

Thanks to the Voters Caledonia Community Schools remains fully funded for 2022-2023 school year

Renewal of Non-Homestead Operating Millage in 2020 prevents year over year losses

Caledonia, MI – When Caledonia voters approved the five-year Non-Homestead Operating Millage in 2020, they protected Caledonia Community Schools (CCS) from losing funding year over year due to a state law that ties local tax rates to inflation rates, also known as the Headlee Amendment.

Voters approved a 19.4399-mill renewal of the district's Non-Homestead Operating Millage in May 2020. State law limits the amount school districts can levy in property taxes for operating millages to 18 mills each year, so the extra 1.4399 mills has served as a buffer against losing tax revenue due to the Headlee Amendment, also known as a Headlee Rollback. CCS estimates it would have lost over \$1.2 million, or roughly \$227 per pupil, over the first three years of the millage without that buffer.

“By avoiding this loss in revenue, we were able to fully address numerous unforeseen challenges brought on by the pandemic and the rapid inflationary costs we have all experienced throughout these challenging past few years,” said **Dr. Dedrick Martin**, superintendent of CCS. “I want to thank our community again for supporting our students and being proactive about the future of our district.”

Being able to levy the full 18 mills through the Non-Homestead Operating Millage means CCS can receive the full per-pupil foundation allowance from the state. These funds are critical to keeping money in the classroom by supporting day-to-day operations, like programs, curriculum materials, facilities, and teacher salaries.

All funds from the Non-Homestead Operating Millage are tracked and available on the district website to ensure taxpayer dollars are spent wisely. CCS has received a clean financial audit for over 20 years and has an AA bond rating from Standard & Poor's.

With two years remaining on the current Non-Homestead Operating Millage, the district is projecting there will be enough of a buffer to protect against future Headlee Rollbacks and allow the district to stay fully funded until the millage expires in 2025.