Beacon City School District

Budget Information

Budget Overview

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Q. What is a school tax levy?

- A. The school tax levy is the total amount of money to be raised through property taxes.
- Q. Is the tax levy and the total budget the same?
- A. No, the school budget is the total amount of all the expenditures needed to run the school district for a year. The levy is one of the revenue sources to pay for the budget. The other major revenue is state aid.

Tax Levy - 2019-20 \$40,338,152 Total Budget - \$73,563,000

Q. What is the school tax rate?

- A. The school tax rate is the dollar amount per \$1,000 of the assessed property value that a property owner pays in taxes.
- Q. Who pays for the tax levy?
 - A. The tax levy is paid by homeowners (homestead) and businesses (non homestead) in the district.

- Q. Do the taxpayers and the businesses pay the same tax rate?
- A. No. The average homestead(homeowners) rate is \$15.44 per \$1,000.

The average non-homestead(businesses) rate is \$21.03 per \$1,000

Q. Does the tax levy indicate how much a person's taxes will rise?

A. No. The tax levy is the amount of money the district can raise through property taxes. The amount an individual will pay to contribute to the tax levy is the tax rate. The amount each person pays for taxes may differ greatly from one household to another based on such things as assessed property values and exemptions.

Q. How are school tax bills calculated?

- A. School tax bills are calculated by using a property's assessed value (determined by the local city/town assessor) and the tax rate. Tax bills can also be affected by STAR exemptions or other exclusions that individual taxpayers may qualify for.
- Q. What are other exemptions can a taxpayer receive other than STAR?
- A. Senior Citizen (income eligible) and Veteran (Basic, Combat Zone & Disabled)

Tax Comparison	Α	В	С
	2018-19	2019-20	2019-20
Assessed Value	281,600.00	281,600.00	309,800.00
STAR exemption	(37,450.00)	(37,450.00)	(37,450.00)
Subtotal	244,150.00	244,150.00	272,350.00
Tax Rate	15.779746	15.424248	15.424248
(Budget & Buses)			
School Tax	3,852.62	3,765.83	4,200.79
Assessed Value	281,600.00	281,600.00	309,800.00
Library Tax Rate	0.430529	0.425478	0.425478
Library Tax	121.24	119.81	131.81
Total Tax Bill	3,973.86	3,885.64	4,332.61

A- Actual Tax bill 2018-19	
B - Tax bill 2019-20 if Assessed Value remained the same	
C - Actual tax bill 2019-20	

Q. Does the tax cap law mean school tax levies can not increase by more than 2 percent?

A. No, the law does not prohibit tax levy increases greater than 2%. The legislation requires every district to calculate it own "tax levy limit".

Q. What is the tax levy limit?

A. The tax levy limit is the highest allowable tax levy(before exclusions)that a school district can propose as part of its annual budget for a simple majority. There are specific exclusions such as court orders, some pension costs and local capital expenditures that are added to the tax levy limit to arrive at the maximum allowable tax levy.

Q. What is the Tax base growth factor?

A. Tax base growth factor is calculated by NYS Tax and Finance of the "quantity change," such as new construction, newly taxable status of existing property, or measurable improvements to taxable property within the boundaries of the local government or school district.

Tax Cap Calculation 2020-2021		
Prior Year Tax Levy	\$40,338,152	
Tax Base Growth Factor	1.0151	
	\$40,947,258	
Prior Year PILOT	\$206,000	
Prior Year Capital Excl	(\$896,163)	
	\$40,257,095	
Allowable Growth Factor	1.018	
	\$40,981,723	
PILOTS coming in	(\$230,000)	
Tax Levy Limit	\$40,751,723	
Capital Exclusion	\$888,482	
Maximum Allowable Tax Levy	\$41,640,205	
Maximum Levy Increase	\$1,302,053	3.23%

- Q. Who monitors the tax levy calculation?
- A. Each district must submit their tax cap calculation to the NYS Comptroller's office by March 1st. The Comptroller's office reviews all the calculations.
- Q. How do the taxpayers know that the district stayed within the tax cap?
- A. When the district stays within the tax cap, taxpayers will receive a rebate check directly from New York State.



Questions

