

## Schools maintain tax rate

By John Foster  
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School taxes aren't going up in Oldham County this year as the Oldham County Board of Education voted to maintain the current property tax rate.

Superintendent Paul Upchurch argued for a higher rate of 67.3 cents per \$100 of assessed property value. That rate would've garnered about \$225,000 extra for schools which have undergone drastic cuts this year, while only taxing each home-owner a few more dollars.

The school board, with the exception of chair Joyce Fletcher, voted instead to maintain a rate of 66.9 cents per \$100 of assessed value, meaning a homeowner with a \$100,000 house will pay \$669 in property tax to the schools.

Board member Walt Schumm explained why he voted for the lower rate.

He said the school district has had a difficult year, but it's also been a difficult year for families in Oldham County and he just can't justify raising taxes on them, he said. Board members also approved motor vehicle tax and utility taxes at their long-standing rates.

Property tax will raise about \$37.8 million dollars for the school district. The state also funds the school district to the tune of about \$35.2 million.

Oldham County Schools is the largest taxing district in the county.

In neighboring Jefferson County, officials voted Monday to increase the tax rate to 64.6 cents per \$100.

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