

ARLINGTON HEIGHTS SCHOOL DISTRICT 25
1200 S. Dunton Ave.
Arlington Heights, Illinois 60005

**Public Hearing on the 2020 Tax Levy
Minutes
December 10, 2020**

Brian Cerniglia, President of the Arlington Heights School District 25 Board of Education, called the Public Hearing on the 2020 Tax Levy to order at 7:25 p.m. The hearing was held at South Middle School, 400 S. Highland Avenue, Arlington Heights, Illinois.

Board members present: Brian Cerniglia, Chad Conley, Gina Faso, Scott Filipek, Erin Johannesen, Rich Olejniczak, and Anisha Ismail Patel

Board members excused: None

Others Present: Dr. Lori Bein, Superintendent; Stacey Mallek, Assistant Superintendent for Business/CSBO; Chris Fahnoe, Director of Technology and Assessment; Adam Harris, Head of Communications and Story Telling; Brad Katz, Information Technology Specialist; and Lana O'Brien, Recording Secretary.

Ms. Mallek noted that taxing bodies are legally required to vote on the levy by the last Tuesday in December. The tax levy information was presented at the November 12, 2020 Board meeting. The Truth in Taxation Law requires that the Board determine the estimated tax levy no less than 20 days prior to the adoption of such levy. While we don't intend on adopting an aggregate levy that is more than 105% of the prior year (2019) tax extension, we always hold a public hearing and publish notice regarding such prior to adopting the final levy.

Taxes make up 83% of the district's revenue. She explained how the 2020 levy was determined. She noted that if growth is not captured in the year it occurred, then it is lost forever. It is not detrimental to the taxpayer to submit a levy at a higher rate, because the County Clerk can only allow the District access to the appropriate amount of new growth. The District has only one chance to capture new property without going to referendum. This chance is when the new property is initially included in the tax base. Ms. Mallek anticipates the actual increase will be 2.9%, which represents the 2.3% increase due to CPI plus 0.6% new growth. A homeowner with a \$400,000 home would have a \$78 increase for the year.

Mr. Cerniglia asked if anyone emailed any comments or questions on the 2020 Tax Levy. Dr. Bein read a statement that was submitted electronically from Jacalyn and James Derengowski, who would like schools to be full in person before the district asks for more money. Their full comment is attached at the end of the minutes. Ms. Mallek responded that the Board is required by law to adopt the levy every year. Revenues from local property taxes generate approximately 83% of all revenues for the district, and if we did not levy taxes the district would get \$0 and would have to close.

The Public Hearing adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

Submitted,

Lana M. O'Brien
Recording Secretary

Approved: January 21, 2021

President
Board of Education

Secretary
Board of Education

Date minutes were available for public inspection: January 22, 2021

Date minutes were posted on District website: January 22, 2021

Public Hearing on the Tax Levy - Public Comments

Name	Question/Comment
Jacalyn and James Derengowski	<p>Dr Bein and SD25 Board Members,</p> <p>Hello! I was surprised to see a board meeting with a proposed tax levy. Let me begin by saying no.</p> <p>No,no,no,no....</p> <p>The board should use all of their time to have the plan to get schools fully open done, with full remote and schools opened, before asking for any money from the community. Illinois voted no to the Progressive Tax, our community is not looking to talk about giving the school district anymore money. Tighten your belt as the many families and businesses in our community are doing. Bad decisions that led to a budgetary problem, should be solved with fiscal responsibility, not a bailout from the community. When the schools are fully open, then we can talk about money.</p> <p>I have included the article by John Kass that better articulates my frustration. Stop letting the politicians and Teachers Unions use our students as bargaining chips as Prisoners of War.</p> <p>https://www.chicagotribune.com/columns/john-kass/ct-coronavirus-schools-kass-20201210-kityu45m2jfh5hyd6vcfreizeu-story.html</p> <p>The CTU tweet and letter from John Braglia, the Teachers Union President, local 1211, IFT-AFT,AFL-CIO President, to Dr Small at d211, are like the Emperor's New Clothes, they show the community what is really happening.</p> <p>Educational reform is a good thing and I hope the Board will show they stand with the students, families and teachers who believe in education, not Tyranny of Teachers' Unions. We are weary of metrics trying to justify the agenda of the Teachers Union.</p> <p>Think out of the box with a Remote Academy, placing an advertisement for subs to new grads, using parents as substitutes, etc. Together this community can open our schools and keep them open. Perhaps, in the process, we can start the long needed educational reform needed in this country.</p>