



THE PROPOSAL

This proposal will allow the school district to continue to levy the statutory rate of 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. The remaining 1.558 mills is only available to be levied to restore millage lost as a result of the reduction required by the "Headlee" amendment to the Michigan Constitution of 1963 and will only be levied to the extent necessary to restore that reduction.

Shall the currently authorized millage rate limitation on the amount of taxes which may be assessed against all property, except principal residence and other property exempted by law, in the Grand Ledge Public Schools, Eaton, Clinton and Ionia Counties, Michigan, be renewed by 19.558 mills (\$19.558 on each \$1,000 of taxable valuation) for a period of 10 years, 2015 to 2024, inclusive, to provide funds for operating purposes; the estimate of the revenue the school district will collect if the millage is approved and 18 mills are levied in 2015 is approximately \$6,780,000 (this is a renewal of millage which will expire with the 2014 tax levy)?

WILL THIS INCREASE TAXES ON NON-HOMESTEAD PROPERTIES?

No. **THIS IS A RENEWAL, NOT AN INCREASE.** So businesses will keep paying the same millage rate they are currently paying.

WHAT WILL THE MILLAGE RENEWAL COST HOMEOWNERS? **NOTHING!**

The 18 mills Non-Homestead Millage Renewal only applies to local business, industrial and commercial property or property that is not the owner's primary residence (the home in which you live). There is NO IMPACT on homeowners.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
www.glcomets.net

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ELECTION DAY: TUESDAY, NOV. 4, 2014

NON-HOMESTEAD MILLAGE RENEWAL



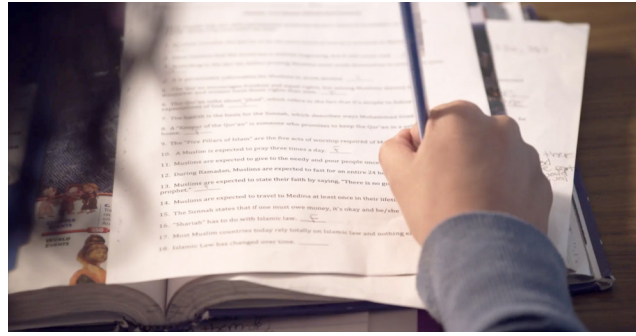
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WHAT DOES "NON-HOMESTEAD" MEAN?

Non-Homestead refers to industrial, commercial and some agriculture property as well as "second homes".

It does NOT include a family's primary residence.



WHY ARE VOTERS BEING ASKED TO RENEW 19.558 MILLS WHILE THE MAXIMUM NON-HOMESTEADY LEVY, BY LAW, IS 18 MILLS?

Beginning in 2000, the school district's operating millage rate was permanently reduced from 18 mills to 17.7084 mills through a Headlee Rollback. Since 2000, there have been numerous Headlee Rollbacks to reach the current rollback of 16.7247 on the original 18 mills approved in 1995. So, to restore the full operational dollars authorized by the state under Proposal A, voters approved a Headlee restoration millage in 2001.

Although the district is seeking renewal of 19.558 mills (16.7247 mills + 2.8333 mills) only the maximum allowable 18 mills will be levied in any given year, with the balance of the approved millage available in the event of future Headlee Rollbacks.

What's a Headlee Rollback?

A Headlee Rollback occurs when local units of government (including school districts) are required, by law, to reduce, or "rollback", the millage rate when the growth on existing property is greater than the rate of inflation. As a result of a Headlee Rollback, school districts collect less revenue than is allowable under Proposal A.



FUNDING MICHIGAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Funding for school districts changed significantly in 1993-94 when Michigan voters passed Proposal A. Under Proposal A, the state provides the majority of the funding to public schools. However, to receive full funding, schools must levy and collect 18 mills locally on Non-Homestead properties within their district. The law further requires that the 18 mills on Non-Homestead property cannot be collected unless it comes before the voters in an election.

Public schools in Michigan receive most of their funding on a per pupil basis from the state. The amount a school district receives per pupil is called the Foundation Allowance. The per pupil foundation allowance for Grand Ledge Public Schools is currently \$7,126. This represents the major portion of Grand Ledge Public Schools' revenues which are generated from two sources:

- Local Revenue - 18 mills collected on Non-Homestead property within the district
- State Revenue

THE DOLLARS AND CENTS OF IT...

The residents of Grand Ledge Public Schools last approved the Non-Homestead operating millage in 1995. On November 4, 2014 the district is requesting a 10-year renewal (2015-2024 inclusive).

The State of Michigan assumes school districts levy and collect the full 18 mills, and automatically subtracts these local funds from the per pupil allowance.

For Grand Ledge Public Schools, the Non-Homestead Millages comprises almost \$7 million, or 16% of the district's operating revenues. This is a loss of more than \$1,333 per student, reducing funds used to pay for staffing, purchasing textbooks and classroom supplies and operating the district's buildings.

If the millage renewal is defeated, the state does not make up the difference and Grand Ledge Public Schools will lose the almost \$7 million in revenue generated through the Non-Homestead millage each school year. It will force the district to substantially reduce, or eliminate programs and services to offset this funding loss.

IS THIS A NEW TAX?

No. This is a renewal of a millage approved in 1995. The district voters approved to levy 18 mills on Non-Homestead property through December 31, 2014.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
www.glcomet.net

QUESTIONS?

If you have any further questions regarding the upcoming Non-Homestead Millage Renewal Proposal, please contact Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Brian Metcalf at 517-925-5401.