

**Cozad Community Schools
Board of Education Tax Hearing
Monday, September 23, 2024 7:00 PM
Office of the Superintendent**

Mission: Cozad Community Schools, in partnership with family and community, prepares students to be successful lifelong learners through quality education.

Vision: Cozad Creates Success

Values - Guiding Principles

Respect - Trust, appreciate, celebrate, value, act with urgency

Integrity - Do the right thing, deliver highest quality instruction and practice full accountability

Teamwork - Teamwork at all levels districtwide, recognize and celebrate, have fun and enjoy

Innovation - Positive attitude, open to new ideas,

Courage - Embrace change and take calculated risk, encourage others, communicate directly with respect

1. BOARD OF EDUCATION TAX HEARING 7:00 P.M.

1.1. Call to Order, Roll Call

1.2. Nebraska Open Meeting Law, Publication of Meeting

This meeting has been preceded by advance notice and is hereby declared to be in open session. A current copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act is posted on the West wall of the meeting room.

Notice of this meeting was given in advance by publication in the Cozad Local and posted on the Cozad Community Schools website and at the District Office, Cozad Post Office and Wilson Public Library. Notice of this meeting was also given in advance to all members of the Board of Education. The order of agenda items may be changed when deemed necessary.

The board may choose to enter closed (executive) session to discuss any matter for which closed (executive) session is lawful and appropriate.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

The Board of Education invites you to offer comments during the public comments portion of the agenda. This is the portion of the meeting when members of the public may speak to the board.

We have _____ speakers who have signed up to speak. We will allow ___ minutes per speaker for a total of _____ minutes.

During the public comment portion of this meeting, those who have signed up need to be allowed to speak without interruption for the time allotted by the Board. We understand that people may have strong feelings about the issues they come to speak about. We ask that you respect the opinions of all who speak and that you refrain from applause, conduct that interferes with the Board meeting, or other outbursts during the presentations. Offensive language, vulgar personal attacks, or hostile conduct will not be tolerated. If the Board President determines any statement or comment constitutes offensive language, a vulgar personal attack, or hostile conduct, then the Board President will rule the person out of order, and the person forfeits any remaining time. You should be further advised that there is no legal protection for any comments that are made, including slanderous comments. Each person should choose their words carefully.

The Board is not obligated to respond to public comments or questions because such dialogue could violate the Open Meetings Act.

During the meeting, including during public comment, comments, outbursts, or interruptions from the audience will not be tolerated. After public comment, the Board will conduct its business. Remember that this is a public meeting, not a meeting of the public. Individuals wishing to speak must do so during public comment. Any attendee who chooses to interrupt Board business will be deemed out of order and may be asked to leave. Refusal to do so may result in removal.

The board needs to be allowed to conduct our business in this public setting uninterrupted. Any questions or concerns that arise from this meeting can be addressed via phone or email to the administration or Board after the meeting has concluded.

If the subject of your public comment is related to a particular student or staff member, we ask that you not mention the student or staff member by name in the public session. The Board has a complaint procedure in policy, and the Board will not respond to or consider any complaints unless and until an individual follows the complaint policy.

As a reminder, under the Open Meetings Act, the Board of Education is legally obligated to require any member of the public desiring to address the Board to identify himself or herself, including an address and the name of any organization you may represent. As a result, please state and spell your first and last name, state your current address, and let us know if you are here representing any particular organization before you begin your public comment.

It is now _____ p.m. Our first speaker _____

Notice of Special Hearing To Set Final Tax Request

Cozad Community Schools (24-00011) in Dawson County, Nebraska

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given, in compliance with the provisions of State Statute Section 77-1632, that the governing body will meet on the 23 day of September 2024 at 7:00 o'clock P.M. at Cozad Elementary School (Northeast Room) for the purpose of hearing support, opposition, criticism, suggestions or observations of taxpayers relating to setting the final tax request.

	2023-2024	2024-2025	Change						
Property Valuations	913,302,544	1,012,731,521	11%						

2023-2024 Budget Information

2024-2025 Budget Information

Fund	2023-2024 Operating Budget	2023-2024 Property Tax Request	2023 Tax Rate	Property Tax Rate (2023-2024 Request Divided By 2023 Valuation)	2024-2025 Operating Budget	2024-2025 Proposed Property Tax Request	Proposed 2024 Tax Rate	Change in Tax Rate	Change in Operating Budget
General Fund	16,677,426.00	9,005,939.00	0.986085	0.889272	17,968,000.00	9,304,897.00	0.918792	-7%	8%
Bond Fund(s) K - 12	1,587,208.00	1,780,970.00	0.231450	0.175858	3,698,298.00	1,919,192.00	0.224200	-3%	133%
Bond Fund	765,000.00	571,238.00	0.189435	0.056406			0.000000	-100%	-100%
Special Building Fund	13,198,763.00	297,980.00	0.032627	0.029423	7,067,408.00	550,505.00	0.054358	67%	-46%
Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking Fund K - 12			0.000000	0.000000	783,000.00	282,828.00	0.027927	#DIV/0!	0
Total	32,228,397.00	11,656,127.00	1.439597	1.150959	29,516,706.00	12,057,422.00	1.225277	-15%	-8%

Cozad Community Schools

District 11



Cozad Creates Success



Cozad Information



Levy Drop

Most taxpayers will see their levy drop from \$1.44 to \$1.23



General Fund

General Fund Tax asking is a 3.3% increase over the previous year.



QCPUF Fund

QCPUF is a new fund with money dedicated to life/safety upgrades in the construction project.



Valuations

Valuations rose by 11% last year and exceeded \$1,000,000,000 for the first time in district history.



The Building Fund tax asking relates to an HVAC lease purchase payment and potential renovation of the auditorium.



Citizens may contact the Superintendent via phone or email listed below for more information.

Contact Us



308-784-2745

3. **ADJOURNMENT**

* **Closed Session:** If, during the course of the meeting, discussion of any item on the agenda should be held in a closed meeting, the board will conduct a closed meeting in accordance with the Nebraska Open Meetings Law.

****Sequence of Agenda:** The sequence of agenda topics is subject to change at the discretion of the board. Please arrive at the beginning of the meeting.

*****Action Item:** The board reserves the right to take action on any item on the board agenda.