Who Pays School Tax?

All property owners pay school taxes.

The following properties are assessed 6 mills of property tax to support schools for the School Aid Fund:

- The primary residence you live in
- Agricultural land
- Commercial or industrial property
- Non agricultural land

The following properties are assessed the 6 mills sent to the State of Michigan plus up to an additional 18 mills, and that additional school tax goes to their local district. This applies to the following:

- Vacation homes
- Rental units
- Businesses

Please review your tax bill and/or contact your local township office to determine if your property is eligible for the Homestead exemption.

For More Information Please Contact:

Andrea Large
Superintendent
Ludington Area School District
809 East Tinkham Avenue
Ludington, MI 49431
(231) 845-7303 Ext. 2839
alarge@lasd.net

Please visit our website: www.lasd.net
For the Non-Homestead Renewal Q & A

Please Vote
May 6, 2014

For Voting or Poll Information Contact
Mason County Clerk, Jim Riffle
(231) 843 - 8202
Ludington Area School District  

Non Homestead Millage Renewal

What is the Non Homestead Millage?

Michigan schools are funded under a structure created in 1994 when Michigan electors approved Proposal A statewide. Under the structure, Michigan schools are funded with 6 mills on all properties statewide and an additional 18 mills on Non Homestead property, when approved by local voters.

Non Homestead tax revenue comprises 63.8% of Ludington Area School District’s operating revenue. That would be a reduction in the amount of over 12.5 million dollars on an operating budget of 19.7 million dollars. The state does not provide revenue to us to replace Non Homestead tax revenue if we do not levy and collect our Non Homestead tax.

Operating Millage Renewal

Ludington Area Schools will hold a Special Election on May 6, 2014 for the purpose of asking voters to RENEW the Non Homestead Operational millage previously approved by our voters in 1994 for 20 years. Voters also approved .6 mills in 2007 to provide a cushion against the Headlee Amendment.

This RENEWAL will allow the school district to continue to levy the statutory rate of 18 mills on Non Homestead Property.

The requested duration of this millage RENEWAL is 10 years.

The ballot language will request that voters RENEW the millage at the current rate of 18.393 mills even though we cannot statutorily levy more than 18 Non Homestead mills. The 18.393 mills represent the total of previously approved Non Homestead millages after they have been reduced by the Headlee Amendment.

Millage RENEWAL Q and A

Q: When do I vote?
A: May 6, 2014

Q: Where do I go to vote?
A: If you are unsure of your polling location contact the Mason County Clerk’s Office at 843-8202.

Q: When are the polls open?
A: From 7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m.

Q: Who can vote in this election?
A: Every registered voter who lives in the Ludington Area School District attendance area, whether a property owner, or not, is eligible to vote.

Q: Will my residential taxes increase too?
A: No. This tax is on Non Homestead property and does not apply to your primary place of residence.

Q: Is this a new tax?
A: No. This millage was approved by voters in 1994. The district had voter approval to levy 18 mills on Non Homestead property through December 2013.

Q: What if the millage is voted down?
A: If this millage does not pass, the State will not replace the funding and Ludington Area School District will be forced to reduce or cut programs to offset the loss.

Q: Can the district use bond money or sinking fund money to cover the loss?
A: No. Although the district receives revenue from bond and sinking funds these are restricted by law to specific uses, which does not include most general fund operating expenditures. Sinking Funds can be used for major repairs.