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### USD 409 Finalizing 2015 Budget

(KAIR)--The Atchison USD 409 Board of Education is nearing the end of their yearly budget process, with a final budget hearing scheduled for later this month.

Superintendent Susan Myers presented the proposed budget to the Board for review during a meeting held Monday night. She says there were some good things included in the budget, including the somewhat rare occurrence of having the mill levy decrease by 7.73 mill, instead of remaining steady or even raising.

Myers explains the decrease can be partly attributed to recent legislation passed by state lawmakers, and how the law was written on the local option budget. It was a shift from taxpayers paying that burden, versus the state. She adds that the local option budget had been prorated, and the district never got the full amount, and that translated into taxes.

Myers noted that officials worked to bring some parts of last year's budget into this one, in an effort to provide some kind of stability. The bond and interest fund stands at 14.448 mil, which is about the same as last year. Myers says this is because on the new bond issue, the taxpayers were told that the districts goal was to keep it at that same amount.

The 2015 budget for USD 409 has been published for the public, and a final public hearing is scheduled for the evening of August 18th at 7:00.

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