

Press Release

Constantine Public Schools – Headlee Election

Constantine Public School District voters will go to the polls on Tuesday, May 5, to decide whether to restore the District levy to 18.00 mills for second homes and business.

Currently, the District levies 16.7339 mills and as a result, the pupil funding from the State of Michigan is \$7,251 per student. As an example, White Pigeon, Centreville, Three Rivers and Mendon, other St. Joseph County Schools, receive \$7,316 per student.

Raising the rate to 18.00 mills would only affect people who own a second home within the District and business. Anyone owning one home will not see any additional taxes as a result of a positive vote. For a person owning a second home or business worth 100,000 the cost per year would be \$126.

Rollbacks occur because of Proposal A's impact on the Headlee law when properties are sold and the assessed value is increased. This law does not apply to agricultural property. It does apply to apartment buildings, rental homes, vacation properties, and commercial industrial properties.

Constantine Public Schools has not restored their Headlee rate to 18.00 mills since 2000. In 2000, the money lost to the District was not a big amount, \$4,301 per year. As the rate has slipped further each year from the 18.00 mills, now the amount is \$95,473 per year. This amount will continue to increase if the amount isn't brought back to the 18.00 mill maximum amount. The total amount lost to the District over the past nine years is now at \$404,000.

The ballot will ask voters to increase the amount back to 18.00 mills. To vote in favor of this election, voters should vote, yes. If a voter disapproves of this election, voters should vote, no.