



# OPERATING MILLAGE

## VOTE TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5TH!

ON NOVEMBER 5, THE COMMUNITY WILL BE ASKED TO CONSIDER A PROPOSAL FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF THE DISTRICT'S OPERATING MILLAGE

### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

#### 1. WHAT IS BEING REQUESTED ON THE BALLOT?

This proposal would restore, replace and extend the authority of the Birmingham Public Schools to levy mills for general school district operating purposes.

#### 2. WILL THIS INCREASE THE PROPERTY TAX RATE ON MY HOME?

**No.** For BPS homeowners, this millage restoration will extend the current authority for homeowners and will not increase tax rates over the current authorization.

#### 3. WHAT ARE THE REVENUES USED FOR?

The money the district receives from the Operating Millage supports the day-to-day operations of the school district, including salaries for teachers and staff, and represents approximately 43% (\$52.68 million) of the overall General Fund budget.

#### 4. HOW WILL THIS BALLOT PROPOSAL IMPACT BPS HOMEOWNERS?

Under existing law, the school district would levy on principal residence property only that portion of the mills (in 2019 7.1948 mills) necessary to allow the school district to receive the full revenue per pupil foundation allowance permitted by the State.

#### 5. HOW DOES THIS MILLAGE ALLOW BPS TO MAINTAIN THE 18 MILLS ON NON-HOMESTEAD PROPERTY?

The November 5th ballot proposal will restore the authority of BPS to levy 18 mills of Non-Homestead millage on all taxable industrial and commercial businesses, rental properties, and second home properties. In order for the district to receive its full per pupil foundation allowance, the district must levy 18 mills.

#### 6. WHY IS A VOTE NECESSARY?

Under state law, school operating millage authority expires periodically. For BPS to continue to receive the full State Foundation Allowance for each student, this millage must be reauthorized from time to time. This millage was last approved in 2016.

#### 7. WHAT ARE THE DETAILS OF THE RESTORATION AND REPLACEMENT MILLAGE RENEWAL PROPOSAL FOR THE BIRMINGHAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOR HOMEOWNERS?

This authorization will merely enable the district to continue to collect the full per pupil amount allowed under Proposal A. As part of the proposal, voters will have the opportunity to reauthorize the levy of up to 14.24 mills on homesteads for general operating purposes for the next 10 years. Currently, the district levies 7.1948 mills on homesteads.

#### 8. WHAT IS THE MAXIMUM LEVY AMOUNT IN THIS OPERATING MILLAGE FOR BUSINESS OWNERS?

By law, school districts cannot levy more than 18 mills, even with voter approval of a higher rate. BPS has experienced a rollback of .41 mills, which will result in a loss of approximately \$500,850 in 2019-2020 revenue to the district. The State does not make up that lost revenue. Birmingham Public Schools is requesting a three mill cushion (for a total of 21 mills) on non-homestead properties only to protect the 18 mill levy against future Headlee Amendment rollbacks (losses).

#### 9. WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO VOTE FOR THE ELECTION ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2019?

Registered voters living in the Birmingham Public Schools boundaries are eligible to vote.

#### 10. WHEN IS ELECTION DAY AND WHERE DO I VOTE?

Election day is Tuesday, November 5th. Polls are open from 7 AM to 8 PM. You can find your voting location through the State of Michigan website: [www.Michigan.gov/VOTE](http://www.Michigan.gov/VOTE).

#### 11. WHAT IS THE WORDING ON THE BALLOT?

##### BIRMINGHAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS REPLACEMENT OPERATING MILLAGE PROPOSAL

*This proposal would restore, replace and extend the authority of the Birmingham Public Schools to levy up to 18.00 mills for general school district operating purposes on taxable property in the School District to the extent that such property is not exempt from such levy and would restrict the levy on principal residences (owner occupied homes) to no more than 14.24 mills. The original authority to levy 18 mills, which currently expires with the School District's 2021 tax levy, has been rolled back to 17.5821 mills by application of the Headlee Amendment to the Michigan Constitution. If approved, this proposal would restore and extend the authority of the School District to levy the statutory limit of 18 mills on non-homestead (principally industrial and commercial real property and residential rental property) and allow the School District to continue to levy the statutory limit of 18 mills on non-homestead property in the event of future Headlee rollbacks of up to 3 mills. Under existing law, if approved, this proposal would also limit the levy of the authorized mills on principal residences to that portion necessary to allow the School District to receive the full revenue per pupil foundation allowance permitted by State law. The School District levied 7.1948 mills on personal residences in 2019.*

Shall the limitation on the amount of taxes which may be imposed on taxable property in the Birmingham Public Schools, County of Oakland, Michigan, be increased to 21 mills, with 18 mills being the maximum allowable levy (\$18.00 per \$1,000 of taxable value), to the extent such property is not statutorily exempt, and of which not more than 14.24 mills may be imposed on principal residences, for ten (10) years, the years 2019 to 2028, inclusive, to provide funds for operating expenses of the School District? This millage would raise approximately \$51,393,404 in the first year of levy.

YES  NO

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT [WWW.BIRMINGHAM.K12.MI.US/MILLAGE2019](http://WWW.BIRMINGHAM.K12.MI.US/MILLAGE2019)