

School Board Announces Millage Renewal Request

By Daniel Murphy; President, GITS BOE

On August 3rd, the Grosse Ile Township Schools Board of Education will be asking the community to **continue supporting teaching and learning on Grosse Ile by renewing two existing millages. These are not new millages; they are renewals of existing millages.**

The first renewal is for the Homestead and Non-Homestead millage. This millage annually generates approximately \$2.4 million for school operations including teachers' and staff salaries and benefits, textbooks and classroom supplies. These funds go directly to the most important functions of the school district: **teaching and learning**.

The second renewal is for the Sinking Fund millage. This millage annually generates approximately \$600,000 for investment in our buildings, their repair and maintenance. Without these funds, money would have to be diverted away from the school district's operational budget and result in less funding of **teaching and learning**.

Together, these two millages produce approximately \$3 million (about 16%) of the school district's annual budget and are **the only funds from Grosse Ile taxpayers that stay on Grosse Ile and go directly to Grosse Ile students**.

These are critical renewals for Grosse Ile Schools and for our community. If these renewal requests are not approved on August 3rd, Grosse Ile Township Schools faces bankruptcy in 2011, a deficit reduction plan supervised by the State of Michigan, and the character and quality of the Grosse Ile Township Schools will likely be irreparably harmed.

For more information regarding these millage renewal requests, or any aspect of school district funding, please contact Interim Superintendent William Weber (734-362-2581) or any Board of Education trustee.