

## Stop Taxing the Future out of Wilmette!

### TOP 10 Reasons District 39 Should NOT INCREASE Wilmette Property Taxes AGAIN

Share these with friends, neighbors, and the D39 school board  
Monday night December 18th at 6:30 p.m!

10. Values of taxable property have fallen 17% since 2009 yet D39 schools have received 37% more from taxpayers... more school spending is not leading to higher property values. [www.wirepoints.com](http://www.wirepoints.com)
9. Student enrollment is expected to decline by 292 students over next 5 years. (D39 11/13/17 BOE Report "Long Term Enrollment Projections")
8. D39 has not reduced overall spending since the 2009-2010 school year when, because of pressure by Wilmette residents, it identified and made \$4.5 million in cuts at that time *that did NOT affect education delivery.*
7. Illinois is losing people at an all time high rate due to the tax climate according to November 2017 IRS report. More taxes means people will leave.
6. Federal tax reform could cap your property tax deduction starting in 2018—the cap is below the average that many Wilmette residents pay. Illinois already has the highest overall tax burden in the nation. It all adds up.
5. More school spending does not equal better schools; many districts spend less per pupil and obtain higher rankings. (<https://www.illinoisreportcard.com> and [www.schooldigger.com](http://www.schooldigger.com)).
4. When an anticipated state property tax freeze and pension shift to Wilmette taxpayers did not occur, these funds were used for expensive capital projects instead, such as the \$5.5 million Learning Commons in five of the six D39 schools.
3. 39 of the 50 constituents who recently wrote the Board of Education supporting the levy (i.e. tax increase), recently sought reductions in their personal property tax bills through the property tax appeal process. Six of seven D39 Board members did the same. Together, they lowered their estimated property values by millions of dollars. Remember: when one assessment goes down and they pay less, someone else has to pay more for the same school budget to be met.
2. Wilmette D39 total receipts grew by 36.7%, or an average of 4.0% annually from 2008 - 2016. The rate of CPI (inflation) during that time period was 1.37%. D39's increases are not "keeping up with CPI"; they are outpacing it by a factor of nearly 3.
1. D39 habitually extends the levy (i.e. increases your taxes) every year. As the D39 Business Manager stated in the 10/23/17 BOE memo: "It is important to levy [tax] to the fullest extent possible under the tax cap because any loss in revenue due to under levying is lost forever." The school district should levy when it needs money, not simply because it can.

- Sign the petition at [www.newtrierneighbors.org](http://www.newtrierneighbors.org)
- Attend the December 18 D39 school board meeting (6:30 p.m., 615 Locust) to make your voice heard.

**Tell the D39 school board "NO!" to an Unneeded \$2 million Property Tax Increase! Stop Taxing the Future out of Wilmette!**

NEW TRIER  
NEIGHBORS



Building Community  
through Common Sense,  
Free Enterprise and  
The Golden Rule