

The 2018-19 budget for USD 115 was approved following a budget hearing on Monday, August 20. The total budget, which was published in *The Courier-Tribune* on August 8, will be partially funded locally with a total mill levy of 41.98. The mill levy breakdown is 20 mills (set by State statute) for the General fund; 15.065 mills for the Supplemental General fund; and 6.915 for the Bond & Interest fund. The Bond & Interest mill levy which is to pay off the elementary/middle school building is assessed on the former USD 442 residents only.

The mill levy will increase .815 for the Supplemental General fund, also known as the Local Option Budget (LOB) fund. This increase sets the LOB at the maximum 30% allowed for the district without being subject to voter protest. The increase in the LOB and General funds combined will be used to pay increases in salaries and maintain transfers to the other miscellaneous funds.

Patrons are encouraged to visit the district website, [www.usd115.org](http://www.usd115.org), to view information relating to the budget. Posted are the One-Page Budget Summary, Budget-at-a-Glance, Code 99 and Form 150. The entire budget is available for viewing at the district office upon request.

The board also approved a resolution for the second publication notice stating that the 2018-19 property tax levy increased percentage exceeds the 2017-18 tax levy based on the Consumer Price Index.

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Immediately following the budget hearing, the regular monthly meeting was called to order.

With building administrators finalizing staffing needs, several new hires were approved. Betty Hecht – returning (working after retirement) as high school English/History teacher; Mary Haverkamp – part-time para at NCEMS; Mary A. Haug – part-time Special Ed para at Centralia; Gayle Skalla – Special Ed para at NCHS; Ellie Mady – STEAM Club student assistant at NCEMS; and Amy Schmitz – Freshman class sponsor. The resignation of April Gee who had been a new hire for the high school was accepted.

Assurances for the federal Title VI-B grant for the Marshall-Nemaha County Educational Services Cooperative were approved.

Supt. Kohlman reviewed the Strategic Plan which is in the final year and the progress that has been made in the target areas. The board members discussed what process to use to develop a new plan.

Members approved moving the September regular meeting date from Monday, September 10 to Wednesday, September 12. The meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m.