

May 1, 2018

Mr Thomas K Washington Superintendent Crawford Central SD 11280 Mercer Pike Meadville, PA 16335-9504

Dear Mr. Washington:

I am pleased to inform you that school districts will be able to continue reducing local property taxes in the 2018-2019 school year as a result of the distribution of state gaming funds through the Taxpayer Relief Act, also known as Special Session Act 1 of 2006.

As required by law, the Commonwealth's Budget Secretary certified on April 16, 2018, that \$619,500,000 will be available in 2018-2019 for state-funded local tax relief. When combined with the expansion of the senior citizen Property Tax/Rent Rebate program, total state-funded property tax relief will reach \$761.2 million next year.

I am writing to notify you that Crawford Central SD's property tax reduction allocation for 2018-2019 is \$1,453,320.86.

Your allocation is made up of \$1,452,875.88 from the property tax relief formula and \$444.98 in Sterling Act reimbursements, which have both been prorated based on the total funds available for tax relief.

Crawford Central SD must reduce property taxes by \$1,453,320.86 through a homestead and farmstead exclusion. Please see section 343 of Act 1 for details about what information must appear on the tax bill, including the requirement for a "Notice of Property Tax Relief." School districts may also reject their property tax reduction allocation, as described in Chapter 9 of the law.

The detailed data used to calculate your school district's allocation is available for review at www.education.pa.gov. Select Policy and Funding then Property Taxes.

Before finalizing the school district's real estate tax rate and preparing real estate tax bills, it is important to assure that the homestead/farmstead exclusion (i.e., reduction in assessed value) does not exceed 50 percent of the median assessed value of homestead properties pursuant to 53 Pa CS 8586.

Questions concerning these calculations may be directed to Benjamin Hanft at either (717) 787-5423, option 5 or <u>ra-PropertyTax@pa.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

Pedro A. Rivera Secretary of Education