

Mill Levy Override

Q & A

What's a mill levy?

A mill levy is a statewide tax on commercial and residential property that funds public K-12 schools throughout Colorado. The current mill levy for St. Vrain Valley School District is 46.285 mils, of which 13.870 is for bond repayment, 7.320 is for mill levy override, and the balance of 25.095 is for general public K-12 education.

What's a mill levy override?

A mill levy override is a tax approved by local voters for the exclusive use of the local school district. Prior to the general election of November 2008, St. Vrain was one of three Front Range school districts that had never received a mill levy override.

What do mill levy override dollars pay for?

Mill levy funds and override funds pay for lower class size ratios, student safety, curriculum enhancements, teacher recruitment and retention, and instructional technology.

Does St. Vrain receive override funding from the voters?

In the fall of 2008 voters in the St. Vrain School District approved a mill levy override for the first time. The override added \$16.5 million dollars to the District's annual funding and prevented a second round of staffing cuts.

How is the override money being spent?

The District has begun to rehire approximately 75 teacher positions that were cut in early 2008 to maintain a balanced budget for the 2008-2009 academic year. The override funds also restore lost academic programs and decrease average class size ratios.

Who provides budget and spending oversight?

Oversight is provided by the Board of Education, the Community Budget Advisory Committee, and the Finance and Audit Committee. The Board consists of elected representatives from across the District and the oversight committees consist of highly experienced subject matter experts from private industry.