

## Arbor Park School District 145

### Financial Fact Sheet

\* Arbor Park School District 145 is asking for a \$.60 tax rate increase on April 5th.

\* The \$.60 tax rate increase will cost each homeowner approximately \$60 per \$100,000 of fair market value.

*\* Tax bills are subject to many variables. Community members are encouraged to contact the Cook County Assessor's Office for the most accurate information regarding the impact on your property taxes.*

\* The last tax rate increase for educational purposes was 16 years ago, in 1995.

\* School districts can only receive the Consumer Price Index rate (less than 1.4% average the last 3 years) more than the previous year. Additional costs associated with your tax bill are shifted to other tax entities.

\* The building referendum passed 7 years ago in 2004, could only be used for construction purposes not salaries or programs.

\* The district closed the deficit gap from \$2.4 million in 2009 to 1.3 at the end of 2010 school year.

\* The state currently owes us \$1.56 million dollars this year for early childhood grants, transportation, and special education reimbursements.

\* The following school district have recently passed tax rate increases to offset their deficits: Tinley Park SD 146 in 2003, Kirby SD 140 in 2005, Orland SD 135 in 2006, Alsip SD 126 in 2006.

\* **In 2010**, the district took the following steps to reduce the deficit:

\* Eliminated 10 teaching positions which raised class sizes in grades 1 - 4 to 30 students.

\* 1 administrative position and 5 support staff positions were eliminated.

\* Administrative salaries were frozen, support staff salary increases reduced.

\* Summer school and after school study programs eliminated.

\* **In 2011**, the district continued to look for ways to reduce the deficit and have minimal impact on students:

\* Administrative and support staff salary freeze.

\* Health insurance changes for all staff members.

\* No early or late extra-curricular buses.

- \* An additional administrative position eliminated (2012 school year).

- \* **In 2012**, the board would have to consider the following actions if the referendum fails:

- \* Additional teaching positions eliminated (2012).

- \* Extracurricular activities at the risk of elimination (2012).

- \* Reduction or elimination of early childhood education (2012).

- \* Reduction or charging families for bus transportation (2012).

- \* **The state is threatening to reduce state supported programs like early childhood education and transportation which would place an additional burden on local tax dollars.**

- \* **Our students' academic scores are at the highest levels in district history.**

- \* **An increase in local tax revenue combined with continued spending reductions is part of the financial plan to insure financial stability and high academic standards in District 145.**