

Tuesday, February 27, 2024

# Operating Millage RENEWAL



On February 27, 2024, East China School District will seek an Operating Millage Renewal of 19 mills. The ballot proposal, if approved, allows the school district to continue to levy 18 mills on most commercial, business, rental properties, vacant land, and second-home properties. This non-homestead millage renewal does not affect property taxes for primary home residences.

## Important Facts

1. Homeowners **do not pay this tax** on their primary residence
2. All districts in the state are required to levy an 18 mill tax on non-principal residence property to receive the full per-pupil foundation allowance from the state
3. East China School District has been collecting 18 Mills as the non-principal residence operating millage since Proposal A passed in 1994.
4. The funds from the non-principal residence operating millage go directly into the district's general fund, which supports day-to-day operations, like programs, curriculum materials, facilities, and employee salaries.
5. Generates \$14 million of the state foundation allowance for ECSD to be used for district operations and the state does not make up the difference if levy is not passed. ~30% of ECSD's total budget
6. This operating millage renewal ballot proposal is unrelated to the District's 2020 bond proposal for the completion of building improvements, safety, and technology infrastructure across our district.
7. This is a renewal of funding already approved by voters, NOT an increase above current levels
8. This renewal is for a period of nine (9) years
9. Even though primary households are **not affected**, state law requires a district-wide election to consider this millage
10. Under state law, East China School District may not levy more than 18 mills for general operating purposes.
11. The extra 1 mill on the ballot, the "19th" mill is held in reserve to offset a Headlee rollback.
12. An operating millage refers to the taxable rate at which non-homestead or non-principal resident properties are taxed to generate school operating revenue. 1 Mill generates \$1 in tax revenue for every \$1,000 in property value. Non-principal residence and non-homestead property are the same. This includes all taxable property within the District except for a family's primary residence, most agricultural, certain forestry property, and certain industrial and commercial personal property.
13. February 12, 2024, is the last day to register by mail or online and be eligible to vote for the February election
14. February 13, 2024 - February 27, 2024, in-person registration with the local clerk with proof of residency.

**Remember to vote on Tuesday, February 27**