



HITCHCOCK ISD 2025

VATRE



VOTER-APPROVAL TAX RATE ELECTION

The Future of Hitchcock ISD

Hitchcock ISD is committed to transparency in how our schools are funded and how tax dollars are used to help enhance the educational experience for our students. This November, voters will be asked to consider a Voter-Approval Tax Rate Election (VATRE). A VATRE is a special election that allows school districts in Texas to seek voter approval to increase the district's maintenance and operations (M&O) tax rate above the state-mandated threshold. In 2026, the VATRE would cost the average homeowner in Hitchcock ISD an additional \$15 per year, while generating \$1,338,821.87 in local funds and additional state matched funding for student programs, essential operations, and employee compensation in Hitchcock ISD.



★ Early Voting:

- Monday, October 20 to Friday, October 24 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Monday, October 27 to Wednesday, October 29 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Thursday, October 30 to Friday, October 31 from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

★ Election Day

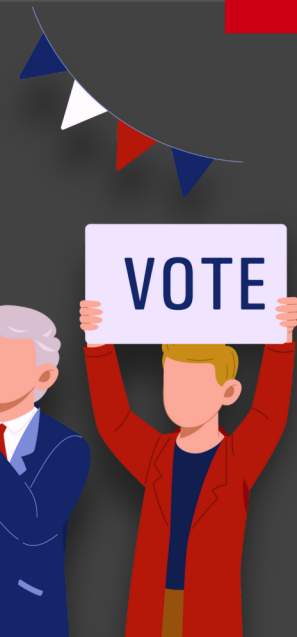
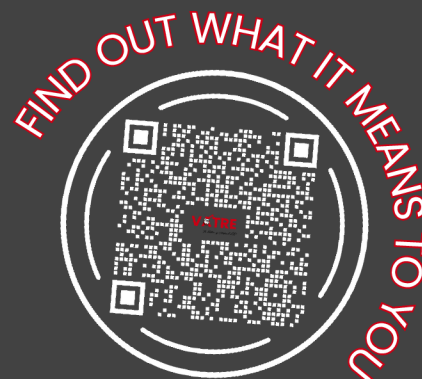
- Tuesday, November 4, 2025
- 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

• **GREATER ST. MATTHEWS CHURCH**

- 6333 Highway 6, Hitchcock

• **LA MARQUE COMMUNITY ROOM**

- 1109 B Bayou Road, La Marque



THE 2025 VATRE EXPLAINED

"The VATRE is not about raising taxes—it's about securing the capital needed to invest in the future of our students. To put it simply, a VATRE determines how much funding Hitchcock ISD will have for student programs, essential operations, and staff. My commitment is to be transparent, use every dollar wisely, and make sure our schools remain strong for the future of Bulldog Nation."

Dr. Darryl J. Henson



WHAT IS A VOTER-APPROVAL TAX RATE ELECTION (VATRE)?

When a school board adopts a maintenance & operations (M&O) tax rate above the state's voter-approval rate, Texas law requires an election. A VATRE does not create a new tax — it simply asks voters to approve an M&O tax rate that lets the district access additional local funding.

ABOUT HITCHCOCK ISD (HISD)

- Serves just over 1,800 students across five campuses
- Supported by approx. 300 dedicated employees – the largest employer in the City of Hitchcock
- Focused on strong academics, extracurriculars, and Bulldog pride

TAX RATE COMPARISON

- 2024 Total Tax Rate: \$1.0669 (M&O 0.6969 + I&S 0.37)
- Proposed 2025 Total Rate: \$1.09573 (M&O 0.7834 + I&S 0.31233)
- Change: **+\$0.02883** per \$100 valuation



2026 Impact:

For a home valued at \$200,000, with the proposed \$140,000 homestead exemption: **\$15 per year**



PASS VS. FAIL

If the VATRE Passes:

- **Generates \$1.34M in new local revenue**
- Unlocks additional state funding
- Will be used for student programs, essential operations, and employee compensation

If the VATRE Fails:

- For 2026, HISD must adopt the M&O compressed tax rate provided by the state
- Significant loss of local and state funding
- Fewer dollars for student programs, operations, and salaries
- Larger class sizes for our campuses

SENIORS 65+ OR DISABLED TAXPAYERS

Taxes remain frozen at the current ceiling. Many will see no increase, and if home value is under \$200,000, some may still see a decrease.