

## ***I have a question –***

**Community Engagement Session #4  
William Fremd High School • Tuesday, May 3, 2016**

*The following are questions, with answers provided, that were asked by individuals completing the “I have a question –” form at tables during the Community Engagement Session.*

**Over the last 25 years, corporations have been leaving the area. This trend seems to be continuing. Has this shifted the tax burden more to residential dwellings?**

*According to a review of property values by property class type within High School District 211 boundaries, there has been a decrease in the percentage of total commercial property values and an increase in the percentage of residential property owners. As the percentage of each property type changes, property types that make up a greater share of total property values assume a greater portion of the total tax base. This results in a shift of property taxes going from commercial to residential owners.*

**Why (do) Deerfield and Lake Forest have a much higher (cost) per pupil (than District 211)?**

*Total operating costs per pupil are calculated by totaling costs of education, operations and maintenance, and transportation, and then dividing by the total student enrollment. Operating costs do not include major capital improvements, debt, or required life safety expenses. District 211 has not analyzed the difference in operating cost per pupil for the comparative districts. Through the District’s operating costs, we consider to be mindful of operating in an efficient manner that provides a consistent level of quality instructional and extracurricular programs to our students while identifying ways of reducing expenditures in areas outside of student programs.*

**What is the school’s policy with respect to compensation increases in the last four years of employment? (Based upon my review of salary increases, it appears that raises are very excessive given the teachers are in the top 1% of their peer group before those increases, per the Illinois Teacher Salary Study 2015.)**

*Salary increases in the last four years of employment are administered in accordance with the regulations set forth by both the Teacher Retirement System (TRS) and Illinois Municipal Retirement System (IMRF). An individual may not exceed an increase of more than 6% of the preceding school year during the last four years of their employment once their retirement request has been approved.*