

1 A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF BROWARD
2 COUNTY, FLORIDA, PROVIDING FOR A REFERENDUM ELECTION TO BE HELD
3 DURING THE 2026 GENERAL ELECTION TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE SCHOOL
4 BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY MAY LEVY AN ADDITIONAL AD VALOREM TAX OF
5 ONE MILL; AND PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

6
7 WHEREAS, on March 10, 2026, pursuant to Sections 1011.71(9) and 1011.73,
8 Florida Statutes, The School Board of Broward County ("The School Board") adopted
9 Resolution No. 26-130, attached hereto as Attachment A, requesting the Broward County
10 Board of County Commissioners ("Commission") to call a referendum election during the
11 2026 General Election to determine whether the electors will authorize an additional ad
12 valorem tax of one mill for four years to fund various purposes as set forth in
13 Resolution No. 26-130; and

14 WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 1011.73(2), Florida Statutes, the Commission has
15 a ministerial duty to call a referendum election as requested, NOW, THEREFORE,

16 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
17 BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA:

18 Section 1. A referendum election is called for the General Election on
19 November 3, 2026, and at such other times as permitted for voting under Chapter 101,
20 Florida Statutes, to determine whether to approve The School Board's levy of an
21 additional one mill ad valorem tax.

22 Section 2. Said referendum election shall be held between the hours of
23 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. on November 3, 2026, and at such other days and times as
24 provided under applicable law, including for early voting as provided by Section 101.657,
25 Florida Statutes, at the polling places established in Broward County. All registered and
26 qualified electors in Broward County shall be eligible to vote in the referendum election.
27 Vote-by-mail ballots and early voting access for the referendum shall be made available
28 as provided by law.

29 Section 3. The election boards, consisting of the clerks and inspectors
30 appointed to serve for the November 3, 2026, General Election, are hereby appointed to
31 serve in the referendum election in the manner provided by law.

32 Section 4. The Broward County Canvassing Board shall canvass the returns in
33 said election and shall certify the results of the referendum election as provided by law.

34 Section 5. The County Administrator shall furnish a certified copy of this
35 adopted Resolution to the Supervisor of Elections for Broward County and to The School
36 Board upon adoption by the Commission.

37 Section 6. The title and summary of the referendum question to appear on the
38 ballot in the November 3, 2026, General Election, shall be as set forth in Section 5 of
39 Resolution No. 26-130, attached hereto as Attachment A.

40 Section 7. Severability.

41 If any portion of this Resolution is determined by any court to be invalid, the invalid
42 portion will be stricken, and such striking will not affect the validity of the remainder of this
43 Resolution. If any court determines that this Resolution, in whole or in part, cannot be
44 legally applied to any individual, group, entity, property, or circumstance, such

determination will not affect the applicability of this Resolution to any other individual,
group, entity, property, or circumstance.

Section 8. Effective Date.

This Resolution is effective upon adoption.

ADOPTED this 28 day of April, 2026. (item #33)

Approved as to form and legal sufficiency:
Andrew J. Meyers, County Attorney

By: /s/ Brandon R. Butterworth 04/08/2026
Brandon R. Butterworth (date)
Assistant County Attorney

By: /s/ René D. Harrod 04/08/2026
René D. Harrod (date)
Chief Deputy County Attorney

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA

RESOLUTION NO. 26-130

A RESOLUTION OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA, CALLING FOR A REFERENDUM TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 3, 2026, FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUBMITTING TO THE DULY QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA A QUESTION REGARDING A LEVY OF AD-VALOREM TAXES FOR OPERATING PURPOSES; TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR SCHOOL SAFETY AND SECURITY STAFFING AND MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS; TO INCREASE COMPENSATION TO RECRUIT AND RETAIN TEACHERS AND ELIGIBLE STAFF; AND TO FUND OTHER ESSENTIAL INSTRUCTION RELATED EXPENDITURES TO PRESERVE IMPORTANT PROGRAMS FOR THE BENEFIT OF TRADITIONAL PUBLIC AND CHARTER SCHOOLS; PROVIDING FOR PROPER NOTICE OF SUCH REFERENDUM; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, the School District of Broward County, Florida (the "District") has experienced insufficient funding from the Florida Legislature in the current and prior fiscal years to adequately support its normal operating expenses, particularly in light of Broward County's rising cost of living; and

