

## Who Pays School Tax?



All property owners pay school taxes.

The following properties pay 6 mills of property tax to support the schools, and their tax goes to the State of Michigan for the School Aid Fund:

- The primary residence you live in and own
- Agricultural Land
- Commercial/Industrial Property
- Non agricultural land

The following properties pay the 6 mills sent to the State of Michigan plus up to an additional 18 mills, and the school tax goes to their local district:

- 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 regarding this RENEWAL please contact:*

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Superintendent/Principal

**Pentwater Public School**  
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[www.pentwater.k12.mi.us](http://www.pentwater.k12.mi.us)

## Pentwater Public School

## Non Homestead Renewal

### Election Information



**Please Vote**  
November 5, 2013

Poll Location  
**Pentwater Township  
Office**  
327 N. Hancock Street  
Pentwater, MI 49449



## Operating Millage Renewal

Pentwater Public School will hold a special election on November 5, 2013 for the purpose of **RENEWING** the Non Homestead Operational millage previously approved by our voters in 1994 for 20 years. Voters also approved 4 mills in 2001 and again in 2003 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 15 years

The ballot language will actually request that voters **RENEW** the millage at the current rate of 21.7044 mills even though we cannot levy more than 18 Non Homestead mills. The 21.7044 mills on the ballot represent the total of previously approved Non Homestead millages after they have been reduced by the Headlee Amendment.

## What is the Non Homestead Millage?

Michigan schools are funded under a structure created in 1994 when Proposal A was approved statewide by Michigan electors. 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.



When Proposal A passed in 1994, the school operating tax rate on homestead properties decreased by 77.5%, from 26.677 mills to 6 mills. The school operating tax rate on non-homestead properties decreased by 11% percent, from 26.677 mills to 24 mills.

**Non Homestead tax revenue comprises approximately 75.8% of Pentwater Public School's operating revenue. The state *does not* provide replacement revenue to us if we do not levy and collect our eligible Non Homestead tax.**

## What does Headlee override mean?

The Headlee amendment to the Michigan Constitution caps property tax increases at 5% or the rate of inflation, whichever is less. Since the rate of growth of property values sometimes exceeds the rate of inflation, the actual tax levy is rolled back and decreases when this occurs. The amount of the roll back is called the Millage Reduction Fraction (MRF). In 2001 and 2003, Pentwater voters approved a Headlee override millage of 4 mills to provide a “cushion” against these roll backs. The additional mills have provided protection when the tax rates have rolled back. Although our **RENEWAL** is for 21.7044 mills (the “rolled back” total of the original 18 mills and the two additional 4 mills to cushion against Headlee reductions), ***the maximum levy is 18 mills.***

## Millage RENEWAL Q and A

**Q: When do I vote?**

A: November 5, 2013

**Q: Where do I go to vote**

A: Pentwater Township Offices

**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 Pentwater Public School attendance area, whether a property, or not, is eligible to vote.