

BOARD OF EDUCATION
The School District of Independence

12502

The Board of Education met in Special Session on Friday, May 19, 2023, at 7:30 a.m. in the Board Room at the Board of Education Office, 201 North Forest Avenue, Independence, Missouri.

Members Present: Mr. Eric Knipp, President
Mr. Blake Roberson, Vice President
Mrs. Carrie Dixon, Treasurer
Mrs. Jill Esry, Director
Mr. Greg Finke, Director
Mrs. Denise Fears, Director
Mr. Anthony J. Mondaine, Director

Also Present: Dr. Dale Herl, Superintendent
Megan Murphy, Molly Johnson, patrons, and Ms. Annette Miller

The meeting was called to order by the President, Mr. Eric Knipp, and minutes of the meeting were recorded by the secretary, Ms. Annette Miller. Mr. Knipp stated the purpose of this Special Session was to discuss the 2023-2024 Tax Rate Levy.

Denise Fears made the motion to approve the May 19, 2023 Agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Jill Esry and approved by the Board of Education as follows:

Ayes: Eric Knipp
Blake Roberson
Carrie Dixon
Jill Esry
Greg Finke
Denise Fears
Anthony J. Mondaine

Nays:

Dr. Herl read the Resolution calling an election on an operating tax levy question for The School District of the City of Independence, Missouri as follows:

Shall the Board of Education of The School District of the City of Independence be authorized to increase the operating tax levy ceiling to \$4.3190 per \$100 of assessed valuation according to the 2023 assessment for the purpose of increasing salaries and benefits for employees?

If the question is approved, the operating tax levy of the District is estimated to increase by \$0.20 per \$100 assessed valuation, and the District intends to make a voluntary reduction to its debt service tax levy by \$0.30 per \$100 of assessed valuation resulting in the estimated overall tax levy of the District to be decreased by \$0.10 per \$100 of assessed valuation.

Dr. Herl stated that the School District needs to stay competitive on salary and benefit packages for employees. He also said that in planning for class sizes and course offerings, the District may need to add positions. The recommendation is to place an operating tax levy increase on the August 8, 2023 election ballot. This would consist of increasing the Operating Levy by \$.20 per \$100 Assessed Valuation. If this ballot question is approved by the voters, then the Board of Education would intend to make a voluntary reduction of the current Debt Service Levy of \$.30 per \$100 Assessed Valuation. This would then result in a net decrease of \$.10 per \$100 of Assessed Valuation to the overall Tax Levy for the independence School District. The last date for placing an issue on the August 8, 2023 election ballot is May 30, 2023.

Following the discussion, Anthony J. Mondaine made the motion that the Board of Education approves the Resolution authorizing the placement of an operating tax levy question on the August 8, 2023 election ballot. The motion was seconded by Blake Roberson and unanimously approved by the Board of Education.

The Board of Education expressed their support of this issue and the District's foresight in developing a way to lower the tax rate levy for School District patrons.

There being no further business to come before the Board of Education, the motion was made by Greg Finke, second by Jill Esry, at 7:45 a.m. to adjourn the Board of Education meeting. The motion was approved by the Board of Education as follows:

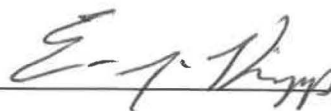
Ayes: Eric Knipp
Blake Roberson

Nays:

Carrie Dixon
Jill Esry
Greg Finke
Denise Fears
Anthony Mondaine



Secretary



President