

Woodstock Community Unit School District 200

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District 200 Board of Education sets 2020 tax levy

The Woodstock Community Unit School District 200 Board of Education approved a resolution Tuesday, Nov. 17 to approve its tentative tax levy of \$61,161,000.

While the levy represents a 2.7 percent increase over last year's levy of \$59,560,766, the Board once again lowered the District's tax rate for the sixth consecutive year.

Based on the 2020 levy, the owner of a \$200,000 home would see a property tax bill decrease of \$38 compared to last year's tax bill, assuming no increase in property tax value.

District 200 has lowered its tax rate by a total of 20 percent since 2014. Over the last six years, the owner of a \$200,000 home would see a total tax bill savings of more than \$1,000.

The district will also abate \$5.7 million from the 2020 tax levy to help District 200 again lower the tax rate. The 2019 levy was \$59.6 million. State law allows school districts to raise the levy by the Consumer Price Index (2.3%) plus estimated new property revenue and to levy for necessary debt payments.

"We are excited that we were once again able to decrease our tax rate. We continue to work to keep our taxes flat while providing our students with a quality education," District 200 Superintendent Mike Moan said.

Risa Hanson, chief financial officer for District 200, said district officials are able to lower the total tax rate from 6.61 to 6.55 per \$100 of taxable value without affecting the quality of education by using reserve funds to abate \$5.7 million in debt payments.

In general, the total equalized assessed valuation of property within district boundaries is expected to rise as it has since 2015 to an estimated \$932 million in 2020.

The Board is scheduled to vote on the final levy at its Dec. 8 meeting.

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