

BOARD OF EDUCATION  
The School District of Independence

12148

The Board of Education met for a Tax Rate Levy Hearing on Tuesday, August 10, 2021, at 5:45 p.m. in the Board Room at the Board of Education Office, 201 North Forest Avenue, Independence, Missouri.

Members Present: Mrs. Denise Fears, President  
Mr. Eric Knipp, Vice President  
Dr. Matt Mallinson, Treasurer  
Mrs. Jill Esry, Director  
Mr. Blake Roberson, Director  
Mrs. Carrie Dixon, Director

Member Absent: Mr. Greg Finke, Director

Also Present: Dr. Dale Herl, Superintendent  
Dr. Lance Stout, Dr. Cindy Grant, staff, patrons, and Ms. Annette Miller.

The meeting was called to order by the President, Mrs. Denise Fears, and minutes of the meeting were recorded by the secretary, Ms. Annette Miller. Mrs. Fears stated the purpose of this meeting was for a public hearing on the proposed 2021-2022 Tax Rate Levy.

Dr. Herl reviewed the proposed Tax Rate Levy for the 2021-2022 school year. He shared a recap of the District's Tax Levy history and Assessed Valuation. This year's current Assessed Valuation is \$1,205,630,195 compared to last years' of \$1,113,299,833. He explained that the law allows the District to recoup funds of \$0.0404 from the prior year due to the Assessed Valuation drop in 2020. Dr. Herl said based on the preliminary Assessed Valuation dated June 29, 2021 from the Jackson County Clerk's office, the Administration is recommending a Tax Rate Levy for the 2021-2022 school year of \$4.1407 for the Operating Fund and \$1.2964 for the Debt Service fund for a total of \$5.4371 per \$100 of Assessed Valuation. The District submits the Tax Rate Summary to the County Clerk's Office and then to the State Auditor's Office annually, using the State's forms for their approval.

The Board of Education expressed appreciation for the School District for being good stewards of the District's funds.

There being no further business to come before the Board of Education, the motion was made by Eric Knipp, second by Jill Esry, at 5:48 p.m. to adjourn the meeting. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

  
Secretary

  
President

BOARD OF EDUCATION  
The School District of Independence

12149

The Board of Education met in regular session Tuesday, August 10, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room at the Board of Education Office, 201 North Forest Avenue, Independence, Missouri.

Members Present: Mrs. Denise Fears, President  
Mr. Eric Knipp, Vice President  
Dr. Matt Mallinson, Treasurer  
Mrs. Jill Esry, Director  
Mr. Blake Roberson, Director  
Mrs. Carrie Dixon, Director

Member Absent: Mr. Greg Finke, Director

Also Present: Dr. Dale Herl, Superintendent  
Dr. Lance Stout, Dr. Cindy Grant, Dr. Pam Boatright, Dr. Randy Maglinger,  
Dr. Prissy LeMay, Mrs. Leslie Hochsprung, Mr. Dean Katt, Mrs. Sherry  
Potter, Mr. Todd Theen, Mr. Salum Stutzer, Mrs. Megan Murphy, PTA,  
interested patrons, staff, and Ms. Annette Miller.

The meeting was called to order by the President, Mrs. Denise Fears, and minutes of the meeting were recorded by the secretary, Ms. Annette Miller. Mrs. Fears welcomed those in attendance.

Matt Mallinson made the motion to approve the August 10, 2021 Agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Eric Knipp and unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Dr. Herl reported the August List of Bills total is \$10,182,511.39 which is a little higher amount but is typical based on the Bond Issue projects that are underway.

Blake Roberson made the motion that the Board of Education approves the August 10, 2021 Consent Agenda as printed.

1. Minutes – July 13, 2021
2. Approval of August 10, 2021 List of Bills totaling \$10,182,511.39
3. Personnel Recommendation #2
  - A. Request to Employ (Certificated Staff) Effective 2021-2022 School Year.
    1. Justin Beamer, ISS Teacher
    2. Steven Carpenter, Special Education Teacher
    3. Matthew Coulson, ROTC Instructor
    4. Breanna Vaca, Elementary Teacher

The motion was seconded by Jill Esry and unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Dr. Herl reported that school starts on August 23rd and staff reports back on Aug. 17th for Professional Development. The City of Independence issued a health order on Monday, they rescinded the health order on Tuesday, Jackson County issued a health order, the CDC issued additional quarantine guidance, and the attorney general sues the city of Kansas City due to their mask mandate. Based on these changes, the District has waited to announce any protocols regarding a safety plan in order to make the right announcement the first time. Dr. Herl announced that the Convocation event on August 19<sup>th</sup> will be virtual this year due to guidance from the CDC and the Administration is in the process of recording portions of the event at this time. Dr. Herl said that in visiting some of the Bond Issue projects, there are some delays due to supply shortage of materials such as store front glass, lighting, etc. Therefore, work on some projects will continue on weekends after school starts. He said that all of the elementary playgrounds are looking great and should be done by the time school starts.

