

## **Board Approves Budget to Support 2014-15 Student Learning**

New Berlin, Wis. – To support educational programs in the School District of New Berlin for the 2014-15 school year, the Board of Education (BOE) approved a tax levy of \$49,142,016 at its regular meeting on Oct. 27.

The District is pleased to announce a tax reduction from the amount that was previously approved by the electorate at the August 25 annual meeting and budget hearing.

“Following community feedback and that of the direction of the Board, we carefully reviewed our revenue and expenditures and found ways to save tax dollars,” said Chief Finance & Operations Officer Roger Dickson.

The district budget required a tax levy increase of 3.5% over last year. “Based on the State of Wisconsin general aid formula enacted several decades ago, we continue to see a decrease in state aid,” said Dickson. “Unfortunately, this results in additional dollars needed from our local taxpayers.”

The preliminary budget published in August assumed a 2% increase in property values. Since then property values determined by the Wisconsin Department of Revenue showed a 4% increase. The new school district tax rate, based on the actual property value increases and the lower tax levy, is \$11.35 per \$1,000 of equalized value. This rate is 7 cents less than last year’s \$11.42 per \$1,000 of equalized value.

“One of our strategic goals is to maintain and promote fiscal responsibility that reflects a commitment to student learning,” said Superintendent Joe Garza. “Through the school board’s efforts to be fiscally responsible over the last ten years, we’ve been able to keep our average tax levy increase below 1.5%.”

“We believe the School District of New Berlin provides a great value to our taxpayers,” Board President Dave Maxey said. “The fact that student achievement is on the rise and we are expanding opportunities for our students shows that we are allocating resources in the right places.”

[To view the full budget, click here.](#)

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