WHEREAS, the District currently levies a voter-approved ad valorem tax of one (1) mill for operating expenses, which tax levy will expire on December 31, 2026; and

WHEREAS, The School Board of Broward County, Florida (the "School Board") anticipates further decreases in State funding for operating expenses; and

WHEREAS, the District has experienced shortfalls in funding to recruit and retain teachers and pre-kindergarten through adult instructional personnel, paraprofessionals, food service employees, and bus drivers and assistants, even with the current ad valorem tax; and

WHEREAS, the District has increased needs to provide safety, security and mental health professionals at schools throughout the District, for which existing funding, including the current voter approved ad valorem tax, is inadequate; and

WHEREAS, in general the State's funding formula does not permit the use of capital funds for operating expenses; provided, however, Section 1011.71(9) and Section 1011.73, Florida Statutes (2025), authorize the imposition by school boards of a levy of ad valorem taxes for up to four (4) years for "school operational purposes", including charter schools sponsored by a school district, subject to approval by the electors of the county voting in a referendum; and

WHEREAS, if such ad-valorem tax levy is approved to commence upon expiration of the current one mill ad valorem tax levy, the School Board will provide funding for the purposes described above to traditional public and charter schools throughout the District, will require

monthly reports on all receipts and expenditures in connection with such levy and will promptly post such reports on the School Board's website for public inspection.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA:

Section 1. Levy of Ad Valorem Taxes for Operating Expenses. Pursuant to the provisions of Section 1011.71(9), Florida Statutes (2021), there is hereby levied and imposed a one (1) mill ad-valorem tax for operating expenses to enhance funding for school safety and security staffing and mental health professionals, to provide funding to recruit and retain teachers and eligible staff, and to fund other essential instruction related expenses to preserve important programs for the benefit of traditional public and charter schools.

Section 2. Term of Levy. The one (1) mill levy of ad valorem taxes for operating expenses shall commence January 1, 2027, and shall remain in full force and effect for four (4) years ending December 31, 2030, unless repealed or reduced prior to that time by resolution of the School Board, which repeal or reduction may be effectuated without referendum.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, such collections shall be used to fund authorized expenditures for the fiscal years commencing July 1, 2027, through the conclusion of the 2030-2031 fiscal year ending June 30, 2031.

Section 3. Referendum. The School Board hereby requests a referendum to be held throughout Broward County, Florida, on the first Tuesday in November, which is November 3, 2026, for the purpose of submitting to the duly qualified electors of Broward County the question set forth herein. The School Board hereby directs the Broward County Board of County Commissioners (i) to approve the date for the referendum and (ii) to direct the Broward County Supervisor of Elections to place on the ballot the statement contained in the "Notice of Election" set forth in Section 4, below, and to conduct said election pursuant to the provisions of the election laws of the State of Florida. The vote at said referendum shall be by the voting devices provided by the Supervisor of Elections for the general election, as approved by the Florida Department of State pursuant to Chapter 101, Florida Statutes, and in each polling place there shall be at least one such device.

Section 4. Notice of Election. Notice of said election shall be given by publication in a newspaper of general circulation throughout Broward County, Florida. Such publication shall be made at least twice, once in the fifth week and once in the third week prior to the week of November 3, 2026, the first publication to be not less than 30 days prior to the date of the referendum. Such notice shall be substantially in the following form together with such additional information as the Supervisor of Elections of Broward County, Florida shall require:

**THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA
NOTICE OF ELECTION**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT AN ELECTION HAS BEEN CALLED BY THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA FROM 7:00 A.M. UNTIL 7:00 P.M. ON TUESDAY, THE 3RD DAY OF NOVEMBER 2026, AT WHICH TIME THERE SHALL BE SUBMITTED TO THE DULY QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF SAID DISTRICT THE FOLLOWING QUESTION:

**Fund School Employee Pay, Safety, and Mental Health through a One-Mill
Property Tax Levy**

To enhance school safety and mental health services, recruit and retain highly qualified teachers and essential employees, improve student achievement, and support critical school operations, shall the School Board of Broward County continue to levy a one-mill ad valorem property tax from January 1, 2027, through December 31, 2030, to fund school safety personnel, mental health services, increased compensation for teachers, and school-based and support staff for public and charter schools?

_____ Yes

_____ No

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CONSTITUTION AND THE ELECTION LAWS OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA, ALL DULY QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA SHALL BE ENTITLED TO VOTE IN THE ELECTION TO WHICH THIS NOTICE PERTAINS.

