

For Immediate Release

October 17, 2023

Contact: Mary Whitrock, Superintendent

WhitrockM@ripon.k12.wi.us

(920) 748-4600

Ripon School Board Sets Tax Levy

RIPON, Wis.— The Ripon Board of Education set the 2024 Tax Levy at their October 16 regular monthly meeting. Ripon’s mill rate will be \$7.95, significantly less than the \$12.43 mill rate from the 2014-15 school year. At \$7.95, district property owners would pay \$795 in property taxes for every \$100,000 of property value. Last year’s rate was \$8.15.

Although the State’s latest Biennial Budget increased revenue limits for school districts and the school district taxes levied will be \$698,992 higher than the previous year, the mill rate will be the lowest since at least 1984. The falling mill rate is a result of the property value in the Ripon Area School District increasing \$99.5 million (12.6%), allowing the taxes levied to be spread over more property value. RASD taxpayers will provide the district with tax revenue comparable to the 2019-20 school year; however, the actual amount of individual tax owed is dependent on property reassessments.

Business Manager Jonah Adams first provided details about the tax levy to the community at the District’s Annual Meeting on September 25. At that time Adams indicated that all factors related to the levy would be known by October 15. The updated information was provided at the October 16 school board meeting and unanimously approved. The levy amount for the upcoming fiscal school year will be \$7,077,433, which includes \$4,810,374 for the operating budget, \$2,015,787 for debt service and \$251,272 for community services, which include swimming pool operations, BRAVE programs, middle school co-curricular activities and the school resource officers.

Adams shared, "The 2023-2024 mill rate is projected to decrease by \$0.20 per \$1,000 of property value. The mill rate of \$7.95 is the lowest since 1984. The decrease in the mill rate is primarily due to increased state aid (+\$350,173) and a large increase in district property values (+\$99,509,563), which allows the total tax to be spread over more value. The decrease to the mill rate means that the average homeowner with a property value of \$100,000 would see a \$20 decrease in school district taxes compared to the prior year. However, actual taxes paid may be higher due to property reassessments and/or changes within the property value of the municipality that you reside."

Ripon Superintendent Mary Whitrock shared, "Ripon is committed to providing quality educational services to students in a fiscally responsible manner. The District is cognizant of the importance of keeping the mill rate down and achievement high so Ripon continues to be an attractive community for families to move into."

Any comments or questions, please contact Dr. Mary Whitrock at (920) 748-4600.

###