

Morley Stanwood Community Schools 4700 Northland Dr. Morley MI 49336 231-856-4392

June 1, 2023

Morley Stanwood Schools is holding its regular election for the approval of its **Operating Millage Renewal Proposal**, for the next three school years. This year the vote will be in the summer. The information below explains what the election is for, how it works, where to vote, and why it is so important.

I cannot encourage anyone to vote yes, or no for that matter. It is against the law for me to do so. What I can do is provide you with all the information you need to make an informed decision. I believe the following information does that.

However, I would like to just take a moment to remind everyone of the incredible opportunity we have in our country to vote and encourage all of you to do so every time you have the opportunity. I've not served in the armed forces, so I can't say that I've worked to protect the freedoms we have. The best I can do is to thank those who have and those who are currently. Let me say, I believe voting is more than just an incredible opportunity, or a right. I believe it is our responsibility. For what it's worth, that's my opinion. Please take time this summer, and any other time there is an election, to do so.

MILLAGE RENEWAL ELECTION

VOTE August 8, 2023 - SCHOOL ELECTION

When: Tuesday, August 8 - Polls are open 7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m.

Where: Various Township Offices

What: Election to Consider the Renewal of the 18 Mill Levy on Non-Homestead

Property

What is the purpose of the 18 mill levy on non-homestead property? This millage **provides local dollars used to support general fund** activities of all kinds. This is how we fund our schools.

<u>Is this a new tax?</u> **No.** This millage was instituted along with the passage of Proposal A in 1994. It has been in effect every year since that time because it has been approved by the voters every time it came up for renewal.

<u>Who pays</u> this property tax? This tax applies to owners of **non-homestead properties** such as businesses and second homes. It **does not** apply to homeowner's property where you live.

What happens if it doesn't pass? The school district would lose approximately \$2,115,000.00 in annual revenues.

<u>Where do I vote?</u> Elections are held at Township offices. The townships have informed the school of the following voting stations:

- **Big Prairie** Township will vote at 5160 South Croton Hardy Drive, Newaygo
- Goodwell Township will vote at 1390 North Elm Ave, White Cloud
- Winfield Township at 7569 Gravel Ridge Road, Lakeview
- Austin Township at 14132 Piece Road, Stanwood
- **Colfax** Township at 14428 157th Ave, Big Rapids
- **Big Rapids** Township at 14212 Northland Drive, Big Rapids
- Mecosta Township at 19729 Eleven Mile Rd, Big Rapids
- **Aetna** Township at 196 North Cass, Morley
- **Deerfield** Township at 396 East 4th Street, Morley

Please exercise your right to vote.