



## Lexington Local Schools – March 19, 2024 Renewal Levy Fact Sheet/FAQs

1.) **Q:** Is this a new tax?

**A:** No. As a renewal levy, this is **NOT** a new tax. This is simply a renewal of an existing tax levy that is up for renewal every 10 years.

2.) **Q:** How much does this renewal levy raise annually for the District?

**A:** This renewal levy raises \$2.705 million annually for the District, representing approximately 10% of the District's annual General Fund budget.

3.) **Q:** Is this levy subject to homestead and rollback deductions that are offset and paid by the State?

**A:** Yes, as an existing renewal levy, this levy remains subject to homestead and rollback deductions covered by the State. This offsets a portion of the tax for our community of approximately 12.5%, or approximately \$338,000 annually.

4.) **Q:** What happens with this particular levy as property values increase?

**A:** This levy is a fixed sum levy, meaning that regardless of new construction, property value increases, or other impacts on the property valuation of the properties within Lexington School District, the property tax rate will be lowered as necessary to collect the \$2.705 million intended to be collected by this levy. Therefore, as property values increase, the effective rate of this levy decreases.

5.) **Q:** What year was this levy originally passed?

**A:** This levy was originally passed by the community in 1999 for a 5-year period. This levy was renewed by the community in 2004 and 2009 for a 5-year period and again in 2014 for a 10-year period.

6.) **Q:** When was the last year the District was on the levy for NEW operating money to be passed by the voters?

**A:** The last time the District was on the levy for new operating money was in 2011, thirteen years ago. This levy was also renewed by the community in 2016 for a 10-year period and is not up for renewal again until 2026.

7.) **Q:** What are the funds from this renewal levy used for?

**A:** The funds from this levy are used for the daily operations of the District, which includes the following:

- Teachers for the classroom;
- Instructional programs;
- Academic curriculum;
- Student transportation;
- Updated technology;
- Instructional supplies;
- Utilities;
- Other operating costs of the District.

8.) **Q:** What is the impact of the District's renewal levies on the overall finances of the District?

**A:** The importance and impact of the District's renewal levies is reflected within the District's five-year forecast as failure to pass would result in a cumulative negative impact of \$13.47 million through fiscal year 2028 and a projected negative General Fund balance of approximately \$7 million.

9.) **Q:** What is the most important fact the community should know about this renewal levy?

**A:** The most important fact the community should know is that this is **NOT** a new tax but a renewal of a currently existing levy that was originally passed in May of 2009.