

Central Lake Public Schools - Operating Millage Renewal Proposal

On the November 2025 Ballot

Dear Central Lake Community,

Central Lake Public Schools will be placing the Headlee renewal for our operating millage on the November 2025 ballot. This proposal is **not a new tax** but a **restoration** of the millage rate to the lawful limit of 18 mills, as allowed by Michigan law, to maintain critical funding for our schools' day-to-day operations.

What is the Headlee Restoration Millage?

- **This is a renewal, not a new tax.** The proposal restores the millage rate to no more than 18 mills (\$18 per \$1,000 of taxable value) on non-homestead properties (such as businesses or second homes), as permitted by the Michigan Constitution.
- **It will never exceed 18 mills.** Despite the ballot language mentioning an increase of 2.2557 mills, this is only to restore what was reduced due to the Headlee Amendment and will not go above the 18-mill cap.
- **It supports daily operations.** The funds (estimated at \$57,024 in 2026) are crucial for maintaining classrooms, paying teachers, purchasing supplies, busing, and ensuring our schools operate smoothly.
- **It only applies to non-homestead properties.** Principal residences and other exempt properties are not affected.

Why is this important?

This millage renewal ensures Central Lake Public Schools can continue to:

- Provide quality education for our students.
- Maintain safe and well-equipped classrooms.
- Support dedicated teachers and staff.
- Fund essential programs, extracurricular activities, and services that benefit our entire community.

Without this renewal, our schools could face significant budget cuts, which would impact the education and opportunities we provide for our children.

Key Details

- **Duration:** The renewal will be in place for 7 years (2026–2032).

- **Purpose:** Restores funding lost due to the Headlee Amendment to ensure the district receives its full per-pupil foundation allowance from the state.
- **Impact:** The restored millage will generate approximately \$57,024 in 2026 to support school operations.
- **No increase beyond 18 mills:** The millage rate will be levied only to the extent necessary to restore the reduction and will never exceed the statutory 18-mill limit.

This flyer is for informational purposes only and complies with Michigan election law requirements for ballot proposal communications.