

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. What is the Farmington Public Schools' election for on Tuesday, November 5, 2024?

A. Voters will have the opportunity to decide on an operating millage renewal proposal for the District.

Q. What is a "hold harmless" millage?

A. Proposal A dramatically changed school funding when it was passed by voters in 1994. Some districts, like Farmington Public Schools, would have received less money per student than what they were receiving pre-Proposal A. To correct this problem, the state allowed districts to ask voters to approve a Hold Harmless Millage that would make up the difference in funding from the old method to the new method.

Q. Why is this millage renewal proposal being brought before District voters?

A. The entire school district's operating millage expires in December 2025 which means that the voters will have to authorize a millage renewal to fund the operating budget of the District beyond the 2025-2026 fiscal year. The renewal will ensure the continuation of Farmington Public Schools' excellent educational program. The renewal is needed to maintain current revenues. The Board of Education decided on June 18 to put this ballot proposal on the Tuesday, November 5 election.

Q. Will this increase my tax rate?

A. This is a renewal of an existing expiring millage. Previously authorized tax rates will not change.

Q. Why does the ballot proposal say "increase," not "renewal"?

A. The official ballot language for the millage reauthorization is legally required to read, "Shall the limitation on the taxable property...



be increased...to provide funds for operating expenses of FPS?" Despite the use of the word "increase" in the official language, approval of this millage will not increase authorized rates over prior authorizations.

Q. How much revenue would be derived from this millage renewal?

A. Almost 27 percent of the District's revenue (\$49,196,277) is derived from these sources annually. If the millage renewal is not passed, it would significantly reduce available revenue to operate the District. This equates to running the school district for 50 days.

Q. Why is the millage renewal for 10 years?

A. In order to provide a predictable funding stream from our local community, the Board voted to have a 10-year millage. Both the City of Farmington and City of Farmington Hills, along with many of the surrounding schools districts, operate with 10-year millage renewals, except for their charter millage which does not expire.

Q. What are the details of the millage renewal proposal for Farmington Public Schools?

A. Voters will have the opportunity to reauthorize 12.5955 mills on all taxable property for general operating purposes for the next 10 years. This will allow the District to continue to collect the full per pupil amount allowed under Proposal A. Currently, the District levies 5.2029 mills or the equivalent of \$1,876 per pupil which was established by Proposal A. It will also allow the District to levy the 18 mills allowable on non-homestead properties that are businesses, commercial, industrial properties and second residences.

Q. Who is eligible to vote for the election on Tuesday, November 5, 2024?

A. Registered voters living in the Farmington Public School District boundaries are eligible to vote. You can register online at mi.gov/vote by Monday, October 21 or at your city or township clerk's office up until 8 p.m. on election day.



Q. Where do I vote?

A. You can vote either in person or at home with an absentee ballot. You can locate your local precinct or request an absentee ballot at mi.gov/vote.

Q. How do I go about getting an absentee ballot?

A. Absentee ballots can be requested, within two weeks of election day to avoid possible postal delays, either online at mi.gov/vote or at your city or township clerk's office. The clerk's office addresses are:

- Farmington City Clerk, City Hall
23600 Liberty St., Farmington, MI 48335
- City Clerk, City of Farmington Hills,
31555 W. Eleven Mile Road, Farmington Hills,
Michigan 48336
- West Bloomfield Twp. Clerk,
4550 Walnut Lake Rd., P.O. Box 250130
West Bloomfield, MI 48325

Q. If I need more information about Farmington Public Schools' election on Tuesday, November 5, 2024, where can I go?

A. If you would like more information about Farmington Public Schools' ballot proposal, please visit our web site at www.farmington.k12.mi.us or call the School/Community Relations Department at 248.489.3349.

Q. What will the wording on the ballot be?

A. This proposal would allow the renewal of the mills previously levied by the Board of Education of the Farmington Public School District for general operating purposes which expire with the District's 2025 tax levy. Under this proposal, due to current enrollment projections and statutory

exemptions, the District would be authorized to levy no more than 12.5955 mills on principal residences (also known as homestead property or owner-occupied homes), and qualified agricultural property, and the School District would receive revenues at the full foundation allowance permitted by the State.

As a renewal of the previously approved millage authorization which expires with the 2025 tax levy, shall the limitation on the amount of tax upon taxable property in the Farmington Public School District, County of Oakland, Michigan be increased by 21.00 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 12.5955 mills (\$12.5955 per \$1,000 of taxable value) would continue to be permitted under existing law to be levied on principal residences and qualified agricultural property, for ten (10) years, the years 2026 to 2035, inclusive, to provide funds for operating expenses of the Farmington Public School District? If approved, this millage would raise an estimated \$49,196,277 for the District in 2026.

YES

NO