

Schools Get Largest Share of Property Tax Dollar

The largest share of the property tax dollar collected in Jackson county goes toward financing public schools. This year, 80.9 per cent of the property tax dollar will go to school financing. The remainder of the dollar will be divided among cities, 17.1 per cent; rural fire districts, 1.3 per cent; water districts, .6 per cent; and sanitary districts, .1 per cent.

The total amount of money to be collected for school purposes in Jackson county this year is \$5,488,700.99, an increase of \$96,457.74 over the total collected in fiscal year 1959-60.

Increases in Eight Districts
Increased taxes are listed in eight school district taxing units, and decreases are noted in six other school districts (or units).

Levies in eight districts, including two which had tax increases, are lower this year than last. Levies in five districts increased along with total school district tax increases. In one district in which the tax total increased, the mill levy remained the same.

The eight school district taxing units which have decreased millage rates this year are:

Taxing Unit	1960-61 Total School Tax	Increase or Decrease	1960-61 School Levy (In Mills)	Increase or Decrease (In Mills)
Phoenix (Con. Tal.)	\$ 104,156.54	-\$28,547.48	64.8	-17.2
Ashland	\$ 659,433.48	-\$47,775.48	53.9	-10.5
Eagle Point (Original)	\$ 504,538.70	-\$31,702.39	62.2	-10.4
Eagle Point (Consol.)	\$ 33,511.93	-\$ 1,092.17	61.7	- 9.6
Applegate	\$ 30,864.60	-\$ 1,876.84	47.3	- 3.0
Medford	\$2,763,673.87	+\$96,540.10	58.6	+ 1.6
Prospect	\$ 149,665.98	-\$23,657.04	86.4	-17.1
Butte Falls	\$ 111,323.23	+\$25,750.58	64.7	+ 1.1

The five school district taxing units which have increased millage rates this year are:

Taxing Unit	1960-61 Total School Tax	Increase	1960-61 School Levy (In Mills)	Increase (In Mills)
Central Point (Original)	\$272,606.14	\$ 10,045.30	59.0	.03
Central Point (Consol.)	\$291,734.77	\$ 22,333.22	58.7	.03
Rogue Riv.	\$129,104.78	\$ 12,726.79	61.7	5.7
Evans Val.	\$ 64,791.40	\$ 24,159.18	52.1	13.2
Pinehurst	\$ 27,118.11	\$ 5,530.08	34.2	2.5

In one district—the original Phoenix district—the mill levy is unchanged at 63.1 mills, but the total school tax increased \$34,201.82 from \$311,977.64 in 1959-60 to \$346,179.46 this year.

There are at least three factors which have contributed to lower millage rates. These same factors also contributed in keeping millage increases to a rate lower than they otherwise would have been, and kept the rate in the original Phoenix district unchanged.

The factors are:
1. Increased assessed valuation.
2. Increased county contribution per census child.
3. Lowered rural school levy.

How these factors affect the millage rates are discussed in more detail below.

1. The first factor is increased assessed valuation. The total assessed valuation in Jackson county increased \$6,731,628.70, and all but one district showed an increase.

Expressed in Mills
The assessed valuation shows up in a lower millage rate in this way: The total amount to be raised by taxation is divided by the total assessed valuation. The mathematical result is the tax levy per dollar of assessed valuation. This levy is expressed in mills. One mill equals 1/10 of a cent.

If the amount to be raised by taxation decreases, and the assessed valuation increases, the mathematical result would be a lower levy.

The same principle can be applied to districts in which the amount to be raised by taxation increased. In this case, generally, the increased millage would not be as much if the assessed valuation had not increased more than the amount raised by taxation.

