School Board Executive Summary

Topic: School Funding and Property Taxes

Date: November 2, 2026

Presented by: Mike Lucas

Recommended Action:

- [x] Information Only
- [ ] Presentation/Discussion
- [ ] Discussion/Action by Board of Education
- [ ] Presentation/Action Next Meeting

Recommendation: None at this time. Informational update.

Background: Westside Community Schools has worked hard to lower our total tax levy for the 8th year in a row. Our new levy for this fiscal year is $1.0697, compared to $1.3824 in 2019-20.

While the overall levy has decreased, annual valuation increases have caused the total dollar amount our tax levy brings in to rise by an average of 1.1% annually. This year's 2026-27 tax request is $57,353,224 compared to $53,088,355 in 2019-20.

Our Board of Education had the taxing authority to ask for an additional $17.4 million in 2025-26 and another $25.4 million in 2026-27, but opted not to as part of their commitment to our local patrons. We work hard to be efficient and proactive with our tax dollars.

Typically, about 52% of our patrons' tax dollars go to Westside Community Schools. Other agencies or organizations that are supported by local tax dollars include the City of Omaha, Douglas County, Natural Resources District, Educational Service Unit #3, and the Douglas County Learning Community, among others.

Attachment(s): None