



# NEWS

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## COMMUNITY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 64 Park Ridge-Niles

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 1, 2012

### **School District 64 Invites Public Comments on 2012 Tentative Tax Levy**

Park Ridge-Niles School District 64 has initiated its tax levy process for 2012 earlier than in past years and is offering multiple ways that community members can offer input.

The District's tentative tax levy plans for 2012 were introduced at the Board of Education meeting on October 22. The Board adopted a tentative total levy of 4.74%. This is comprised of a 4.99% increase for the education and other "capped" funds totaling \$60.4 million, and a .03% increase for debt service of \$2.9 million. The tentative levy amounts may be reduced by the Board, but not increased, prior to final adoption scheduled for December 10.

The levy presentation can be viewed conveniently via "on demand" video from the District 64 website at: [www.d64.org](http://www.d64.org) > Board of Education Meetings.

Upcoming opportunities for public input include:

- A public hearing on the tax levy will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, November 12 at Carpenter School, 300 N. Hamlin Ave., Park Ridge. Public comments also are invited at the start of the regular meeting at 7:30 p.m.
- Comments or questions may be directed at any time to members of the Board of Education or Superintendent Philip Bender. Dr. Bender can be reached at [pbender@d64.org](mailto:pbender@d64.org), and Board members' contact information is available on the District 64 website: [www.d64.org](http://www.d64.org) > Contact Board of Education.
- Public comments also are invited prior to adoption of the final levy, which is scheduled for the regular Board meeting on Monday, December 10 at 7:30 p.m. at the District 64 Educational Service Center (ESC), 164 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge.

District 64 typically receives tax revenue increases far lower than the levies it adopts.

Looking at the past five years, for example, the Board approved a tax levy request in 2008 of 2.18%, but received a final increase of 1.5%; in 2009, the request of 4.59% resulted in an actual increase of only 0.8%; in 2010, the request of 4.99% yielded a 3.6% actual increase; and in 2011, a 4.99% request resulted in a 1.7% increase. For budget purposes, the District anticipates that it may actually receive about 3.2% from the 2012 tentative levy of 4.74% now being proposed.

The practice of levying a higher amount – but actually receiving less in taxes – is typical for school districts in Cook County that are subject to the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law (PTELL) or "tax cap" linked to the Consumer Price Index and the value of new property. Estimating the amount of new property being added to the tax rolls for the first time is always difficult. To fully capture the benefit of this growth, districts that intend to maximize what can be legally collected under the "tax cap" typically set a higher levy, knowing that the County Clerk will always trim the final amount to ensure that the increase in total taxes collected is within the "tax cap" limit for the year.