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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Fayette County Board of Education Proposed Property Tax Increase Over Rollback Millage Rate

Fayetteville, Georgia – October 3, 2025

The Fayette County Board of Education announces its intention to adopt the maintenance and operations (M&O) millage rate at 19.600 mills. This maintains the millage rate at the same level as the prior year. In addition, the bond millage rate will remain at 0.000 mill since all bonded debt has been retired.

When the total digest of taxable property is prepared, Georgia law requires that a rollback millage rate must be computed that will produce the same total revenue on the current year's digest that last year's millage rate would have produced had no reassessments occurred. The rollback rate for 2025 is 18.819 mills. The intended millage of 19.600 mills will effectively raise property taxes the Fayette County Board of Education will levy this year by 4.15% over the rollback millage rate. *(Note: This information has been updated from the information originally advertised.)*

This tentative increase will result in a millage increase of 0.781 mill. The proposed tax increase for a home with a fair market value of \$525,000 is approximately \$162.45 and the proposed tax increase for non-homestead property with a fair market value of \$550,000 is approximately \$171.82.

There are approximately 21,700 properties that qualify for a "floating" or base year homestead tax exemption and, on average, receive a \$66,253 exemption in assessed value. This results in a \$1,300 reduction in school board taxes for those property owners. This exemption is often referred to as a base year exemption and limits the increase in assessed value in homesteaded property to the lower of 3% or the inflation rate. The inflation rate that applies to base year property values for 2025 is 2.9%.

The fiscal year 2026 budget adopted by the Board of Education requires a millage rate higher than the rollback millage rate; therefore, Georgia law requires three public hearings be held to allow the public an opportunity to express their opinions on the proposed increase.

The school system faced several challenges in developing the fiscal year 2026 budget including upward pressure on expenditures and downward pressures on revenues. State revenue has been adversely affected by slightly lower enrollment, changes in the tax digest, and increased local tax exemptions. Expenditures have increased based on inflation, salary increases, and drastic increases

in health insurance costs. The school system participates in the State Health Benefits Plan (SHBP) for staff health insurance for which employer contribution rates have increased 86% over the last four years. More information on the 2026 budget can be found on the school system's finance webpage (<https://www.fcboe.org/departments/finance>) including the [2026 Budget Presentation](#) and [2026 Final Budget Adoption](#).

All concerned citizens are invited to attend a public hearing on this tax increase. The first and second public hearings will be held at the Fayette County Board of Education building located at 205 LaFayette Avenue West, Fayetteville, GA on October 13, 2025, at 11:00AM and 6:00PM.

Concerned citizens are also invited to participate in the final public hearing on this tax increase to be held at the Fayette County Board of Education building located at 205 LaFayette Avenue, Fayetteville, Georgia on October 20, 2025 at 6:30PM. www.fcboe.org.

The millage rate adoption is scheduled to occur October 20, 2025, at 7:00PM at the location listed above.

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