

Mill River Unified Union School District Budget and Bond Information

School budgets are about the future. As a school board our goal is to strive to create the best schools in the state. This is not an idle statement, it is our goal. Striving to be the best will not only benefit our students but our entire community making this a district where families will want to live.

The budget for the 2019-2020 school year includes staff reductions and consolidation, expanded pre-K programming at all 4 elementary schools and enhanced arts programming at Mill River High School. The highlights are noted below;

Significant changes to the 2019- 2020 Budget;

- + \$295,000 for contractual salary increases
- + \$150,000 for increased health insurance premiums

Staffing changes

- 6.5 positions are being reduced either through retirement or program shifts. No individuals are losing their jobs.
- 5.45 positions will added for the expanded pre-K program and childcare
- 1.5 positions added for the expanded arts focus at Mill River
- Two administrative positions were combined into 1 position
- Total staffing changes + 4.60

Total Budget is \$17,686,679

- This is an increase of \$859,413 or a 5.11% increase
- Equivalent of increase in taxes would be \$101 on \$200,000 house before state tax calculations

Bond

In our continuing effort to both keep our buildings maintained AND reduce operating costs the Board is proposing a \$2.3 million bond. If approved the board will enter into a Performance Contract that will guarantee a minimum annual savings through reduced energy costs which will equal the annual cost of the bond. Because of this the bond will be tax neutral and have no impact upon taxes.

Voters approved a bond last year which covered roofs and building envelopes. This bond will address upgrades which will provide significant energy savings. The list is as follows

- Solar panels at MR
- Wood chip boiler at MR
- Improved heating and ventilation controls at all schools
- Improved weatherization
- Improved lighting at all schools

If you would like to have more information please join us the district Informational Meeting to discuss the budget and bond.

Thursday, February 28th, 7:00 pm, Mill River High School Library

❖ Town Meeting Day is; Tuesday , March 5, polls are open 10:00 am - 7:00 pm