



## **News Release**

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### **Taft College to save taxpayers \$2.6 million on Bond refinance**

On April 30, Taft College refinanced approximately \$24 million of General Obligation Bond debt which was approved by the voters in November of 2004 to fund core campus improvements. Through this refinancing, property owners within the district will save \$2.6 million over the next 16 years. The savings will further reduce tax rates, which have remained below the \$25 per \$100,000 of assessed value limit.

The District was able to take advantage of extremely low interest rates which generate savings for taxpayers. The original bonds had an average interest rate of 4.7%. The new interest rate is 3%. The District received this low rate due to favorable market conditions and a high credit rating of "A+" from Standard & Poor's Ratings Services. According to Standard & Poor's, the rating reflects "maintenance of strong unreserved general fund revenue". While all of the savings from the refinance will directly benefit only taxpayers, there will also be no out-of-pocket costs to the College itself.

"The commitment to fiscal responsibility is critical to the mission of our college and the trust we have with the community," observed Taft Superintendent/President Dena Maloney, "our Board of Trustees and our employees are focused on providing a top notch educational experience while maintaining an uncompromised commitment to fiscal responsibility."

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