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## School Election is Tuesday, November 8, 2011

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On November 8<sup>th</sup>, voters will be asked to **renew** the previously approved 20.91 mills on **non-homestead** property.

- **This is a renewal millage on non-homestead property only**
- **No added taxes for businesses, and no tax impact to homeowners of primary residences**

### *Why Vote?*

- To ensure the district receives the full operational dollars currently authorized by the state under Proposal A
- The state assumes that all districts levy the maximum allowable millage, and will not compensate the district for lost revenues if the millage does not pass
- **If voters do not renew this operating millage, Northville Public Schools will lose over \$8.2 million in revenue based on 2010 taxable values**

- ***What is non-homestead property?***

Non-homestead property includes businesses, industrial and commercial personal property, rental property, vacation homes, & property without a primary residence on it. Property that serves as a primary residence is exempted from this millage.

- ***What is the maximum allowable operating millage that districts currently levy?***

Aside from districts that have an allowable hold-harmless millage on homestead properties, school districts may levy up to 18 mills on non-PRE (Primary Residential Exemption) properties. An exemption of 12 mills applies to commercial personal property, so district may levy up to 6 mills on that property classification.

- ***Why are voters being asked to renew 20.91 mills, when the maximum levy is 18 mills?***

After renewal of the operating millage in June 2003, the District's operating millage rate was permanently reduced from 18.00 mills to 17.6641 mills through a "Headlee" adjustment. To restore the full operational dollars authorized by the state under Proposal A to Northville schools, voters approved a "Headlee" adjustment millage of 0.25 mills in 2004. This millage was also reduced to 0.2459 mills by a Headlee adjustment. To once again restore the full operational dollars for the District, and anticipating continued 'Headlee' adjustments, voters approved 3.00 mills in November 2005 to have available in the case of additional Headlee adjustments.

In summary, the District is requesting renewal of previously approved operating millages net of the Headlee adjustments (17.6641 mills + .2459 mills + 3.00 mills), for a total of 20.91 mills. Although the district is seeking renewal of 20.91 mills, only the maximum allowable 18 mills will be levied, with the balance of the approved millage available in the event of future Headlee adjustments.

- ***Why do homeowners need to vote for a non-homestead millage?***

The law requires that the 18 mills on non-homestead property cannot be collected unless it comes before the voters in an election. Northville district residents last approved the operating millage in June 2003, and a similar ten year renewal period is requested.

- ***Won't the state make up the difference if the millage is defeated?***

The state assumes that the full 18 mills on non-homestead properties is levied, and will not make up the difference if it is not collected. Renewal of the millage is critical for Northville Public Schools (NPS), because we receive over 13% of our funding from this source, and NPS will lose about \$8 million in revenue if the millage is not renewed.

- ***Who should I contact if I have questions?***

If you have any questions, please contact Michael Zopf (Assistant Superintendent of Finance & Operations) on 248-344-8444 ([zopfmi@northville.k12.mi.us](mailto:zopfmi@northville.k12.mi.us)).