

# HUDSONVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## Non-Homestead Millage Operating Proposal

2021



On May 4, 2021, the Hudsonville community will be asked to consider voting on the non-homestead millage. If approved, the continuation of the millage on non-homestead properties and businesses would generate about \$5.6 million, or about 6.7% of the school district's total general fund. It would renew the current non-homestead millage so that the district can levy the 18 mills on non-homestead properties to receive full state funding.

### WHEN IS THE ELECTION

**Tuesday, May 4, 2021**

Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

### WHERE DO I VOTE?

Voting will take place at the regular polling locations for all elections which have been designated by your local township or city clerk.

### WHERE CAN I GET ANSWERS?

For other questions that you have about the non-homestead millage operating proposal, please call us at 616-669-1740

**PLEASE VOTE  
TUESDAY,  
MAY 4, 2021**

**THIS IS NOT A NEW TAX OR INCREASE**

### IMPORTANT FACTS

This proposal does not impact the taxes on residential or agricultural property.

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This is a renewal of the current 18 mills that voters approved in 2020.

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This is not a new tax. It would only hold funding at current levels. In order for the District to receive its full per-pupil foundation allowance from the state, the District must levy 18 mills on non-homestead properties.

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This money would be used for district operations.

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This money *cannot* be replaced by other sources.

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Every dollar spent if this proposal is approved would be tracked to ensure transparency and accountability.

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Even though primary households are not affected, state law requires a district-wide election to consider this millage.

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**PLEASE VOTE  
TUESDAY, MAY 4, 2021**

## **WHAT IS MEANT BY HOMESTEAD AND NON-HOMESTEAD PROPERTIES?**

When Michigan voters passed Proposal A in 1993, Michigan's property taxes for schools were restructured and reduced. Property was divided into two categories: homestead and non-homestead. A homestead property is your primary residence (the home where you live). Non-homestead properties include land and buildings such as businesses, rental properties, and vacation homes that have not been designated as a primary residence.

## **IS THIS A NEW TAX?**

No. This millage has been in place since 1994 with the passage of Proposal A. Hudsonville voters last approved a levy for 18 mills on non-homestead property last year and have done so the last 26 years. The current millage expired with the 2020 tax levy.

## **WHY IS THIS ISSUE ON THE BALLOT NOW?**

Under Proposal A, renewal of the 18 mills by voters is required in order for the district to continue collecting this millage. Because our authorization expired in 2020, voter approval is required to continue collecting these dollars, which help maintain Hudsonville's educational programs.

## **HOW WOULD THIS AFFECT HOMEOWNERS?**

This millage renewal would not change the taxes on your primary residence. It would be a renewal on non-homestead properties only, such as business properties and second homes.

## **HOW MUCH OF OUR LOCAL SCHOOL BUDGET WOULD THIS NON-HOMESTEAD MILLAGE FUND?**

The current assessment of 18 mills that voters are being asked to consider is used to fund a significant part of the school district's operating budget. Approximately 6.7% or about \$5.6 million of the annual budget comes from the 18-mill non-homestead tax assessment.

## **WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF THIS MILLAGE DOES NOT PASS?**

If the request for the renewal of the 18 mills non-homestead were not approved, Hudsonville Public Schools would lose about \$5.6 million (6.7%) of funding for the next school year. Voter approval is the only way the district can receive these dollars. Losing about \$5.6 million of the district's operating budget would have a major impact on the educational programs offered to students and the community. The non-homestead operating millage allows the district to continue providing a safe learning environment for all students, transportation, teachers, and staff; cutting-edge technology that helps prepare our students for college, technical school, and apprenticeships or jobs right after graduation.

## **BALLOT LANGUAGE**

### **Hudsonville Public School Operating Millage Renewal Proposal**

This proposal will allow the school district to continue to levy the statutory rate of not to exceed 18 mills on all property, except principal residence and other property exempted by law, required for the school district to receive its revenue per pupil foundation allowance.

Shall the limitation on the amount of taxes which may be assessed against all property, except principal residence and other property exempted by law, in Hudsonville Public Schools, Ottawa and Allegan Counties, Michigan, be increased by 18 mills (\$18.00 on each \$1,000 of taxable valuation) for the year 2021, to provide funds for operating purposes; the estimate of the revenue the school district will collect if the millage is approved and levied in 2021 is approximately \$5,600,000 (this is a renewal of millage that expired with the 2020 tax levy)?