SPARTA AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

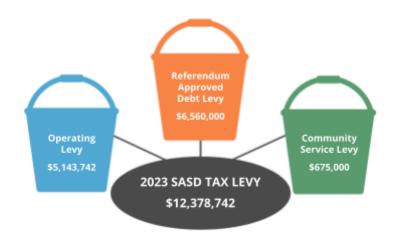
The following information is being provided by the Sparta Area School District (SASD) to assist you in reading and understanding your Real Estate Property Tax Bill for 2023.

Tax bills are mailed in mid-December each year. The Sparta Area School District (SASD) is one of five Taxing Jurisdictions on your tax bill. The five jurisdictions include the state, county, city/village, school district, and local technical college. Each jurisdiction sets its own tax levy.

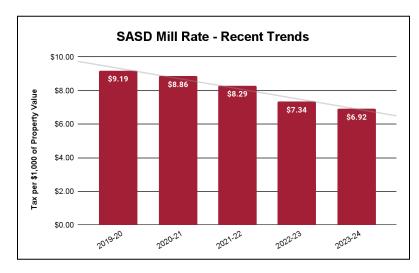
SASD TAX LEVY

The SASD Tax Levy is made up of three individual levies which include:

- Operating Levy: to support general operating costs, such as salaries, benefits, textbooks, technology, and transportation, of the district.
- Referendum Approved Debt Levy: to pay down the outstanding debt, including principal and interest.
- 3. **Community Service Levy**: to support activities and programs that serve the community (WIN after school program, middle school co-curriculars, open gyms, and the Parenting Place) and are open to all age-appropriate residents.

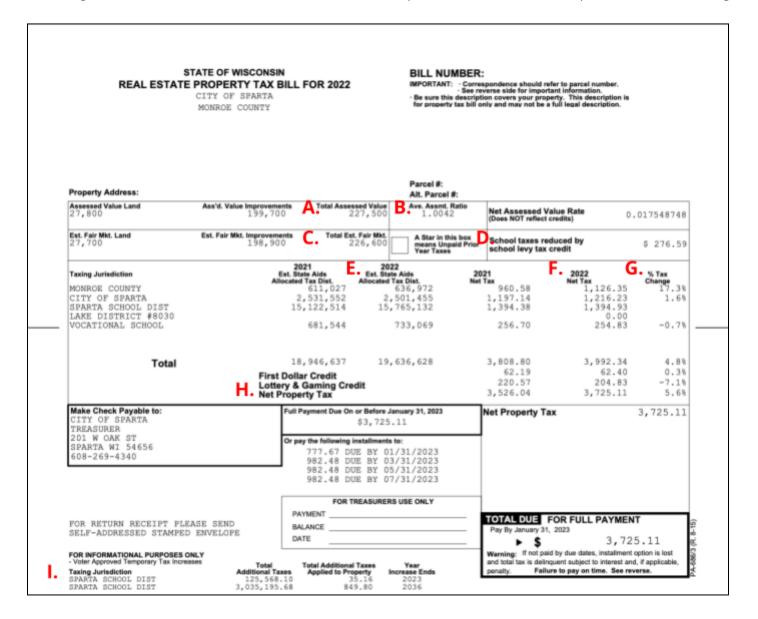


The SASD Tax Levy is apportioned to the 14 municipalities the district serves based on Equalized Property Values to create "fairness in the District". Equalized values are provided by the Wisconsin Department of Revenue and are the estimated value of all taxable property in the district. The Mill Rate determines the AVERAGE tax per \$1,000 of property value. **The 2023 SASD Mill Rate is \$6.92.**



READING YOUR TAX BILL

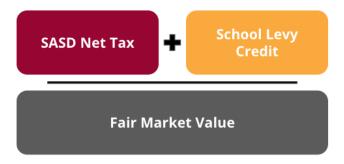
The image below is a 2022 tax bill. Each red letter corresponds to the list of descriptions below the image.



- **A. Total Assessed Value**: The value of taxable land and buildings that an assessor places on your property for the purpose of taxation. The assessed value may be higher or lower than the current fair market value of the property. The Assessed Value is used by the municipality to distribute the tax burden among the individual property owners, or "fairness in the municipality".
- **B.** Average Assessment Ratio: Determined by the Wisconsin Department of Revenue to promote tax fairness, the assessment ratio is used to calculate the cash value of your property, also known as the Total Estimated Fair Market Value (C.). The assessment ratio is required to be between 90 110% at least once every five years.

- **C. Total Estimated Fair Market Value**: The Fair Market Value is the estimate of the amount your property would sell for on the open market with a willing buyer. The Fair Market Value is equal to the Total Assessed Value (A.) divided by the Average Assessment Ratio (B.).
- D. School Levy Tax Credit: A State of Wisconsin "shared revenue" program that distributes funds to municipalities (not to school districts), to reduce the amount of school district tax levy to be collected. These credits are not controlled by the school district and do not result in any additional funding for the school district.
- **E. Estimated State Aids**: The revenue received from the state for each jurisdiction. For school districts, any state aid received offsets the amount of the local tax burden.
- **F. Net Tax**: The total property tax minus the lottery and gaming credit, as described below.
- **G. % Net Change**: The change in Net Tax from one year to the next. This does NOT equal the change in the school district Tax Levy or the Mill Rate. This is because the % Change is also affected by the change in (1) Fair Market Value, (2) Assessed Value, and the (3) School Levy Tax Credit.
- **H. First Dollar Credit and Lottery and Gaming Credit**: Similar to the School Levy Tax Credit, these credits issue revenue back to municipalities to offset property taxes. These credits do not result in any additional funding for the school district.
- I. Voter Approved Temporary Tax Increases: State law requires that these informational items are displayed on tax bills for each jurisdiction that has a temporary change in the tax levy, by referendum. The items shown represent the TOTAL voter approved levy that is IN ADDITION to the Operating Levy, they do NOT represent a change in taxes as compared to the prior year.

You may have noted that the Mill Rate is NOT published on the tax bill, but it can be calculated. The formula for calculating the Mill Rate is:



If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact the SASD Director of Business Services, Leah Hauser, at lhauser@spartan.org or 608-366-3400.