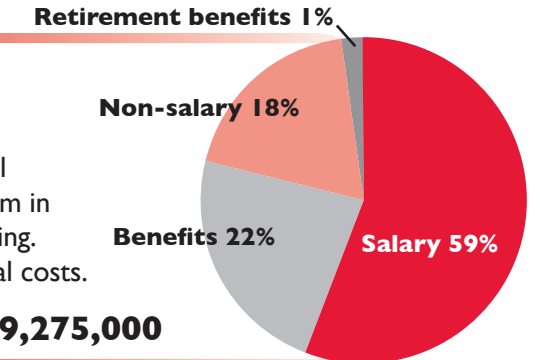
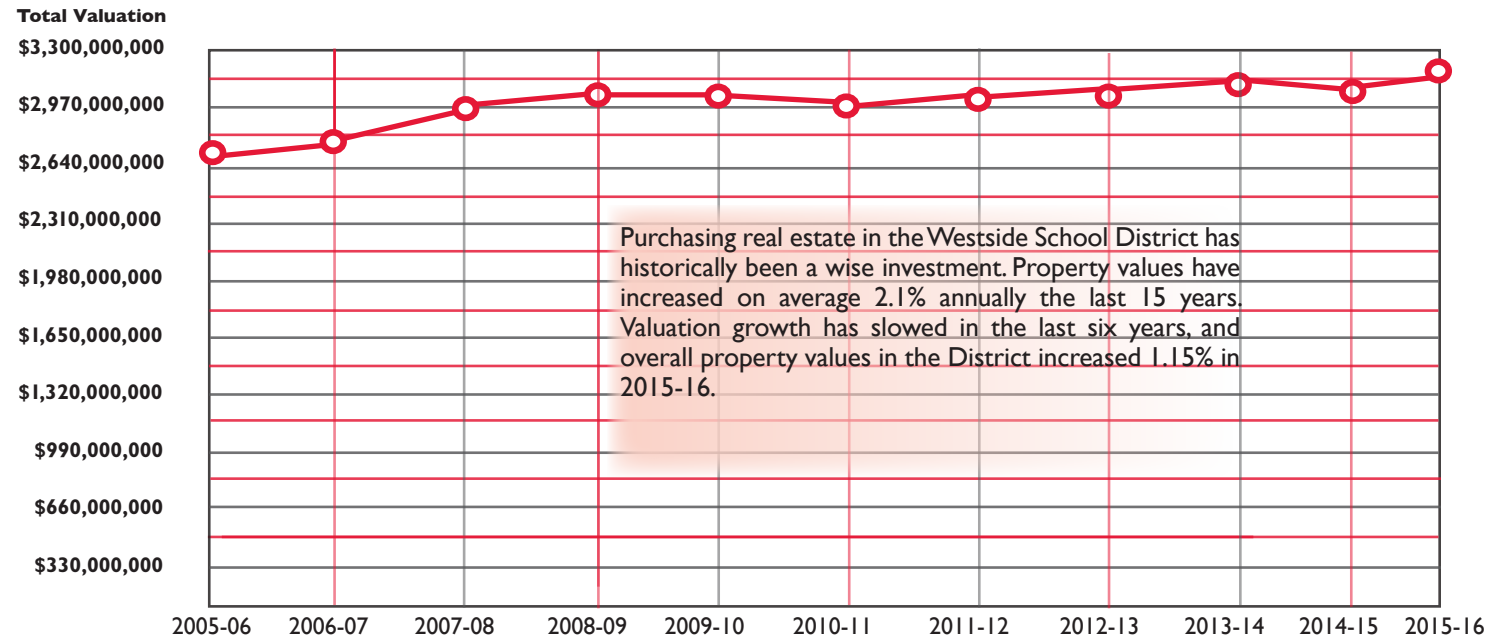


2015-16 Budget Report



Where Does the Money Go?

Approximately 81 percent of the budget goes to salaries and benefits, including retirement benefits. This proportion is typical of most school districts. Teachers' salaries and benefits represent the single largest item in the budget and account for more than 65 percent of all District spending. Non-salary items include textbooks, computers, and other instructional costs.

The total general fund budget for 2015-16 is \$69,275,000

Property Tax Need

Property tax need is based upon the budget adopted by the Board of Education and the amount of revenue available from other sources. Douglas County requires that approximately one percent be added to this amount and paid to the county as a collection fee. This information is reported below for each of the four funds for which property taxes are levied.

General Fund Budget: Funds most of the District's basic operations including staff salaries and benefits as well as instructional costs such as textbooks and computers.

Bond Debt Service Fund: Includes proceeds from bonds that have been used to finance renovations at our buildings including Westside High School.

