

USD 415 board adopts 2023-24 budget

(KNZA)--The Hiawatha School Board Monday evening adopted the 2023-24 budget as published following a hearing drawing no public comment.

The budget calls for total expenditures of more than \$22 million and a 1.2 mill decrease in the property tax levy.

The budget contains an estimated tax rate of 47.290 mills, which is anticipated to raise more than \$6.8 million in tax revenue.

The district's assessed valuation increased about \$6 million, which means a mill will generate nearly \$149,000.

In an effort to give residential property owners some relief, Board President Ian Schuetz noted the capital outlay mill levy was reduced nearly 1.9 mills but said it will not be sustainable in future years.

Following a second hearing prior to the budget hearing, the board approved a resolution to exceed the revenue neutral tax rate for the 2023-24 budget.

Superintendent Lonnie Moser noted the part of the budget the district controls will be “revenue neutral.” However, due to the 20 mill general fund levy set by the state, the school district will exceed the revenue neutral tax.

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