Durand Area Schools

2013 Headlee Override Millage Information

FAQ’S

1. **Is the Headlee Override Millage a new tax?**

No. The Headlee Override Millage will restore the 18 mills approved by the voters in 1995. The Override Millage cannot exceed 18 mills. It will only put the millage back to 18 mills. The school district is currently levying approximately 16.57 mills. In 2014 the entire 18 mills will be eliminated unless it is renewed by the voters. Durand Area Schools will lose $1,162,000.

1. **If approved, how much will this proposal cost me each year?**

Primary homeowners do not pay any tax under this millage and an approval would cost nothing.

1. **Will my residential school taxes increase too?**

No. This tax is non-homestead property and does not apply to your primary place of residence.

1. **What is considered non-homestead property?**

Non-homestead property includes: apartment buildings, rental homes, vacation properties, some agricultural/vacant land, and commercial/industrial properties.

1. **Why is the district seeking a Headlee Override Millage?**

This millage is a critical funding source for school district operations. In 1995, the Durand residents renewed the Non-homestead Millage which allows the district to levy 18 mills. Unfortunately, a state law called the Headlee Amendment requires the 18 mills to be automatically rolled back if non-homestead property taxes increase faster than the rate of inflation or 5%, whichever is less. Due to the Headlee Rollbacks, the 18 mills have been reduced to a level below what the voters authorized. In 2007 the Headlee Override was not renewed by our voters. The district has been rolled back to 16.57 mills so we lose approximately $96,557 each year.

1. **Why should I vote in this millage election?**

The business community is required and is already paying under Proposal A to support public schools. This is the law and part of the State Constitution. This proposal does not affect taxes on owner-occupied primary residences for homeowners. An approval will provide continuity in the funding for our schools and will cost owner-occupied residences nothing.

1. **How much will this cost a business in our community?**

The renewal will cost a business with a property value of $100,000 approximately $200 per year. The proposal is ($2.00 on each $1,000 of taxable valuation).

1. **The Proposal**

Voters will be asked to vote on **18 mills** on non-homestead properties for a period of **20 years**.