

USD 415 Budget to Contain No Mill Levy Increase

(KNZA)--The 2017-18 budget for the Hiawatha school district will not contain a mill levy increase.

Following a lengthy discussion Monday evening during a budget hearing, the Board voted unanimously to resubmit a budget that keeps the mill levy at the same rate.

The budget as published had contained a nearly one mill increase in the property tax levy.

Board members said they don't believe now is the time to raise taxes, believing the district can wait a year until after the bond issue is paid off.

It was noted the district will be receiving around \$600,000 in net new state aid.

The district, with no change in the mill levy, will collect about \$123,000 in additional tax revenue due to an increase in the district's assessed valuation.

Board President Dr. Pete Rosa said he believes the district can accomplish many of its goals with the state money its receiving, adding that now is a bad time to raise taxes on farmers.

District Patron Dean Tollefson urged the Board to provide some tax relief.

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