

Security upgrades are part of Grand Island school budget

By [Nancy A. Fischer](#) | Published April 18, 2018 | Updated April 18, 2018

The Grand Island School Board unanimously approved a \$62.5 million 2018-19 budget Tuesday that would add school security measures while maintaining programs and staffing to stay under the tax cap.

The budget vote on May 15 will include a \$650,000 proposition to buy three large buses, two passenger buses, a passenger van and a Ford F-250 truck for buildings and grounds.

A public hearing will be on May 9.

The security upgrades include cameras, security film for entry doors, an evening hall monitor to check in visitors and a cooling system for the communications room.

The budget is slightly smaller, but the board approved a higher tax levy to offset lower revenues. So the average tax bill would rise just under \$30, said interim Assistant Superintendent for Finance Richard Hitzges.

The tax levy would rise from \$33.1 million to \$33.5 million next year, with a new estimated tax rate of \$19.57 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation.

A home assessed at \$150,000 would pay an estimated \$2,936 in 2018-19.

Other improvements include a new scoreboard for the high school gym, drones for the technology program, a new gym roof for the high school and new kitchen equipment.