



District Mission: Students graduate with the knowledge, skills and behaviors to be college and career ready.

Hutchinson Public Schools

2014-15 SCHOOL YEAR

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eBoard Notes
Volume 38, No. 2
July 27, 2015

Board takes first look at 2015-16 budget

The Hutchinson Public Schools Board of Education learned that even with \$460,720 in budget cuts, the new state block grant funding program for schools will result in USD 308 taxes increasing by 4.194 mills for 2015-16.

Board members met in regular session Monday, July 27, 2015. Prior to Monday's meeting, Lori Blakesley, district executive director for fiscal management and business operations, gave an overview of the budget during her annual budget workshop.

While the mill levy rate is up compared to 2014-15, it remains below the 2013-14 levy. The 2013-14 levy was 60.183 mills, 3.903 mills more than the proposed levy of 56.28. The mill levy dropped for the 2014-15 school year because of state-provided equalization money for the district's local option budget. Later in the school year, a portion of the promised equalization money was reduced by the state.

The block grants approved by the 2015 Legislature essentially froze general state aid at 2014-15 levels and then reduced that amount by 0.4 percent. Equalization aid to pay low-wealth districts was reduced between 3 and 28 percent. Equalization for any increase to capital outlay or local option budget will not be paid by the state under the block grant. This means a higher mill levy increase for local taxpayers for planned local option budgets.

To cover the rising costs of inflation, local boards of education are faced with budget cuts or local mill levy increases as well.

The Board approved the budget for publication. A formal hearing on the budget is set for 7:05 p.m. on Aug. 10 at the Administration Center.

Also during Monday's meeting the Board:

- Heard a report on the Developmental Reading Assessment.
- Heard a report on Safe and Civil Schools.
- Approved minutes of the July 13, 2015, Board meeting.
- Appointed Tad Dower, Jeff Nichols and Randall Gray as directors on the Educational Facilities of Reno County. All other Board members are alternates.
- Approved a list of surplus items for auction.

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- Approved administrative policy updates.
- Approved a submitted job description.
- Approved the annual Compass software renewal.
- Approved the Delta Dental toothbrush grant renewal application.
- Approved submitting a cooking classes grant for Head Start.
- Approved the guidelines for the Medication Administration Handbook.
- Approved the annual Head Start federal financial report.
- Approved the purchase of four double commercial convection ovens to replace worn-out ovens at HMS-7, HMS-8, Graber and Faris.
- Approved milk bids for 2015-16. Only one bid was received from Hiland Dairy.
- Approved the Treasurer's Report for June 2015.
- Held an executive session to discuss non-elected personnel and negotiations.
- After the executive session, the Board voted to increase classified salaries by an average of about 3 percent and administrative salaries an average of just over 2.5 percent. Negotiations continue between the district and NEA-Hutchinson.

Personnel Report

The Board approved the following personnel changes.

Hired

- Lauren Sill, Physical Therapist, Educational Services Center, effective 2015-16 school year
- Brenna Skinner, Rule 10 - Salt Shakers Sponsor, Hutchinson High School, effective 2015-16 school year
- Melissa Flores, Permanent Health Room Assistant, District
- Bobbi Franz, Food Service Secretary, Graber Elementary
- Stacy Hammeke, Attendance Secretary, Hutchinson High School
- Debra Howard, Food Service Administrative Assistant, Support Service Center

Resignations

- Renee Vernon, Grade 5 Teacher, McCandless Elementary School, effective July 27, 2015
- Janelle Pooler, Day Care Assistant, Hutchinson High School Daycare, effective May 22, 2015
- Kyle Norwood, Irrigation Specialist, Support Service Center, effective July 20, 2015
- Gloria Brown, Permanent Para Sub, Educational Service Center/District, effective May 21, 2015

Retirement

- Deborah Bradstreet, School Counselor, Hutchinson Middle School - 7, effective Aug. 31, 2015

Position Changes, From, To

- Tamme Buller, Mental Health/Disabilities/Fiscal/Home Based Coordinator/Head Start, Assistant Director/Head Start, effective 2015-16 school year
- Jason Reed, Coordinator of Technology/Technology Support Center, Director of Technology/TSC, effective 2015-16 school year
- Magen Tapscott, Resource Room Para/Morgan Elementary, Educational Aide 4-yr./Graber Elementary, effective Aug. 18, 2015
- Laura Parra, Substitute Custodian/District, Custodian-Night/Hutchinson Middle School 7/8, effective Aug. 3, 2015

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- Marcus Yoder, Teachers Assistant/Head Start, Title 1 Educational Aide/Wiley Elementary, effective Aug. 18, 2015

Termination

- Amanda Koeppen, Custodian-Night, High School, July 14, 2015

Gifts to Schools

The Board formally accepted and thanked donors of the following gifts.

- A refrigerator, valued at \$520, from Mary Alexander to a special education classroom at Hutchinson High School.
- Two calculators from Cynthia Dierks to the district.

Next Meeting

The Board will hold a special meeting at 7 p.m. Monday, Aug. 3, 2015, at the Administration Center to interview applicants for the vacant seat on the Board.

The next regular meeting of the Board will be at 7 p.m. Monday, Aug. 10, 2015, at the Administration Center.