

Falls City School Board Approves Budget

(KTNC) - The Falls City Board of Education approved the 2013-14 Budget and property tax request Monday night.

The General Fund Budget of \$12.7 million is a 5.59-percent increase from last year.

Superintendent Tim Heckenlively explained that the largest increase in the General Fund is an eight-percent bump in the regular education line item. (play audio :48 "poverty plan.")

Heckenlively said that 82-percent of the entire budget directly supports salaries and benefits.

The board approved the property tax request at just under \$6.7 million for the General Fund, \$438,578 for the Bond Fund, \$262,185 for the Special Building Fund, and \$222,718 for the Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking Fund.

The total property tax levy decreased by three-percent to just under \$1.10 per \$100 of assessed valuation. The levy decrease is due primarily to an increase in property valuations.

The Falls City School District will see an \$867,000 reduction in state aid this year, due to nearly stable enrollment and higher property valuations.

The board approved both the budget and property tax request unanimously.

In other business Monday night, the Falls City School Board approved a motion to send a letter requesting that the traffic light at 16th and Harlan not be removed. That is the signal near the Post Office. The Department of Roads is conducting a traffic study to determine whether to remove three traffic signals on Harlan Street – at 12th, 16th, and 17th Streets.

And the board decided to not fund any early separation applications for this school year.