February 13, 2020

NON-HOMESTEAD MILLAGE RENEWAL REQUESTED NOVEMBER 8TH BY PORTLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS

On December 9th, 2019, the Portland Public Schools Board of Education approved the placement of a non-homestead millage renewal question on the March ballot. The school election scheduled for Tuesday, March 10th, 2020 will contain a request for renewing 18 mills for operations of the schools for a period of 4 years. The millage renewal request will amount to $1,418,098 for the district per year, or about $668 for each student enrolled.

Non-homestead property tax applies only to non-homestead property such as businesses, rental properties, and second homes. A primary residence is not affected by this tax levy. Since this is a renewal of the current non-homestead property tax, those who are affected by the tax levy will not see an increase in their current taxes. This renewal is to maintain the current 18 mills.

The millage request is equal to 6.7 percent of the district’s total funding sources for the 2019-2020 school year. The millage is being requested to continue current programs as the current 18 mills that was passed four years ago will expire.

The ballot includes the following description: This proposal will allow the school district to continue to levy the statutory rate of not to exceed 18 mills on all property, except principal residence and other property exempted by law, required for the school district to receive its revenue per pupil foundation allowance and renews millage that will expire with the 2020 tax levy.

During this school year Portland Public Schools received $8,111 per student as its foundation allowance. This includes the funding provided by the 18 mills which is up for renewal on March 10th. In order to receive the full foundation allowance promised by the State, the 18 mill renewal is a necessary portion of that funding. This renewal will maintain the current rates and will not cost any property owners any additional millage. Failure to pass this resolution would result in a revenue loss for the district of $1,418,098.

If you have questions regarding the March 10th millage renewal election, please call (517) 647-4161 for information.