The Board of Education members expressed appreciation for the emails they had received concerning mask issues. They acknowledged that it is hard to wait and not have a concrete answer now but that it was wise to wait on making a decision. The Board members said they enjoyed seeing some of the Bond Issue projects in the buildings and how the District is making great use of the available spaces.

Under New Business, Dr. Herl shared information from the Tax Rate Levy hearing that was held earlier. He said the proposed Tax Levy Rate is \$5.4371 for the 2021-2022 school year which is down ten cents (\$.10) from last year. He said that in 2009, the District's tax levy was \$5.43 and that three Bond Issues had been approved during that time.

Blake Roberson made the motion, second by Eric Knipp, that the Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent, or his designee, to set the Tax Rate Levy of \$5.4371, with the Operating Tax Levy of \$4.1407 and the Debt Service of \$1.2964 for the 2021-2022 school year and to authorize the Superintendent, or his designee, to submit the Estimate of Required Local Taxes to the Jackson County Clerk. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board of Education. (Page 12151)

Dr. Herl said the Administration is recommending setting the 2021-2022 District tuition rate at \$10,711.30. He said last year's tuition rate was \$10,520.28. The tuition rate is based on the cost of educating a student the previous year.

A motion was made by Jill Esry, second by Matt Mallinson, that the Board of Education approves the recommendation to set the 2021-2022 school year District tuition rate at \$10,711.30 as presented. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Dr. Herl explained that the Missouri Ethics Commission requires the Board of Education to readopt its Ethics Policy (0342) every two years. This Policy specifies who has to file Financial Disclosure Statements annually.

Matt Mallinson made the motion that the Board of Education approves readopting Board of Education Policy 0342 regarding Nepotism, Conflict of Interest, and Financial Disclosure Statement for the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 school years. The motion was seconded by Carrie Dixon and unanimously approved by the Board of Education. (Page 12152)

Dr. Herl said that annual membership in the various cooperatives (AEPA, Buy Board, Education Plus, Kansas City Suburban Joint Purchasing Cooperative, NCPA, NPPGov, Omnia Partners (including National IPA, TCPN and U.S. Communities) PEPPM, Sourcewell (formerly NJPA) and TIPS-USA) assures the District of cost savings when purchasing furniture, supplies, equipment, etc.

The motion was made by Blake Roberson, second by Matt Mallinson, that the Board of Education approves District membership in the following Cooperatives: AEPA, Buy Board, Education Plus, Kansas City Suburban Joint Purchasing Cooperative, NCPA, NPPGov, Omnia Partners (including National IPA, TCPN and U.S. Communities) PEPPM, Sourcewell (formerly NJPA) and TIPS-USA. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

Dr. Herl said the Administration is recommending upgrading the District's phone system by purchasing 400 classroom phones, 400 office phones, and 200 office expansion modules from CDW-G under the Education Plus (Missouri Schools) (018-A) contract at a cost of \$125,360.00.

Eric Knipp made the motion that the Board of Education approves the purchase of 400 classroom phones, 400 office phones, and 200 office expansion modules from CDW-G under the Education Plus (Missouri Schools) (018-A) contract at a cost of \$125,360.00. The motion was seconded by Carrie Dixon and unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

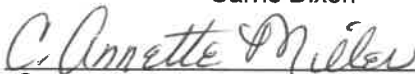
Dr. Stout said that CBIZ worked with the District on acquiring Cyber-Crime insurance for the 2021-2022 school year. He said the District's current carrier, Travelers Insurance, agreed to extend the current policy to September 1, 2021 with the Multi-Factor Authentication to be in place by that date. Travelers Insurance has agreed to provide a renewal policy reflecting the coverage term of September 1, 2021 through July 1, 2022 at a pro-rated premium of \$28,543.

