

## USD 409 Approves Budget

(KAIR)--The USD 409 Board of Education has adopted a budget for the 2015-2016 school year.

That comes following a public hearing, drawing no comment from the public during a special meeting held Monday night.

Superintendent Susan Myers says the mill levy included in the budget has improved from the previous year, saying that “we have four taxable funds. We have a general fund, a supplemental general fund, a capital outlay fund, and a bond and interest fund; and so we pay attention to the mill levy in all of those funds. The good news this year is that our proposed mill levy actually goes down a little bit from last year. The board likes to be able to hold that mill levy steady if at all possible...this last year, our mill levy was 57.109 mills, and this year it will be 56.914 mills. So it is down a little bit.”

The board approved the budget on a unanimous vote.

Following the meeting, the board then held a special meeting for the purpose of board self evaluation. Myers says that for the past seven years or so, “the board has gone through a process with the Kansas State School Board Association to look at a very detailed kind of a job description of what the board does, evaluate themselves, and then from that, after they take the survey and the association comes and goes over it with them, the board develops an action plan. So last night's purpose was to go over the survey and the board scored well. The association really is very complementary to our school board and their understanding of their role in policy and finance.”

Myers says that next month, the board will have a discussion on what they want to do with their board goals. Saying they could either continue with the goal areas, or change them.

Many Signals Communications