

April 23, 2025

Dear Whitehall Families,

This is a reminder that the Operating Millage Renewal vote will take place on Tuesday, May 6.

Since 1994, all Michigan public school districts have been required to levy an *Operating Millage* on non-homestead properties, such as businesses, rental homes, and vacation properties in order for the district to receive the full per-pupil foundation allowance.

Operating millages have been approved by Whitehall voters periodically over the years, most recently in 2015. Due to a constitutional provision called the Headlee Amendment, the previously approved rate of 18.5 mills were reduced in 2024 to 17.9832 mills, causing the district to fall below the required 18 mills.

To prevent future funding losses, the district is asking for a renewal of 20 mills. By law, we can only collect up to 18 mills, but the additional 2 mills build a protection to help maintain full funding in future years.

Revenue from this millage supports the district's General Fund, which covers:

- Teacher and staff salaries
- Classroom materials
- Transportation, utilities, and daily operations

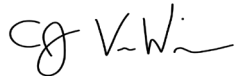
If this proposal is not approved, the district could lose over \$4 million in funding beginning in the 2026 tax year.

If you have questions, about the millage or anything else in Whitehall District Schools, please join us:

- **Wednesday, April 30 – Coffee with the Superintendent, 10:00 AM**
- **Wednesday, April 30 – Community Night, 6:00 PM**
  - Both events are in the **VAC Conference Room**

Thank you for your continued partnership, your involvement in our schools, and your commitment to staying informed. We are thankful for our school community and look forward to continuing to build a strong partnership for the future.

Sincerely,



CJ Van Wieren  
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Whitehall District Schools  
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