

HUDSONVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Non-Homestead Millage Operating Proposals

2024



On May 7, 2024, 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 \$7.8 million, or about 7.5% of the school district's total general budget. 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 7, 2024

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. You can find your polling location [here](#).

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 7, 2024**

THIS IS NOT A NEW TAX OR INCREASE

IMPORTANT FACTS

These proposals do not impact the taxes on most residential or agricultural property.

This is a renewal of the current 18 mills that voters approved in 2023.

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.

This money would be used for district operations.

This money *cannot* be replaced by other sources.

Every dollar spent if these proposals are approved would be tracked to ensure transparency and accountability.

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 7, 2024**

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 28 years. The current millage expired with the 2023 tax levy.

WHY IS THE DISTRICT TRANSITIONING TO A FOUR-YEAR MILLAGE?

Each election costs the district at least \$49,000. Over 4 years, \$147,000 could be saved by the district.

WHY IS THE DISTRICT ASKING FOR 2 EXTRA MILLS IN THE SECOND BALLOT?

Each year, the operating millage in the district could be reduced by the Headlee roll-back factor. If approved, the extra 2 mills in the second ballot would allow the district to continue to levy up to the annual 18-mill limit allowed by law.

CAN THE DISTRICT LEVY MORE THAN 18 MILS FOR OPERATIONS?

No. State Law limits the amount Michigan School Districts can levy for operational purposes to 18 mills.

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 2023, 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 7.5% or about \$7.8 million of the annual general fund 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 \$7.8 million (7.5%) of the general fund budget for the next school year. Voter approval is the only way the district can receive these dollars. Losing about \$7.8 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 and; cutting-edge technology that helps prepare our students for college, technical school, and apprenticeships or jobs right after graduation.

LANGUAGE FOR FIRST BALLOT

Hudsonville Public Schools 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 a period of 4 years, 2024 to 2027, inclusive, to provide funds for operating purposes; the estimate of the revenue the school district will collect if the millage is approved and levied in 2024 is approximately \$7,792,000 (this is a renewal of millage that expired with the 2023 tax levy)?

LANGUAGE FOR SECOND BALLOT

Hudsonville Public Schools Operating Millage Renewal Proposal

This proposal will allow the school district 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 2 mills (\$2.00 on each \$1,000 of taxable valuation) for a period of 4 years, 2024 to 2027, inclusive, to provide funds for operating purposes; the estimate of the revenue the school district will collect if the millage is approved and levied in 2024 is approximately \$0 (this millage is to restore millage lost as a result of the reduction required by the Michigan Constitution of 1963 and will be levied only to the extent necessary to restore that reduction)?