



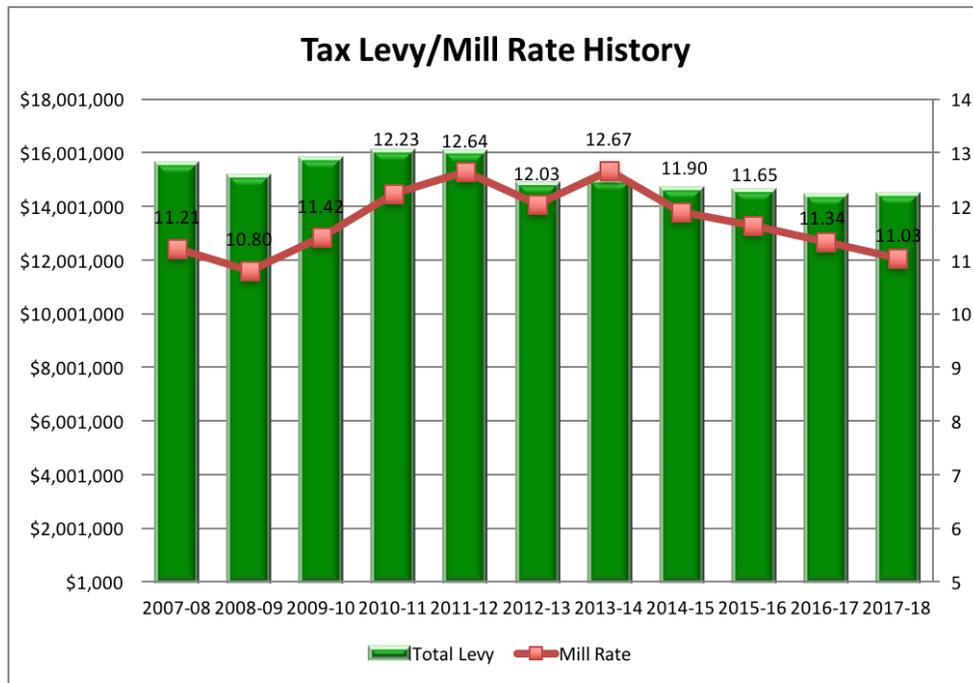
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 6, 2017

Greendale School Board Approves 2017-18 Budget Mill Rate Decreases for Fourth Consecutive Year

GREENDALE, WI -- The Greendale Board of Education approved the Greendale Schools' final 2017-18 school-year budget and tax levy at its meeting on October 23. For the fourth consecutive year, the mill rate, a figure representing the amount per \$1,000 of the assessed value of property that is used to calculate the amount of school property tax, has decreased.

The School District mill rate will decrease to \$11.03 per thousand of equalized property value, from \$11.34 last year. This is a 2.7 percent decrease. Based on this mill rate, the school tax bill for \$200,000 home in Greendale will be \$2,206 in 2017. The graph below illustrates the mill rate history since 2007-2008.



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The total tax levy for this 2017-2018 budget is \$14,418,813, a very minor increase of 0.04 percent or \$6,137 from the 2016-2017 budget. Total net expenditures for the District are budgeted at a one percent increase from the year prior.

“Our District is ever mindful of costs and takes careful measures to ensure we are good stewards of our taxpayers’ dollars. We control expenditures while continuing to offer the exceptional educational opportunities Greendale Schools is known to provide and that our community expects,” said Todd Hajewski, Director of Business Services for Greendale Schools. “To do so, we budget conservatively, maintain a modest fund balance, and participate in cost-saving initiatives that have a long-term impact on costs.”

Greendale Schools will receive \$13,341,786 in state equalization aid, up from \$12,787,803 in 2016-2017. The equalized property value of the District has increased \$36.2 million (2.85 percent) from last year.

“Our schools continue to be a source of pride for the Greendale community and as a District, we make a concerted effort to provide high quality educational opportunities while being aware of costs and the importance of spending every dollar to best meet student needs,” said Dr. Gary Kiltz, Superintendent. “Greendale came together last fall to highlight priorities to lead the District’s work in the coming years. The results of that process are found in the Vision 2020 Strategic Plan and will guide the work of administrators, teachers, and students for the next several years.”

“We understand the need to continue to educate our youth with 21st century skills and to foster in each student the skills and dispositions that lead to each individual’s understanding of his or her strengths and passions,” Kiltz added. “This work is part of the Vision 2020 implementation and will help Greendale graduates achieve personal success in their future.”

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 on the District website.

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