



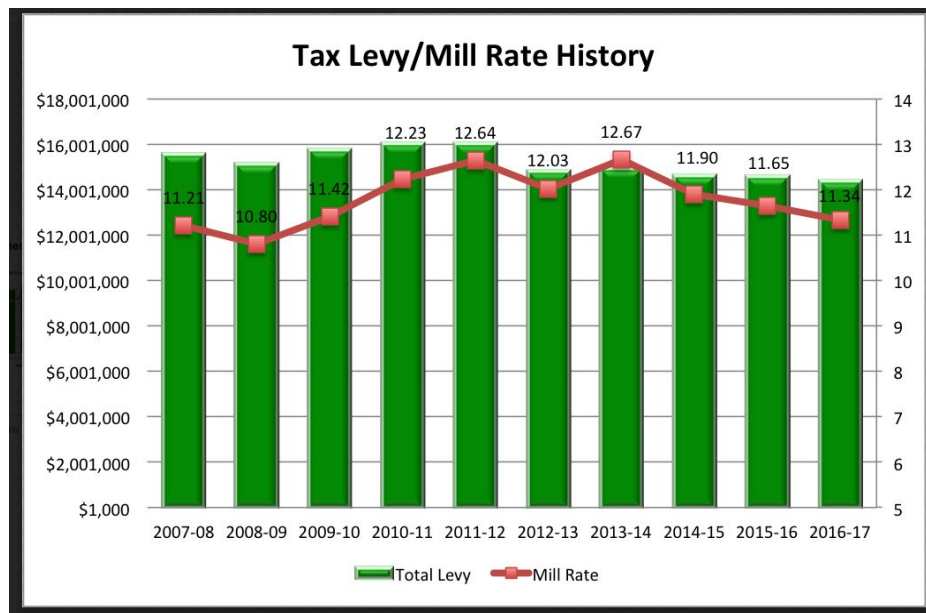
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
 October 25, 2016

Greendale School Board Approves 2016-2017 Budget School-Property Tax Levy to Decrease for Third Consecutive Year

GREENDALE, WI -- The Greendale Board of Education approved the Greendale Schools' final 2016-2017 school-year budget and tax levy at its meeting on October 24. For the third consecutive year, the budget includes a reduction in the local property tax levy of \$175,005, a 1.2 percent decrease from 2015-2016. The total tax levy for this 2016-2017 budget is \$14,412,676. Total net expenditures for the District are budgeted at \$34,954,372.31, a 2.85 percent decrease from the year prior.

Further, the School District mill rate will decrease to \$11.34 per thousand of equalized property value, from \$11.65 last year. This is a 2.7 percent decrease. The mill rate represents the amount per \$1,000 of the assessed value of property, which is used to calculate the amount of property tax. Based on this mill rate, the school tax bill for \$200,000 home in Greendale will be \$2,268 in 2016. The graph below illustrates the mill rate history since 2007-2008.



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 Gary Kiltz, Ph.D., Superintendent

Todd Hajewski, Director of Business Services
 Colleen McHugh-Moore, Director of Pupil Services

Kimberly Amidzich, Director of Curriculum & Instruction
 Julie Grotophorst, Director of Human Resources

“School property taxes have gone down in Greendale for five of the last six years,” said Todd Hajewski, Director of Business Services for Greendale Schools. “Overall expenditures in the District are also budgeted to be lower in the coming school year. We accomplish this by taking careful measures to ensure we can continue to offer the exceptional educational services Greendale Schools are known for while budgeting conservatively, maintaining a modest fund balance, and paying close attention to cost-savings opportunities, such as energy projects, that have long term impacts.”

Hajewski added, “This work ensures we are meeting our students’ educational needs, our community’s high expectations for their schools, and acting as good stewards of taxpayer dollars.”

Greendale Schools will receive \$12,787,803 state equalization aid, up from \$12,473,178 in 2015-2016. The equalized property value of the District has increased \$19.4 million (1.55 percent) from last year.

“The Greendale community has a lot to celebrate regarding its schools,” said Dr. Gary Kiltz, Superintendent. “Our District was named a recipient of the 2016 Milwaukee Journal Sentinel Top Workplaces award, was honored by the National Association of Music Merchants as a 2016 Best Community for Music Education, and our schools have received state and national recognition for outstanding achievement by our students.” (See Editor’s Note)

“This outstanding work is accomplished while being ever-mindful of the importance of spending every taxpayer dollar effectively, for the best use in meeting student needs,” Kiltz added.

The Board approved the budget by a 5-0 vote. The revenue limit calculation is completed after the third Friday membership count and after the receipt of the certified state aid and the equalized property value of the district on October 15. This necessitates a change in the budget adopted at the annual meeting. In addition to the changes in tax revenue and state aid, there are changes due to staffing adjustments, added and deleted programs, salary and benefit increases and decreases, changes in federal grants, changes with open enrollment in/out, and changes after reviewing the audited transactions from the previous year. The complete budget memo and worksheets are found [here](#).

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EDITOR’S NOTE: Greendale Schools’ Canterbury Elementary School earned two 2015-2016 School of Merit awards from the Wisconsin Rtl Center. For the second consecutive year, the school was one of 222 statewide to be recognized for work accomplished through its implementation of Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS). Additionally, Canterbury was one of 125 schools statewide receiving School of Merit honors in Reading for its work in the implementation of a culturally responsive multilevel system of support.

College Park Elementary was recognized by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) as a Wisconsin Title I School of Recognition for the 2015-2016 school year. The school earned “High Progress” recognition because its students’ standardized testing achievement was within the top ten percent of Title I schools experiencing student growth in reading and math. To receive this Schools of Recognition award, schools must meet state test participation and attendance goals, and receive Title I funds based on state guidelines, which include having significant numbers of students enrolled from low income families based on federal free and reduced price school meal income guidelines.

Greendale High School was named to Newsweek Magazine’s list of America’s Top High Schools in 2016 for the thirteenth consecutive year.