Renew Levy & Fund Education

On Tuesday, November 5, 2013, voters in the Grandville Public School District will be asked to vote to renew the 18 mill operating tax levy.

This levy applies only to industrial, commercial, business, rental, and second homes and does not affect the millage rate on owner-occupied primary residences.

Voters approved ten-year non-homestead operating tax levies in 1994 and 2004. The millage has now expired and requires reauthorization.

The proposal will ask voters to again renew the 18.0 mill operating levy to fully fund Grandville Public Schools, as prescribed by state law. The non-homestead operating tax levy raises more than $9.2 million each year and represents about 18% of the district’s General Fund budget.

For additional information, visit www.grandville.k12.mi.us
Frequently Asked Questions About The Operating Millage Renewal

What is an “operating millage?”
It is NOT a tax on homeowners. It is known as a “nonhomestead operating tax” since primary residences are exempt from the tax. School districts must levy a local property tax of 18-mills on non-homestead property—industrial, commercial, business, rental, and second homes—in order for the district to receive its full per-pupil funding from the State of Michigan. This operating millage helps fund the day-to-day functions of the school district.

Is this a new tax?
No. This proposal is a renewal of the non-homestead property tax last approved by the voters in 2004. The term requested with the renewal is ten (10) years, which is the same time period as the expiring 18-mill operating tax levy.

Will my home property taxes go up if this passes?
No. Your home property tax rate will remain the same. For homeowners and businesses alike, nothing will change: homeowners don’t pay this tax anyway and businesses will simply continue to pay a tax they’ve been paying all along.

Will my home property taxes go down if this is defeated?
No. Your home property tax rate will remain the same; the rate will drop only for commercial, industrial, and rental businesses. However, if the proposal is defeated by the voters it would result in a loss of $9.2 million in operating revenue and a dramatic reduction of educational programs offered by the school district.

Do businesses and commercial entities pay this operating tax in other school districts?
Yes. Regardless of which school district a business may be located within Michigan, in order for a school district to receive its full funding from the State of Michigan it must levy the 18-mill operating tax.

What is a “mill?”
A mill is $1 for every $1,000 of taxable valuation on property.

Where do I vote?
Voting takes place at the same location as national and state elections.

When will the election take place?
The election is Tuesday, November 5, 2013. Polls are open from 7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m.

Ballot Language

GRANDVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OPERATING MILLAGE RENEWAL 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.

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 Grandville Public Schools, Kent and Ottawa Counties, Michigan, be increased by 18 mills ($18.00 on each $1,000 of taxable valuation) for a period of 10 years, 2014 to 2023, 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 2014 is approximately $9,226,955 (this is a renewal of millage which expired with the 2013 tax levy)?

YES ___
NO ___