Blake Roberson made the motion that the Board of Education approves the Cyber-Crime insurance policy with Travelers Insurance for a premium of \$28,543 for the 2021-2022 school year. Jill Esry seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

There being no further information to come before the Board of Education, Eric Knipp made the motion, second by Blake Roberson, to adjourn the meeting and go into executive session for legal, real estate, personnel, and student issues at 6:16 p.m. The motion was approved as follows:

Ayes: Denise Fears  
 Eric Knipp  
 Matt Mallinson  
 Jill Esry  
 Blake Roberson  
 Carrie Dixon

Absent: Greg Finke

  
 Secretary

  
 President



**Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education  
Division of Administrative and Financial Services**

**ESTIMATE OF REQUIRED LOCAL TAXES**

(Submit to county clerk of each county where district has assessed valuation on or before September 1)

To County Clerk (Name): **Mary Jo Spino**

Name of County: **Jackson**

County District Code: **048-077** District Name: **Independence School District 30**

Mailing Address: **201 N. Forest Avenue  
Independence, MO 64050**

Telephone Number: **816-521-5300** Fax Number: **816-521-2806**

In compliance with Section 164.011, RSMo, we the undersigned, hereby submit an estimate of the amount of school money necessary to maintain the public school for a term of **12** months, and certify that the data shown are correct.

Name of President of Board of Education: **Denise Fears**

Signature of President of Board of Education:

*Denise Fears*

Date

**8/11/2021**

Name of Secretary of Board of Education: **C. Annette Miller**

Signature of Secretary of Board of Education:

*C. Annette Miller*

Date

**8/11/2021**

Assessed valuation in this county as certified in accordance with Section 137.245, RSMo, or amended prior to September 1. **\$1,205,630,195**

Year Beginning **July 1, 2021** Year Ending **June 30, 2022**

Length of school term authorized is: Number of days **170** and **1,150.34** hours in session.

A separate vote was cast in accordance with Sections 164.121, 164.131, 164.141, 164.151, RSMo, to provide for a bond issue (where applicable).

Yes	No
<b>x</b>	

**Tax Rate <sup>a</sup>**

Fund	Tax Rate Ceiling	Unadjusted Levy <sup>b</sup>	Actual Tax Levy (Adjusted Levy <sup>c</sup> )	Prop C Roll Back
1. Incidental <sup>d</sup>	<b>\$ 4.0995</b> 409.95 ¢	<b>\$ 4.1407</b> 414.07 ¢	<b>\$ 4.1407</b> 414.07 ¢	\$ -
2. Teachers	0.00 ¢	\$ - 0.00 ¢	\$ - 0.00 ¢	\$ -
3. Debt Service <sup>e</sup>	<b>\$ 1.6984</b> 169.84 ¢	<b>\$ 1.2964</b> 129.64 ¢	<b>\$ 1.2964</b> 129.64 ¢	N/A
4. Capital Projects	0.00 ¢	\$ - 0.00 ¢	\$ - 0.00 ¢	N/A
<b>Totals</b>		<b>\$5.4371</b> 543.71 ¢	<b>\$5.4371</b> 543.71 ¢	<b>\$ 65,551,319.33</b>

a. Pursuant to Section 137.073, RSMo.

b. Unadjusted levy is equal to the tax rate ceiling less a voluntary reduction. It is not reduced for Proposition C Rollback.

c. Adjusted levy - Reduced by Proposition C, Section 164.013, RSMo.

d. Operating Funds tax rate ceiling.

e. Debt Service fund ceiling.

**Estimated Revenue from M & M Surcharge Tax in this county: \$ 1,200,000**

**Estimated Revenue from State Assessed Railroad and Utilities in this county: \$ 2,970,000**

Article X, Section 11(C), Constitution of Missouri provides that in any school district where the Board of Education is not proposing a higher tax rate for school purposes, the last tax rate approved shall continue and the tax rate need not be submitted to the voters.

**ORGANIZATION, PHILOSOPHY AND GOALS****Policy 0342**  
**(Regulation 0342)**  
**(Form 0342)****School Board Organization****Nepotism, Conflict of Interest and Financial Disclosure**

Board members shall not debate or vote upon the employment of any person to whom they are related within the fourth degree. (See Form 0342.) Provided the Board member relative does not debate or vote upon the employment issue, the Board may employ a person related to a Board member. However, the Board may not under any circumstances employ one of its members.

Members of the Board of Education will conduct themselves in a manner which complies not only with the letter of conflict of interest laws, but also in the spirit of those provisions. Board members will at all times make good faith efforts to avoid the appearance of a conflict of interest. If a situation arises which involves the potential for a conflict of interest, the individual Board member will declare his interest and will refrain from debating or voting upon the question of engaging or using the business entity in question.



Denise Fears  
President



C. Annette Miller  
Secretary