General Fund Budget	\$69,275,000
State, County, Federal and other revenue sources	\$62,560,577
Total General Fund Property Tax Needed	\$ 6,714,423*

Bond Debt Service Budget	\$ 4,900,000
Total Bond Debt Service Fund Tax Needed	\$ 4,949,495*

*Difference of budget and revenue plus collection fee

*Includes Douglas County collection fee

TOTAL PROPERTY TAX NEEDED \$10,448,485

Learning Community Tax Levies

School	2015-16	2014-15	School	2015-16	2014-15
Bellevue	\$1.09	\$1.09	Omaha Public	\$1.23	\$1.20
Bennington	\$1.42	\$1.39	Papillion-LaVista	\$1.30	\$1.30
DC West	\$1.09	\$1.08	Ralston	\$1.27	\$1.27
Elkhorn	\$1.34	\$1.32	Sarpy County	\$1.07	\$1.08
Gretna	\$1.37	\$1.34	Westside	\$1.31	\$1.27
Millard	\$1.24	\$1.25			

Westside property taxes are not the highest in the metro. Several other school districts in the Learning Community have higher total property tax rates.

(per \$100 of valuation, includes .95 Learning Community levy)

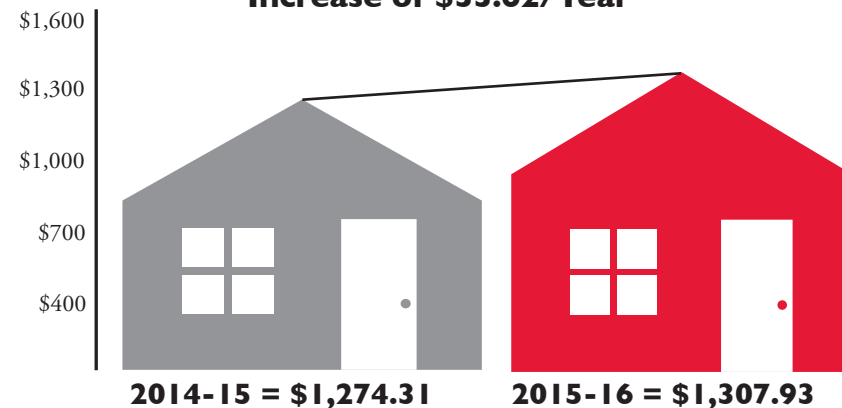
Special Building Fund Project: Funds necessary improvements to the District's buildings and infrastructure.

Special Building Fund Budget	\$500,000
Use of Fund Balance	\$500,000
Total Special Building Fund Tax Needed	\$0

District Levy History

Year	Total Levy
2015-16	\$1.307925
2014-15	\$1.274309
2013-14	\$1.334758
2012-13	\$1.300624
2011-12	\$1.278906
2010-11	\$1.278906
2009-10	\$1.251060
2008-09	\$1.253020
2007-08	\$1.252820
2006-07	\$1.301560
2005-06	\$1.288850

Taxes for \$100,000 of Assessed Valuation Increase of \$33.62/Year

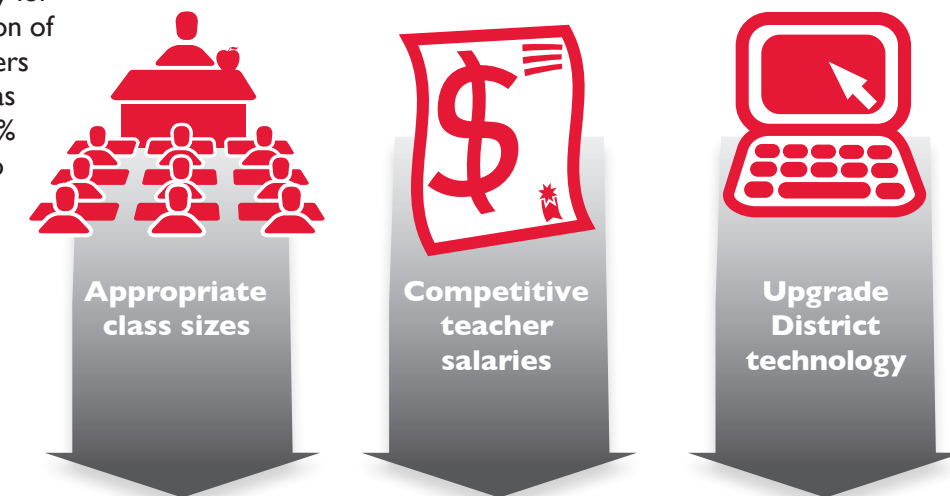


The District's levy of \$1.31 is 2.6% higher than last year's rate of \$1.27. For the owner of a home assessed at \$100,000, taxes will increase \$33.62 a year.

Levy Override

Voters approved a 10-cent levy override authority for five years beginning in 2013-14. This is an extension of the 10-cent override authority that Westside voters granted the District in 2007. The levy override was supported by a strong majority of our voters (65% voted in support of the initiative) and provides up to \$3.3 million annually to the District. The levy override supports the following:

- **Maintain appropriate class sizes:** average elementary class size of 20.05 students
- **Pay competitive teacher salaries:** starting teacher salary of \$35,700 is among the top five highest in the state
- **Upgrade District technology:** every student in grades K-6 has an iPad and every student in grades 7-12 and all teachers have a District-issued laptop computer



About the Budget

If you have any questions, please contact Bob Zagozda at zagozda.robert@westside66.net. We will not sell or distribute your contact information to other organizations.