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# BOARD MEETING REPORT



## Tax Rate Hearing



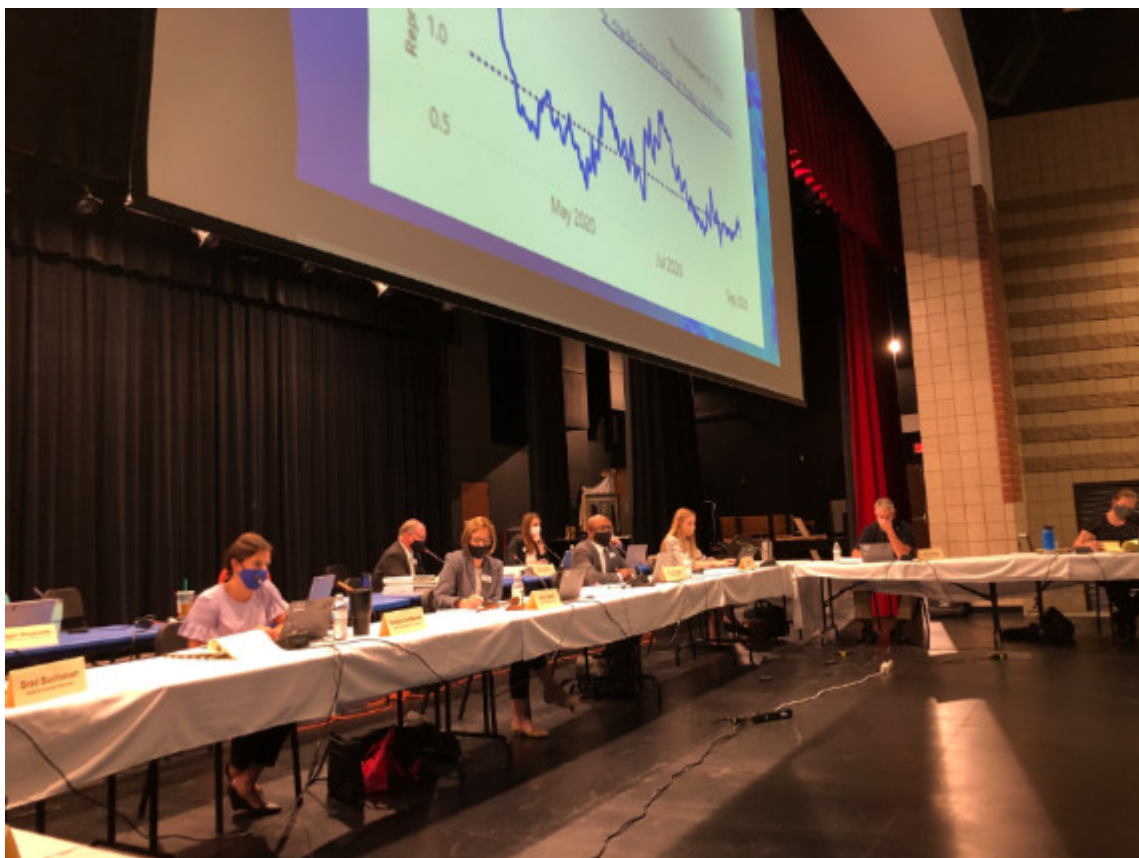
Chief Financial Officer Rick Angevine opened the evening with the Tax Rate Hearing, outlining how this year's tax rate was set. The public was invited to comment. [In his presentation](#), Mr. Angevine explained there are a number of factors that go into establishing the tax rate that include assessed valuation, new construction, the tax rate approved by the state from the previous year, the Hancock Amendment, and various guidelines mandated by the the State Auditor. He also shared that the state auditors office allows the WSD to assess an additional \$0.0561 operating levy for the taxation of properties added since last fiscal year and the application of the Consumer Price Index, however the District opted to forfeit the additional levy and only add the \$0.49 that resulted from the passing of Proposition S in June.

Later in the meeting under New Business, the Board approved the recommended tax rate at \$5.2486 which represents an increase of \$0.49 (Proposition S) from last year's rate of \$4.7586.

## Operating Levy

- The voters approved a 49.0 cent levy in June 2020 for salary increases, new positions and safety initiatives.
  - Upon passage by the voters this levy was administered as approved by the Board.
- The State Auditor's Office allows for the District to claim an additional 5.61 cent levy in fiscal year 2020-2021 for the taxation of properties added since last fiscal year and the application of the Consumer Price index.
  - This additional levy is not included in our proposed rates.

### September 17, 2020 Board of Education Meeting



This month's Board of Education meeting was held at Liberty High School to ensure appropriate social distancing. Open Session was live-streamed via the District's YouTube channel and you can view the recording by visiting the [WSD on YouTube](#). The full agenda and supporting documents can be viewed on the website under [Public Access to BoardDocs](#).



