



# ***Hold Harmless Millage Renewal***

## **VOTE November 4, 2014**

More Information At: [www.DearbornSchools.org](http://www.DearbornSchools.org) Or Call: 827-3006

The Hold Harmless Millage will expire in the spring of 2015. The district is asking residents to RENEW this millage for another 10 years. This is not a new tax, only a RENEWAL of an existing millage.

The Hold Harmless Millage is made up of two parts-

- 18 mills on business & commercial property generating \$27.8 million
- 6.17 mills on homeowners generating \$11.5 million



Combined the Hold Harmless Millage generates \$39.3 million or 22% of the District's total \$178.7 million budget.

Clearly, a 22% reduction in the budget would force the administration and Board of Education to make dramatic reductions across the spectrum of opportunities now offered to students. Services such as busing, programs such as art, music, and sports, co-curricular and extra-curricular activities and numerous elective classes would come under scrutiny and might need to be cut or drastically reduced.



***HOLD-*** This is not a new tax, only a RENEWAL to HOLD Funding at current levels.

***HARM-*** Without Hold Harmless funding, the district would face massive cuts that would HARM the quality of education and the level of service provided to students.

***LESS-*** Can you live with 1/5 less funding for the district?  
1/5 less teachers, programs, services to students,  
and maintenance to buildings?

### ***Be Part of the Success in the Dearborn Public Schools-***

10 years ago voters renewed the Hold Harmless Millage allowing the district to offer new classes and innovative programs, continue providing a variety of services to students, and ensure quality instruction in the classroom. Knowing that each student has the ability to learn, our staff has built a culture of learning through out the district with an expectation that all students will be academically successful.

The hard work was recognized when, out of more than 500 districts in the state, Dearborn Public Schools was named an Academic State Champion by Bridge Magazine and placed in the top 15 overall on their list of top schools.

Other accolades and recognition includes:

- Collegiate Academy received the 2013 *Innovative Business of the Year Award*
- Michigan Association of School Administrators named Brian Whiston the 2013-14 Superintendent of the Year
- All schools accredited by AdvancED
- Graduation rates at all three high schools exceed state averages and increased by 10 points over the last 2 years
- Received a *Best Communities for Music Education* designation from the National Association of Music Merchants Foundation
- Awarded an *Education Excellence Award* by the Michigan Association of School Boards for the development, implementation, and success of the District's 8 step plan for improving graduation rates
- Most dual-enrolled students in state (over 50% of our high school students have taken a dual enrollment class) - students earn college credit while still in high school and save on tuition costs
- **New for 2014-15**
  - 6th & 7th Grade STEM School Dbn. Ctr. for Math, Science, & Tech. (DCMST) Now Starting in 8th Grade
  - Dearborn Academic Center of Excellence (8th/9th grade alternative school)