

Lawton Community Schools
OPERATING MILLAGE RENEWAL PROPOSAL AT A GLANCE
FOR THE ANNUAL MAY 5, 2009 ELECTION

REASON FOR REQUEST

- To renew the funding that voters authorized in May 2006 – **THERE WILL BE NO COST INCREASE TO HOMEOWNERS.**
- To get **full per student operational dollars** (\$7,300 estimate) that the state authorizes under Proposal A.
- If this proposal is not successful, the district may lose approximately \$975,000 of operational funding annually.

THE PROBLEM

- The 18 mills approved by voters in 2006 for non-homestead property is expiring, resulting in a loss of school funding.
- This vote is requested to **allow the district to renew the millage and continue to collect the 18 mills it has been collecting by law** on non-homestead property such as apartment buildings, rental homes, vacation properties, some vacant land, and commercial/industrial properties.

THE PROPOSAL

- At the May 5th annual school election district voters will be asked to vote on an increase of 18 mills on non-homestead properties for 3 years -- *(although the ballot language uses the word INCREASE, it is only RENEWING the millage that has been assessed in the past, and that is permitted by law in order to receive full state funding).*
- Upon passage, the district will be allowed to continue to levy the 18 mills on non-homestead property as it has in the past.

HOW MUCH WILL IT COST?

- **A SUCCESSFUL VOTE WILL RESULT IN NO COST INCREASE TO HOMEOWNERS.**
- The first year impact on non-homestead property including apartment buildings, rental homes, vacation properties, some vacant land, and commercial/industrial property will be that they continue to pay the 18 mills on their property as they have in the past.

ELECTION INFORMATION

Date: May 5, 2009
Polls Open: 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Poll Locations:

- Antwerp Township Precinct #1 Voters - Lawton Community Room, Main Street, Lawton
- Antwerp Township Precincts #2, #3, #4, #5 Voters - Antwerp Activity Center, 24821 Front Ave., Mattawan (For absentee ballots or voting questions contact Clerk Heather Mitchell, 668-2615, ext. 200)
- Decatur Township Voters - Decatur Township Hall, 103 E. Delaware St., Decatur (For absentee ballots or voting questions contact Clerk Janet Abshagen, 423-8438)
- Paw Paw Township Voters - Paw Paw Township Hall, 114 N. Gremps St., Paw Paw (For absentee ballots or voting questions contact Clerk Norman Rushing, 657-4340)
- Porter Township Voters - Porter Township Hall, 88040 M-40 Highway, Lawton (For absentee ballots or voting questions contact Clerk Charles Meade, Jr., 624-1159)
- Prairie Ronde Township (Kalamazoo County) Voters - Porter Township Hall, 88040 M-40 Highway, Lawton (For absentee ballots or voting questions contact Clerk Kathleen Cook, (269) 679-5173)

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT
LAWTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS AT (269) 624-7901