## Consent



**2019-20 MARKETING PARTNERS...** The Board approved Advertising and Sponsorship Agreements with the following partners for one year:

Lou Fusz Automotive - Presenting level (\$10,000)  
 First Bank - Gold level (\$5,000)  
 Golden Oak Lending - Gold level (\$5,000)  
 Allstate Insurance Agent John Larson - Gold level (\$3,000)  
 Country Club Car Wash - Silver level (\$2,000)

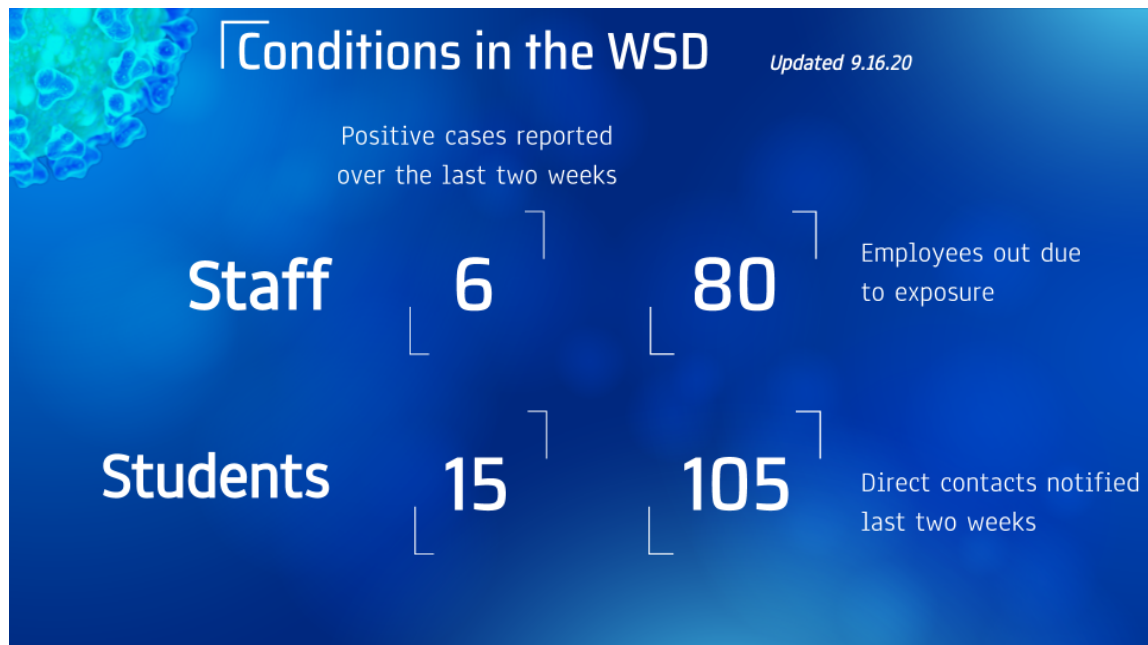
For more information about the District's Marketing/Sponsorship Program, visit the [WSD website](https://mailings.marketvolt.com/401404/f9z15kG.html).

## Superintendent's Report



Director of Professional Learning Dr. Karen Hill [presented a report](#) on the Summer School Program to the Board.

## Old Business



**COVID Metrics Update...** Dr. Cain [shared a presentation](#) with the Board outlining the metrics he has been monitoring as it relates to what level the District is in for in-person learning. He reiterated that the goal has always been to return to full in-person learning, but asked the Board to also consider the question: What level can we sustain the best and the longest as a school district?

**Roadmap to Reopening Discussion...** Dr. Cain, members of cabinet, and the Board discussed what it would take to move back to LEVEL 1: In-person Learning. Items

discussed included that a move would not affect students in the Virtual Academy. Dr. Stryjewski shared that there will not be an opportunity for students to move into the Virtual Academy when the District makes a move to Level 1 because those spots have been filled and as we shared at the time of enrollment in August, enrollment in the WSD Virtual Academy occurs annually and is a year-long commitment (with an option to move back to in-person after the first semester). She also shared that the District does not have the staff at the elementary level and course availability at the secondary level to add more students. The discussion also included cleaning procedures, positive case protocols, physical distancing challenges, and the logistics of bringing all students back. **The Board voted to return to LEVEL 1: In-person Learning starting on Monday, October 19 with masks required for all students Pre-K through grade 12.**

## New Business



**NEW HIGH SCHOOL NAMED...** The Board of Education has approved naming the District's fourth high school, currently under construction at the corner of North Point Prairie Road and West Meyer Road in Wentzville, [North Point High School](#). Dr. Amanda Shelmire, who has been named the school principal, selected the grizzly as the school's mascot.

Over 260 name and mascot suggestions were submitted by students and families living in the new high school attendance area. "Our stakeholder's voice is valued and extremely important to me," Shelmire shared with the Board of Education. "Therefore, it was an easy decision when the most popular name was North Point High School and when the most popular mascot submitted was a grizzly."

**BONDS ISSUED FOR NEW MIDDLE SCHOOL...** The Board voted to approve the issue of Series 2020 bonds through Bank of America at an interest rate of 1.90% financing. The bond issue was authorized by voters with the passing of Proposition C in June and the \$105M in proceeds will be used to build the District's 4th middle school, expand and renovate existing middle schools, and safety items across the District. Martin Ghafoori from Stifel was on hand to share that the low interest rate is the result of the District's strong Moody's rating. Mr. Ghafoori said only seven districts in Missouri have a higher rating (there are over 500 school districts in the state).

*Next Regular Board Meeting ~ Thursday, October 15, 2020*