



LUFKIN ISD Tax Ratification Election



vote

At the August 24, 2015 special called board meeting, the Lufkin ISD Board of Trustees approved a Maintenance and Operations (M & O) tax rate that is above the maximum rate allowed without voter approval.

This M & O rate must be approved by voters before it can be adopted by the school district. The Board approved an order calling for a Tax Ratification Election (TRE) to be held on **Tuesday, November 3, 2015.**

The passage of the TRE would restructure the tax rate, moving \$.13 of the Interest and Sinking portion of the tax rate to the Maintenance and Operations portion of the tax rate. This shift would generate approximately \$3 million in additional state funding for the school district annually.

**NO MATTER THE OUTCOME,
THE TAX RATE WILL REMAIN THE SAME.**

■ WHAT IS A TRE?

A district that adopts a tax rate above its maximum M & O tax rate must hold a Tax Ratification Election (TRE) to provide voters the ability to ratify the higher rate. If a majority of the votes are cast in favor of the proposition, the tax rate for the current year is adopted by the Board. If the proposition is not approved, then the Board may not adopt a tax rate for the current year that exceeds the maximum rate.

■ HOW WILL THE TRE AFFECT MY TAXES?

No matter the outcome of the TRE, the tax rate for taxpayers in LISD will remain the same at \$1.213 per \$100 of property value. If the TRE is approved, the shift in the M & O and I & S tax rates will generate an additional \$3 million for the district. If the TRE is not approved, the tax rate will remain at \$1.213 and no additional funding will be created.

The wording for the ballot for the Tax Ratification Election is prescribed by law. The ballot reads:
"Approving the ad valorem tax rate of \$1.343 per \$100 valuation in Lufkin Independent School District for the current year, a rate that is \$.13 higher per \$100 valuation than the school district rollback tax rate."

■ WHY DOES THE BALLOT SHOW A TAX RATE OF \$1.343 WHEN EVERYTHING ELSE SAYS THE TAX RATE WILL REMAIN AT \$1.213?

Law requires the ballot to read as written above. The ballot shows a total tax rate of \$1.343, which is an increase of \$.13 in the Maintenance and Operations (M & O) tax rate. The Board of Trustees announced at the August 24, 2015 special called board meeting, that should the TRE pass, the Interest and Sinking (I & S) tax rate will be lowered by \$.13 to offset the increase in the M & O rate. This shift will keep the tax rate at \$1.213 for the 2015-2016 school year.

OFF-SITE VOTING LOCATIONS

October 20, 2015
Lufkin Middle School

October 27, 2015
Brandon Elementary

October 30, 2015
Lufkin High School

EARLY VOTING DATES

Oct. 19 - 23, 2015

Oct. 24, 2015

Oct. 25, 2015

Oct. 26 - 30, 2015

LISD Administration, 101 Cotton Square



\$1.343

Tax Rate:
\$1.213

=

estimated
\$3,000,000
from the State
for LISD annually



\$1.343

Tax Rate:
\$1.213

=

\$0
from the State

Visit www.lufkinisd.org for additional information