



## Operating Millage Renewal Proposal

On Tuesday, May 5, 2026 voters in the Northview Public School District will be asked to renew the 18.3894 mills of property tax on non-homestead properties. There are three very important things to understand about this renewal:

- This **NOT** a tax on primary residential property
- The renewal of this levy will **NOT** result in a tax rate increase
- The district may **NOT** levy more than 18 mills in any given tax year
- This renewal is necessary because it funds the day to day operations of the school district including teacher and staff salaries & benefits; classroom supplies & instructional materials; utilities & maintenance (electricity, heating, cooling, cleaning, repairs); and student services (transportation, counseling, special education programs)

**The following questions and answers are provided for your information so that you may cast an informed vote:**

**1. What is meant by homestead and non-homestead property?**

A homestead property is your primary residence (the home where you live). Non-homestead properties are land and buildings that have not been designated as primary residences such as businesses, rental properties, and vacation homes.

**2. Why is this proposal on the ballot now?**

Our authority to collect this millage is expiring soon and we need your approval to continue collecting these dollars.

**3. How does an Operating Millage work?**

In Michigan, schools levy up to an 18 mill operating tax on non-homestead properties (businesses, rental properties, and vacation homes). This tax is assessed based on the property's taxable value (not market value). The state of Michigan assumes that we collect the full 18 mill operating tax when setting the "foundation allowance" (a certain amount of money per student). If we do not collect the full amount, the state does not make up the difference. The school district simply loses that money.

**4. Why is the current authorized millage rate greater than 18 mills?**

On November 4, 2014 voters approved an 18 mill operating millage. By June 2018, this millage rate was rolled back to 17.5466 mills due to the assessed value of property increasing at a faster rate than inflation. This rollback in the millage rate prevented the district from collecting the full foundation allowance from the state of Michigan. In November 2018, we asked, and the voters approved, up to



an additional 2.0 operating mills so that we could collect the full foundation allowance from the state. Since November 2018, between both operating millages, we have been able to collect the full 18 mills of operating tax. Since then, both operating millage rates have continued to roll back due to the rate of increase in property tax values. Currently, our operating millage has rolled back to 16.508 and the additional operating millage has rolled back to 1.8814. Together these equate to 18.3894 mills and represent what the voters have authorized us to levy on non-homestead property. For this reason, we are asking for a **RENEWAL** of 18.3894 operating mills. Remember, we may only levy 18 mills in any given tax year. The additional .3894 mills above 18 provides a small cushion for future rollbacks in the millage rate.

**5. What happens if the proposal does not pass?**

If the proposal does not pass, we would lose more than \$5,000,000 of funding. This would have a major impact on the quality and quantity of educational programs and services offered.

**6. May the district use bond money to cover the loss if the proposal does not pass?**

No, bond funds are restricted by law to construction, technology, and equipment and may not be used for general fund expenditures.

**7. What is the actual ballot language?**

**NORTHVIEW PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
OPERATING MILLAGE RENEWAL PROPOSAL**

This proposal will allow the school district to continue to levy the statutory rate of not to exceed 18 mills on all property, except principal residence and other property exempted by law, required for the school district to receive its revenue per pupil foundation allowance and renews millage that will expire with the 2027 tax levy.

Shall the currently authorized millage rate limitation of 18.3894 mills (\$18.3894 on each \$1,000 of taxable valuation) on the amount of taxes which may be assessed against all property, except principal residence and other property exempted by law, in Northview Public Schools, Kent County, Michigan, be renewed for a period of 15 years, 2028 to 2042, inclusive, to provide funds for operating purposes; the estimate of the revenue the school district will collect if the millage is approved and 18 mills are levied in 2028 is approximately \$5,335,000 (this is a renewal of millage that will expire with the 2027 tax levy)?