

# About Proposition P

## Quick Facts Pattonville's Nov. 5, 2013 Tax Levy Election



- Proposition P is an overall tax rate increase of \$0.9972; however Pattonville is voluntarily limiting the increase to 35 cents for residential homeowners for as many years as possible. Pattonville is able to levy rates by different classes of property (commercial, residential, personal and agricultural).
- Pattonville is seeking the increase **in order to maintain and protect the quality of programs and staffing** in the Pattonville School District by overcoming a potential operating budget deficit of \$10 million.
- Pattonville has had no increase in revenue since 2007 due to declining property values, reductions in state funding and continued tax appeals by large commercial property owners.
- The increase is needed because Pattonville can no longer keep pace with declining revenues, despite having cut \$8.1 million from its operating budget over the last six years.
- Further cuts will **significantly impact Pattonville's existing programs and services for students** and undermine the strides the district has made in the academic achievement of its students, which have earned the district and its schools state and national recognition.
- The cost of a 35-cent increase on a home valued at \$125,000 would be \$6.85 per month or \$82.20 per year.
- Without added revenues, the district could face up to \$10 million in budget cuts in order to balance the budget. These cuts could include:
  - Reducing 80 to 100 positions (fewer teachers and support staff and higher class sizes);
  - Indefinite salary freezes;
  - Eliminating transportation less than three miles from school (the state minimum);
  - Ceasing all textbook purchases; and
  - Charging fees for students to participate in sports and after-school activities, which could increase parents' annual out-of-pocket expenses by hundreds of dollars.
- If Prop P is approved, Pattonville plans to levy different tax rates for the different classes of property because it:
  - Minimizes the burden on homeowners and restores balance between commercial and residential rates.
  - Keeps the residential tax rate below the St. Louis and St. Charles county averages.
  - Was the preferred option voiced by residents during the Aug. 6 Pattonville Community Forum.



### Find out more...

Download a presentation about the proposal or read Frequently Asked Questions at the following link:

<http://www.psd3.org/propp>

*This link can also be found under "Seasonal Links" on the district's website.*