

# Citizens Committee for Millage Oversight

Tuesday, September 26, 2023 4:42 PM

**9/26/23**

**5:00pm**

## **Organizational meeting**

- Next November, millage goes to vote
- Angelina Lamantia is point person for millage

# Meeting Agenda

September 26, 2023



## Discussion

- Welcome and introductions
- Millage 101
  - Understanding the needs
  - Timeline of millage funding
- Committee roles
- Next Steps - Meeting dates

## Attendees

- Ray Pinder, Assistant Superintendent of Business & Support Services - **Salaries & Positions** and **Continuation of Programs**
- Angelina LaMantia, Financial Analyst HCSD
- Jill Renihan, Executive Director of Business Services - **Mental Health & Safety**
- Jesse Diaz, Supervisor of Instructional Technology - **Technology**
- Karen Jordan, Director of Communications
- Gregg Laskoski & Lori Sowers - Half Cent Sales Tax Committee

## Guiding Questions

- |                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Purpose</b>              | What is the committee's role in ensuring transparency with the community? What does a high performing "oversight" team look like? <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reflections from the Half Cent Sales Tax Committee</li></ul> |
| <b>Schedule</b>             | How frequently should the committee meet in order to become knowledgeable and develop updates to the Board?  |
| <b>Updates to Board</b>     | How could the periodic updates to the Board enhance the community's understanding of millage contributions?  |
| <b>Highlighting Millage</b> | How can the district leverage resources to spotlight the millage projects?<br>What are other ways we could use millage funds to enhance outcomes for students?   |

# Fast facts about Millage for HCSD

## Definition

Millage is a rate of tax paid by Property Owners **only**. It is determined by the value of your home. The millage rate is calculated at \$1.00 for every \$1,000 dollars of assessed property value per year, less the homestead exemption.



For a home valued at \$150,000, after the standard \$25,000 home exemption is applied, the property owner will pay approximately \$10 per month in millage.

## Estimated Revenue vs Actual Revenue

To allow time for careful planning and ensure millage funds are directed at increasing positive student outcomes, the school district determines an **estimation** on the *expected* millage revenue for the year. That estimation is determined using the "Truth In Millage" or TRIM rate. **Actual revenue** is the final amount the school district receives from Hernando County.

***Good schools give students the resources they need to learn.  
Great schools strive for all students to succeed.***



Our goals are simple. 1. Use millage funds to recruit and retain quality teachers by offering a competitive salary and, when needed, adding highly qualified staff to elevate student success. 2. Continue to prioritize school safety by having School Resource Officers in every school and school guardians at all secondary levels. 3. Offer students and staff relevant technologies and technical programs to help them reach their goals. 4. Provide advanced learning and a variety of programs to all students that will enhance their learning experience and career opportunities.

- Half cent is line-by-line spending (specific, set), while millage is spent by categories

- This committee will present a review to the board regarding what it has learned regarding how millage has been used
- We cannot transfer from one bucket to another
- Suggestion for us to have examples for buckets:
  - **50% Salaries and Positions**
  - **25% Mental Health and Safety**
    - Guardians
    - Upgrade of camera system
    - Zero eyes gun detection software
    - Upgrading access control
    - Social workers
  - **15% Technology**
    - Instructional enhancement software (Nearpod, Seesaw)
    - ParentSquare
    - Wireless enhancement
    - Projectors
  - **10% Continuation of Academic Programs**
    - County-wide Athletic Director
    - Supervisor of Guidance Counselors
- Recommendations:
  - Everyone has specific well-defined role
  - Regular meetings (quarterly)
  - Timeline
  - Budget
  - Deadlines
  - Website updates, delays,
  - Use of local newsletter, speaking engagements
  - Not be a rubber stamp for board
  - Committee should be able to have access to financial reports
  - Have the committee be responsible for a report
- We will have quarterly meetings
- Next Meeting: **Dec-5-23**