

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**THE DISTRICT 36 SCHOOL BOARD APPROVES 2016 TENTATIVE LEVY**

Winnetka, Ill. -- The District 36 School Board voted to unanimously approve the 2016 Tentative Levy on November 15, 2016. The Levy is a request for property tax income, representing over 90% of the District's annual revenue. A public hearing to discuss a proposed tax increase, and the School Board approval of the levy will be held at the December 13, 2016, Board Meeting.

As the District seeks Board approval for the 2016 Tentative Levy Request, the District is required to compare 2015 to 2016 property taxes in its public notice, to be printed on December 1, 2016. The comparison is made in total and separately for the District's operating funds and its Debt Service Fund. In the 2016 public notice, it will appear that the increase for taxes for the Debt Service fund will be in excess of 35% because that number does not yet include an expected tax abatement.

Following the Final 2016 Levy approval, as in prior years, in the interest of its financial philosophy of only collecting what is needed, the Board will evaluate a property tax abatement to provide additional tax relief at the March 21, 2017 meeting. The anticipated abatement in 2017 would significantly reduce the percentage change in property taxes for the Debt Service fund from 35%+ to a more reasonable 2%. Through the abatement process at the March 2017 Board Meeting, the total increase in the levy is expected to be finalized at 2% versus the approximate 5.5% increase shown in the public notice.

For an overview of this process from District 36 CFO Greg Kurr, click here:

<https://youtu.be/jlpekaonZTk>

*About The Winnetka Public Schools District 36*

The Winnetka Public Schools is a community that honors the whole child, fosters creativity, inspires lifelong learning, and develops civic responsibility. District 36 is comprised of

three elementary schools (Crow Island School, Greeley School, and Hubbard Woods School), The Skokie School (grades 5 and 6) and Carleton Washburne School (grades 7 and 8), where there is a progressive, experiential approach to developing learners who are compassionate citizens, who contribute to their community, and are well prepared for a dynamic future. For more information, visit [www.winnetka36.org](http://www.winnetka36.org).

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