

School sets mill levy at 31.253

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A total 2008 mill levy of 31.253 mills was approved for certification at the Dec. 10 meeting of Holyoke School District Re-1J Board of Education.

This includes 27 mills with an abatement levy at .003 in the general fund and bond redemption fund at 4.250 mills.

These mill levies for property tax year 2008 were based on a total assessed valuation of \$45,603,921, which is an increase of \$1.94 million from the previous year's assessed value.

Total mill levy certified at this time in 2007 was 31.955, noting a drop of .702 mills this year.

Reporting at last week's board meeting, director of budget and finance Sharon Thompson noted this year's state funding is up about \$100,000 from a year ago. She indicated the five-year student-count average certainly helped Holyoke.

The student count used for budgeting was 589.2, up from 587 which was projected in June.

Self-evaluation workshop facilitated at board meeting

Colorado Association of School Boards (CASB) representative Randy Black facilitated a workshop at the Dec. 10 board meeting. His visit followed up on a self-evaluation completed by board members and included close to a four-hour session with the board Wednesday night.

Black led board members to share areas they wanted to work on at the session. From the suggestions, the board concentrated on a vision for the board as a team, and later, discussion on decision-making.

In the process, the board committed to follow through with Black. He will send a proposal, incorporating the ideas shared last week. He then asked the board to commit to responding, in the form of assessment.

"From Me to We" was the emphasis repeated by Black as he led the board to discuss ideas for improving their effectiveness.