

# Benton Harbor Area Schools

## HOME OF THE TIGERS

March 8, 2016  
Election Information

*Quality Learning for Every Student Every Day!*



Paid for by Benton Harbor Area Schools Board of Education.  
Authorized by the Benton Harbor Area Schools Board of Education.

On Tuesday, March 8, Benton Harbor Area Schools will have two proposals on the ballot.

1. To renew a current operating millage.
2. To allow the District to levy a full 18 mills on non-homestead properties.

### Proposal #1: Operating Millage Renewal

Voters will be asked to renew the District's levy of 18 mills on non-homestead property for a period of 10 years (from 2017-2026).

Facts:

- The current non-homestead millage expires in 2016.
- The renewal will continue the current tax on non-homestead properties (commercial property, industrial property, vacant property, rental homes and apartment buildings).
- This is NOT A NEW TAX.

## Proposal #2: Operating Millage “Headlee Hedge”

Voters will be asked to allow the District to levy the full 18 mills on non-homestead property.

Facts:

- This proposal includes a provision for a “Headlee hedge.” A Headlee hedge could be used in multiple-year renewals when the District might face a Headlee rollback. A Headlee rollback occurs when property values grow faster than the rate of inflation. Should that occur, it would result in a loss of revenue for the District.
- With a Headlee hedge in place, the District can use up to two mills to restore the 18 mill collection, so no State School Aid revenue is lost. Again-this proposal only affects commercial property, industrial property, vacant property, rental homes and apartment buildings.
- **THE PROPOSAL WILL NOT INCREASE TAXES OVER THE CURRENT 18 MILLS.**

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For more information, please contact Benton Harbor Area Schools' Chief Financial Officer, Scott Johnson at [scott.johnson@bhas.org](mailto:scott.johnson@bhas.org). (269) 605-1076

**Election Day is Tuesday, March 8, 2016!**