

The Cornell School District taxpayers will see a slightly lower school mill rate this year at 6.38878 compared to last year's 6.780263. Please remember that your property tax amount is based on your property assessment, so while the school district levy amount went up 6.84%, your school portion of property taxes could have increased more or less depending upon what your property was assessed at this year. Also, please remember that there are other governmental entities that assess property taxes besides the school district to make up your entire property tax bill.

What does a 6.388780 mill rate mean for your school property taxes? It is \$6.388780/\$1,000 of property value. If you have a \$100K home, your school property taxes are \$638.88. Just multiply your assessed value by .006388780 to get your school district tax amount. Now just imagine if we had the school mill rate that we did for the 1995-96 school year of 18.026377!

I frequently hear people say they pay too much in property taxes and that taxes are always increasing. Yes, the total amounts of your taxes are likely going up, but so is everything else. However, as you can see above, proportionally, your taxes are just 35.44% of what they used to be for the value of your property. School funding has not kept up with inflation for many years which is why so many school districts have gone to referendum to exceed the revenue caps put into place nearly thirty years ago.

Your board of education has been able to keep Cornell School District property taxes as one of the lowest, if not the lowest, in the area for several years and they have not had a referendum in over twenty years. So while any property tax bill can seem like too much, it's better to be in Cornell than many other districts.

Happy Thanksgiving and thanks for your support of the Cornell School District!