

# CHICHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT

Boothwyn, PA 19061

June 5, 2009

## Proposed Final Budget for School Year 2009 – 2010

The Chichester Board of School Directors will approve the proposed final 2009-2010 budget at the regular School Board meeting on June 16, 2009.

The CSD proposed final budget calls for a 3.78% millage rate increase for the 2009-2010 school year. A homeowner in Upper Chichester, Lower Chichester, Trainer and Marcus Hook with a \$100,000 assessment will pay \$3,460.17( $34.6017 \times 100$ ) compared to the 2008-2009 current tax of \$3,329.50( $33.295 \times 100$ ) – an overall increase of \$130.67 per \$100,000 of assessed value.

On May 1, 2009, the state's department of education announced that property tax relief from casino slot machine tax revenue would be available to approved homesteads in the upcoming fiscal year. Chichester School District approved homesteads (5,539) will receive \$1,798,892 in tax relief (\$325.50 / homestead) which will appear as a tax credit on taxpayer July 1, 2009 school tax bills. Homesteads with assessments of \$9,409 or less will experience a net tax decrease next year. Since the median homestead value in Chichester is approximately \$101,000, more than half of the approved homesteads in the district will experience a net tax decrease.

Pennsylvania Act 1 of 2006 established an index that limits property tax rate increases for districts based upon the state SAWWS (Statewide Average Weekly Wage) index and the federal ECI (Employment Cost) index. The index for the 2009-2010 school year for the Chichester School District is 5.4% (5.8% current year). The unenhanced state index for 2009-2010 is 4.1% (4.4% current year), which is the lowest increase authorized by the state to various school districts throughout the Commonwealth. The Chichester School District proposed tax increase is less than the unenhanced state allowed increase. The district did not claim any state authorized exceptions to increase its tax rate beyond the state imposed limit for 2009-2010 or 2008-2009. The Chichester School Board will continue its tradition of balancing student achievement and fiscal responsibility.

The proposed budget presentation and the proposed budget in state format (PDE 2028) are available at the Chichester District Administration Office. These budget documents are also available for review or download at the [District's website at chichestersd.org](http://www.chichestersd.org).