



North Boone Community Unit School District #200  
6248 North Boone School Road  
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**For immediate release:**

**Joint Media Press Conference  
Boone / Winnebago Regional Office of Education  
January 5, 2011 - 1:30 p.m.**

**Introduction**

School districts devote time each year helping their communities and taxpayers understand the budget process. The time spent over the last year and a half has been significantly increased due to the state of the economy. As representatives of your respective television stations and newspapers, you have been diligent in your efforts to help us share our message, and for that we thank you.

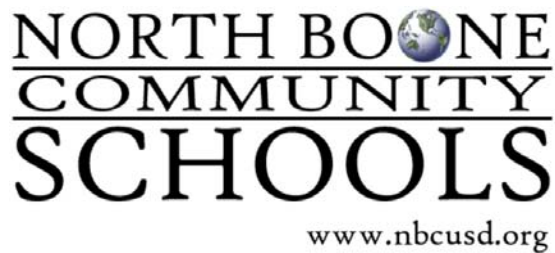
As we begin the budget planning process for the next fiscal year, we are once again asking for your assistance. The districts responsible for providing public education to the students in Boone and Winnebago Counties have committed to work together, as evidenced by their attendance at today's conference. In return for your help, we will ensure you have the information you need in a timely manner, and make ourselves available to answer your questions.

**Funding Sources**

With regard to school district budgets, there are five main sources of funding:

1. General state aid;
2. Federal aid in the form of grants;
3. Local revenue;
4. Real estate taxes; and
5. Other state sources.

In the past, a majority of funding has come from general state aid. Unfortunately that amount has been significantly reduced, and in some areas completely withheld. The State of Illinois is millions behind in its payments to school districts.



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## **Challenges**

As we move forward, the challenges we face are:

- ✓ Impact of decreasing equalized assessed valuations (EAV) for local property
- ✓ Late or no funding from the State of Illinois;
- ✓ Mandated, but unfunded, categorical requirements from the state
- ✓ Additional federal special education requirements which come with a cost; and
- ✓ Rising healthcare costs.

All of these challenges will play a significant part in our budget process, to which there are no quick or easy solutions.

## **Conclusion**

The school districts of Boone and Winnebago Counties are committed to collaborating with one another on cost-saving ideas. Together we will work to find solutions with the smallest impact on our students and ask for your assistance in providing information to our communities.

North Boone Community Unit School District 200 serves approximately 1800 students in pre-school through high school in the Villages of Caledonia, Capron and Poplar Grove as well as the northern tier of unincorporated Boone County, Illinois. For more information visit the NBCUSD website at [www.nbcusd.org](http://www.nbcusd.org) or contact the district office at 815-765-3322.

For future information, you can follow North Boone on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/NBCUSD200](https://www.twitter.com/NBCUSD200).