IF THE QUESTION SHALL BE APPROVED BY VOTE OF A MAJORITY OF THE DULY QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA VOTING THEREON, THE SCHOOL BOARD SHALL CONTINUE LEVYING A ONE-MILL AD VALOREM OPERATING TAX TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR: (i) SCHOOL SAFETY AND SECURITY STAFFING AND MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS, (ii) INCREASING COMPENSATION TO RECRUIT AND RETAIN TEACHERS AND ELIGIBLE STAFF, AND (iii) ESSENTIAL INSTRUCTION RELATED EXPENDITURES TO PRESERVE IMPORTANT PROGRAMS, FOR THE BENEFIT OF ALL TRADITIONAL PUBLIC AND CHARTER SCHOOLS FOR A PERIOD OF FOUR (4) FISCAL YEARS.

Section 5. Official Ballot. The official ballot to be used in the election to be held on November 3, 2026, shall be in full compliance with the laws of the State of Florida and shall be substantially in the following form:

OFFICIAL BALLOT

**Fund School Employee Pay, Safety, and Mental Health through a One-Mill
Property Tax Levy**

To enhance school safety and mental health services, recruit and retain highly qualified teachers and essential employees, improve student achievement, and support critical school operations, shall the School Board of Broward County continue to levy a one-mill ad valorem property tax from January 1, 2027, through December 31, 2030, to fund school safety personnel, mental health services, increased compensation for teachers, and school-based and support

staff for public and charter schools?

_____ Yes

_____ No

If the question shall be approved by vote of a majority of the duly qualified electors of Broward County, Florida, voting thereon, the School Board shall continue levying a one-mill ad valorem operating tax to provide funding for (i) school safety and security staffing and mental health professionals, (ii) increasing compensation to recruit and retain teachers and eligible staff and (iii) essential instruction related expenses to preserve important programs, for the benefit of all traditional public and charter schools for a period of four (4) fiscal years.

Section 6. Time and Place of Referendum. The polls will be open at the voting places on the date of such referendum from 7:00 A.M. until 7:00 P.M. All qualified electors residing within the District shall be entitled and permitted to vote at such referendum on the proposition provided below. The referendum shall be held at the polling places provided for the general election in Broward County, Florida and the inspectors and clerks shall be those appointed and qualified for the general election in Broward County, Florida by the Supervisor of Elections. The inspectors and clerks at each polling place and the Supervisor of Elections shall canvass the vote and make due returns of same without delay to the Board. Such returns shall show, separately, the number of qualified electors who voted at such election on such question and the number of votes cast respectively for and against approval of such question. The returns of the inspectors and clerks shall, as soon as practicable after the close of the polls, be canvassed by the Supervisor of Elections, who shall declare and certify the results of such referendum.

Section 7. Absentee Voting. Absentee electors participating in said referendum shall be entitled to cast their ballots in accordance with the provisions of the laws of the State of Florida with respect to absentee voting, which shall have printed thereon the question hereinabove set forth, with proper place for voting either "Yes" or "No" following the statement of the question aforesaid.

Section 8. Voter Registration Books. The Supervisor of Elections is hereby authorized and requested to furnish to the inspectors and clerks at each place where the votes are to be cast in such referendum, applicable portions of the registration books or certified copies thereof showing the names of the qualified electors residing in the District.

Section 9. Statutory References. All statutory references herein shall be too said statutes as they exist on the date of adoption of this Resolution and as they may be from time to time amended or renumbered, except to the extent contractual commitments would preclude application of a subsequent statutory revision or repeal.

Section 10. Severability. It is declared to be the intent of the School Board that, if any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion of this Resolution is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct and independent provision, and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions hereof.

Section 11. Conflict. Any resolution or part thereof in conflict with this Resolution or any part hereof is hereby repealed to the extent of the conflict.

Section 12. Effective Date. Sections 1 through 2 of this Resolution shall be effective upon approval by a majority of votes cast by qualified electors in the referendum provided for herein and the remaining sections of this Resolution shall be effective immediately upon its adoption.

Approved by The School Board of Broward County, Florida this 10th day of March 2026.

[SEAL]



Sarah Leonardi
Chair
The School Board of Broward County, Florida

Attest:



Dr. Howard Hepburn
Secretary
The School Board of Broward County, Florida