025 and represents tax revenues that will be collected to operate the FY 26 (2025-2026) school year. It is important that the Board realizes that the assessed value figure for the 2024 tax year is a projection. We will not have actual 2024 Equalized Assessed Value figures until April or May of next year, but the District will not have the opportunity to amend the 2024 tax levy at that time. Because of this time cycle, the tendency is to estimate the assessed value slightly on the high side. A taxing body can and probably will get less, but it cannot get more than its levy.

Although actual 2024 EAV figures will not be available from either Lee or Ogle Counties for several months, estimates from the assessors’ offices show a combined EAV increase while taking into consideration exemptions or new construction. Therefore, the 15.0% figure used to calculate the proposed levy is based primarily upon an estimated 9.5% EAV increase.

District Administration recommends the Board of Education adopt the attached resolution, Certificate of Levy and Truth in Taxation Certificates of Compliance on December 18, 2024. The information will then be filed with the appropriate documents with both county clerks