

## PRESS RELEASE

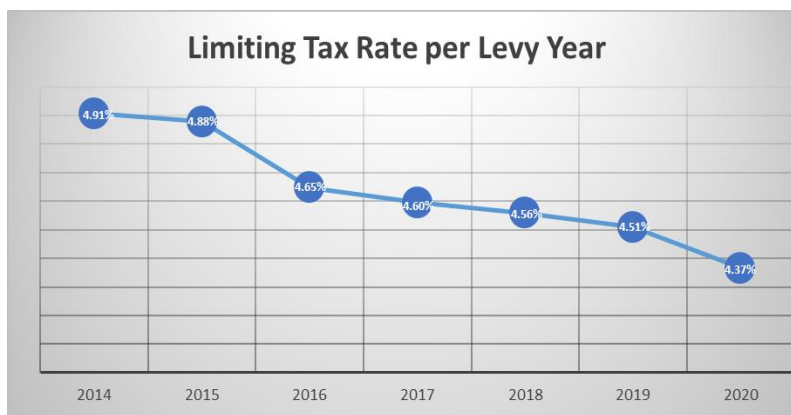
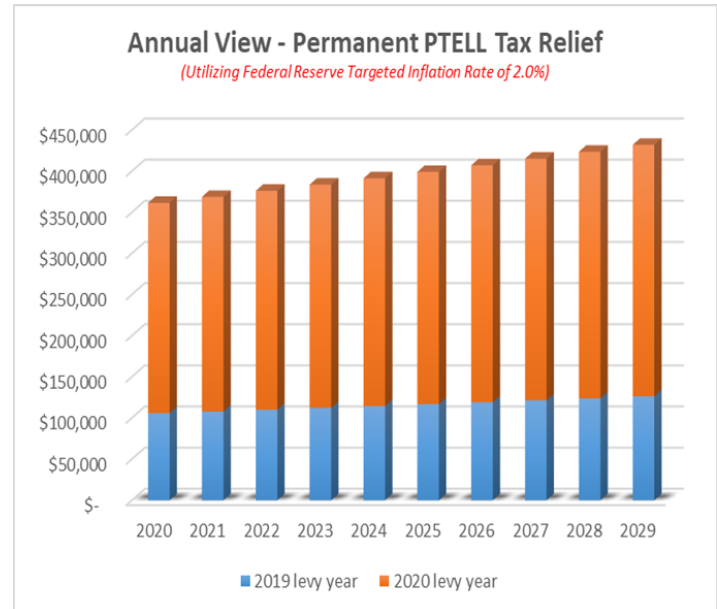
### Prairie Grove Consolidated School District 46

**December 8, 2020:** The Board of Education (“Board”) at Prairie Grove Consolidated School District 46 (“District”) took action on two separate measures in an effort to reduce the growing property tax burden on its community.

In an effort to assist families whose finances have been negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Board voted in favor of a flat tax levy request or 2.3% lower than prescribed under the Property Tax Extension Law Limit (“PTELL”). This action will save current property owners approximately \$250 thousand in 2021 and \$2.8 million over a 10-year period compared to the PTELL formula as this tax rate reduction is permanent.

At the same time, Board members voted to abate \$616 thousand back to taxpayers and instead utilize existing reserves to settle debt service obligations. Since 2006, the District has lowered property taxes by abating debt services by \$6.8 million.

“The Board of Education is dedicated to providing quality education while being fiscally responsible to our taxpayers and where it is reasonable and responsible, we will continually look to make the correct adjustments,” Board President Khushali Shah said.



“Our district is so appreciative of the local support that we received each and every year from the community! Fiscally responsible districts effectively manage taxpayer resources in a manner that benefits students most. While we are constantly revisiting our priorities and looking for areas to become more efficient, we are proud of recent indicators that our efforts are yielding results as evidenced by both our schools

being consistently ranked by Chicago Magazine as top 10 McHenry County public schools, our FY 2021 operating budget is balanced after adjusting for the negative financial impact associated with COVID-19, and our ability to fund over \$6 million of community-led capital improvement projects over the past two years out of reserves at no additional cost to taxpayers. The collective efforts of the Board of Education and our dedicated staff have made these ongoing efforts to reduce the growing property tax burden while ensuring a quality education possible,” Chief Financial Officer Kevin Werner said.