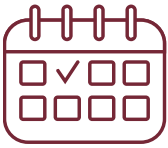




FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**AUGUST 6, 2024
OPERATING MILLAGE RENEWAL
PROPOSAL**

When is the election?



The election is Tuesday, August 6th, 2024. The polls will be open from 7 a.m. until 8 p.m.

Absentee ballots will be available after June 27th and can be cast through Election Day.

What is on the ballot?

Registered voters residing within the boundaries of the Au Gres-Sims School District will vote on a 17.7804 mill, 8-year non-homestead operating millage renewal.

What is the purpose of this election?

The State of Michigan requires school districts to levy 18 mills on non-homestead property to receive their full share of State Aid funding.

Au Gres-Sims' non-homestead millage expired with the 2024 tax levy. This millage must now be renewed to assure that the Au Gres-Sims School District can levy the statutory rate of not to exceed 18 mills on non-homestead property.

Is this a tax increase?

No. This is a non-homestead renewal, meaning that this election will not affect taxes on "primary residences" (the homes in which residents live). It will only affect taxes on non-homestead properties (businesses, rental properties, vacant land, and second homes). However, all registered voters living in the Au Gres-Sims School District can vote in this election because the outcome will have a significant impact on the school district and the communities we serve.

**Vote August 6th at the
polls from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.
or by absentee ballot after
June 27th through
Election Day.**



How can the 17.7804 mill renewal allow the school district to levy the full 18 mills required by Michigan law?

The Au Gres-Sims School District has two non-homestead millages. The first is an 18-mill non-homestead millage that has been rolled back to 17.7804 mills per provisions of the 1978 Headlee Amendment to the Michigan Constitution.



The second non-homestead millage assures that the Au Gres-Sims School District is protected from “roll back” provisions of the Headlee Amendment and can levy the full 18 mills required by law. Briefly stated, the second non-homestead millage will make up the 0.2196 mill difference between 17.7804 mills and 18 mills.



How is revenue from a non-homestead millage used? Non-homestead millage revenue is used to finance the day-to-day operating expenditures of the school district.

Who is affected by the August 6th millage proposal?

The August 6th millage proposal only applies to non-homestead properties (businesses, rental properties, vacant land, and second homes). This millage proposal does not apply to primary residences (the homes in which taxpayers live).

While all Au Gres-Sims School District voters can vote in this election, the non-homestead millage renewal proposal will not affect the tax rate levied on primary residences.

Vote August 6th at the polls from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. or by absentee ballot after June 27th through Election Day.



Will the renewal of the 18-mill non-homestead millage affect the educational program of the Au Gres-Sims School District?

Yes. Voter approval of the August 6th operating millage renewal will enable the school district to levy the 18-mill statutory limit on non-homestead properties, eliminate related reductions in the operating budget, and allow the school district to be "made whole" and collect its full share of State Aid funding.

More specifically, levying the statutory 18-mill limit on non-homestead properties generates approximately \$2,688,680 or about 40 percent of the Au Gres-Sims School District's operating budget. If the non-homestead millage is not renewed, every year the school district's State Aid will be reduced by more than \$5,820 per student!

What will happen if voters do not approve the August 6th operating millage proposal?

The effect of voters not approving the non-homestead millage renewal would be the same as a business losing 40 percent of its revenue or an individual taking a 40% pay cut.

Michigan law requires school districts to maintain a balanced budget. Hence, if voters do not approve the August 6th operating millage renewal, adopting a balanced budget would require significant (40%!) reductions in educational programs and services.

**Vote August 6th at the
polls from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.
or by absentee ballot after
June 27th through
Election Day.**



What will appear on the August 6th ballot?

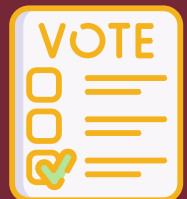
Here is the ballot wording:

AU GRES-SIMS SCHOOL DISTRICT OPERATING MILLAGE RENEWAL PROPOSAL

This proposal will allow the school district to continue to levy 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 full revenue per pupil foundation allowance, and renews millage that will expire with the 2024 tax levy.

Shall the currently authorized millage rate of 17.7804 mills (\$17.7804 on each \$1,000 of taxable valuation) on the amount of taxes which may be assessed against all property, except principal residence and other property exempted by law, in Au Gres-Sims School District, Arenac County, Michigan, be renewed for a period of 8 years, 2025 to 2032, inclusive, to provide funds for operating purposes; the estimate of the revenue the school district will collect if the millage is approved and levied in 2025 is approximately \$2,688,680 (this is a renewal of millage that expired with the 2024 tax levy)?

**Vote August 2nd at the
polls from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.
or by absentee ballot after
June 23rd through
Election Day.**



Who can vote in this election?

All registered voters living in the Au Gres-Sims School District can vote in this election.

Where do I vote on Election Day?

The Au Gres-Sims School District has several polling locations.

To find out where you vote, go to www.michigan.gov/vote and click on *Where is my polling place?* under the **Your Voter Information** heading. After you enter your name and address, you will see your polling location (and the address and phone number of the Clerk's Office). This is where you vote on Election Day, August 6th.

Can I vote by absentee ballot?

Yes. Since voter approval of Proposal 3 in November 2018, any registered voter can cast an absentee ballot.

Go to www.michigan.gov/vote and click on *How do I apply for an absentee ballot?* under the **Vote at Home (Absentee)** heading. Follow the instructions to obtain an absentee ballot application. When your application is received, your local Clerk's Office will mail you an absentee ballot.

Absentee ballots will be available after June 27th and will be mailed to those who complete an absentee ballot application.

**Vote August 6th at the
polls from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.
or by absentee ballot after
June 27th through
Election Day.**



To get more information about the August 6th operating millage proposal and answers to your questions...

Go to www.ags-schools.org and click on *Millage Renewal Election*, call any Au Gres-Sims School Administrator, or contact Superintendent Chris Ming at 989/876-7150 or by email at mingc@ags-schools.org

Share your thoughts about the non-homestead operating millage renewal with us!

Scan the QR code below or visit t.ly/7Ahg5



This document was prepared to provide factual information about the Au Gres-Sims School District's August 6th Operating Millage Renewal Election and was paid for by the Au Gres-Sims School District, 310 S. Court Street Au Gres, MI 48703

Vote August 6th at the polls from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. or by absentee ballot after June 27th through Election Day.