Assessed valuations in the school district taxing units for this year are:

Taxing Unit	Valuation	Increase or Decrease
Phoenix (Original)	\$ 5,462,746.85	+\$ 542,967.02
Phoenix (Consolidated)	\$ 1,607,353.97	-\$ 10,987.77
Ashland	\$12,234,071.65	+\$1,252,953.19
Central Point (Orig.)	\$ 4,620,443.18	+\$ 147,515.98
Central Point (Con.)	\$ 4,969,927.93	+\$ 356,887.63
Eagle Point (Original)	\$ 8,111,522.55	+\$ 725,309.12
Eagle Point (Con.)	\$ 543,143.12	+\$ 57,812.08
Rogue River	\$ 2,092,459.98	+\$ 14,281.44
Applegate	\$ 652,528.46	+\$ 1,605.19
Medford	\$47,161,670.25	+\$2,857,122.52
Prospect	\$ 1,729,038.56	+\$ 57,773.63
Evans Valley	\$ 1,243,596.94	+\$ 199,065.88
Butte Falls	\$ 1,720,806.43	+\$ 417,406.12
Pinehurst	\$ 792,927.13	+\$ 111,916.67

"The decrease in assessed valuation in the area which formerly was the Talent school district is due to a revision downward by the state of the assessment ratio, according to County Assessor Ray J. Schumacher.

2. The second factor which contributed to generally lower millage rates this year is an increase in the amount granted by the Jackson county court per census child.

State law provides that each county contribute \$10 per census child to school districts. Last fiscal year, Jackson county granted \$20 per census child, and this year the grant is \$35 per census child.

The stipulation in granting this amount was that it be used as a direct tax offset—that is, to have the total amount to which a district is entitled deducted from the school tax

levy in that district. Amounts granted each district by the county for the past two years are shown below:

District	1959-60 \$20 Per Census Child	1960-61 \$35 Per Census Child
Phoenix*	\$ 22,122.83	\$ 62,512.15
Ashland	\$ 66,528.50	\$119,981.31
Central Point	\$ 54,346.90	\$100,859.95
Eagle Point	\$ 28,423.64	\$ 52,741.35
Talent*	\$ 13,081.67	\$ 19,926.85
Rogue River	\$ 10,441.33	\$ 2,920.37
Applegate	\$ 2,920.37	\$ 6,300.81
Prospect	\$ 4,000.51	\$ 6,794.04
Evans Valley	\$ 4,320.55	\$ 8,089.82
Butte Falls	\$ 1,060.15	\$ 1,856.10
Medford	\$211,547.04	\$391,182.50

Totals \$425,094.35 \$781,874.73

*Talent district this year has been consolidated with Phoenix. The amount received by Talent and Phoenix last year, which totals \$35,204.50, can be compared to the \$62,512.15 received by Phoenix this year.

3. The third factor which helped reduce millage rates is a reduction of 2.5 mills in the rural school board levy.

This levy is the same in each school district taxing unit. The levy this year is 22.7 mills, compared to last fiscal year's 25.2 mills. Revenue from the levy provides funds for county school equalization required by state law, and finances the operation of the county school superintendent's office.

The total budget requirement for county school equalization and the county school superintendent's office this year is \$2,102,709.09, a reduction of \$65,410.97 from last fiscal year.

The budget for the county school superintendent's office

this year is \$136,337.88, which is \$10,286.49 less than last year's. The amount to be raised by taxation for the county superintendent's office this year is \$39,647.02, compared to last year's tax levy of \$97,153.94.

The difference in last year's and this year's tax levy for the county school superintendent's office is in increased receipts and the budget reduction. Besides reduced amounts needed to be raised by taxation by the rural school board, the county's increased assessed valuation also contributes to lowering the millage rate.

The three factors resulted in keeping a district's millage rate the same (in the original Phoenix district), lower millage rates (in eight districts), or keeping the increased millage rate lower than it otherwise would have been (in five districts).

Gunshot Damage to Lines Decreases

Gunshot damage to Pacific Northwest phone cables, wires and other equipment in the Medford area so far this year has hit a new low, J. H. Croager, Medford manager said today.

"We hope that shooters will continue to be careful in their choice of targets during the approaching hunting season," he added.

In recent years there have been as many as 218 cases of damage to equipment by

Failure To Heed

Barrier Brings Trouble

St. Louis — Mrs. Alfreda Vickers drove by a barrier by mistake and got herself into a real hole. Her car skidded into a 15-foot construction excavation, landing upside-down.

She was only slightly injured, but found she was unable to climb the steep sides of the muddy hole. It was an hour before a passerby heard her cries for help and summoned aid.

DOWN IS OUT

Carson City, Nev. — State prison warden Jack Fogliani Friday said the institution has discontinued the 25-cent a bird duck-plucking service it offered hunters because it had no poultry-processing license. "Besides," he admitted, "The feathers got all over the place."

