

<http://www.MSCNews.net/news/index.cfm?nk=51243>

#### USD 415 Board Adopts 2015-16 Budget

(KNZA)--The Hiawatha Board of Education has adopted a 2015-16 budget of \$16 million that calls for a nearly 8.4 mill property tax levy increase.

Adoption of the budget followed a public hearing Monday evening drawing several questions from district patron Bill Pollock regarding the budget.

The mill levy increase is primarily attributed to the \$9.2 million bond issue approved by voters in April for improvements to the district's three schools. In addition, Board Clerk Leslie Grimm says the mill levy for the supplemental general fund budget went up a little to make up for a loss of \$136,000 in state funding.

The next three years will reflect a larger mill levy increase as the district continues to pay on the bonds for the Hiawatha Middle School, which was built in 2000.

Superintendent Penny Hargrove noted the district's budget will be frozen for two years due to the block grant legislation approved by Kansas Legislature this year.

Many Signals Communications