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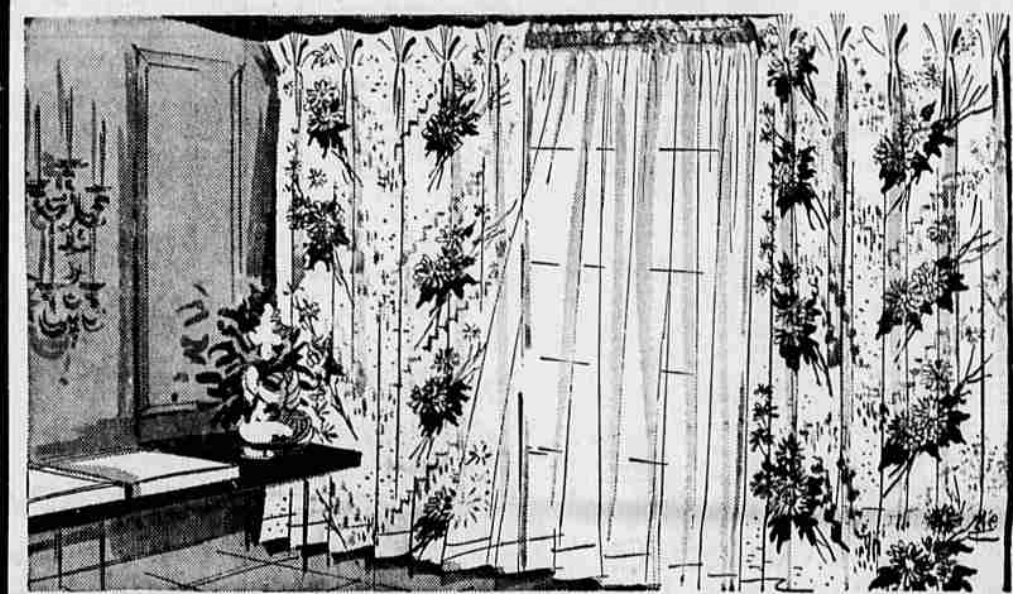
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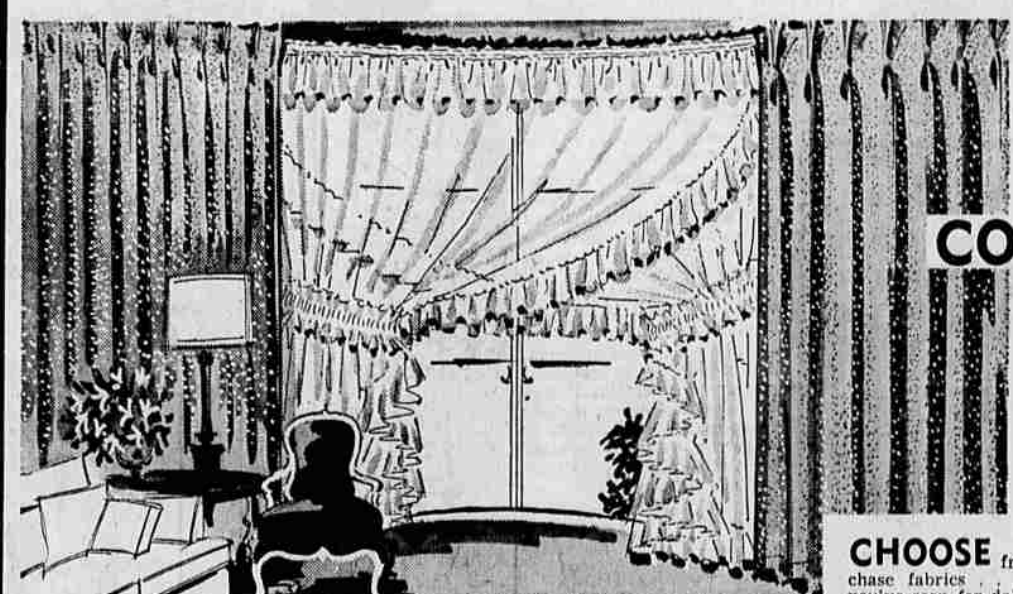
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