

RESOLUTION #2018-01

A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FOR LAKE COUNTY, FLORIDA, TO PLACE A REFERENDUM ON THE BALLOT FOR THE AUGUST 2018 PRIMARY ELECTION FOR THE ELECTORS WITHIN THE LAKE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT TO VOTE ON THE APPROVAL OF AN ADDITIONAL THREE-QUARTER (0.75) MILL OF AD VALOREM MILLAGE TAX PURSUANT TO SECTION 1011.73(2) OF THE FLORIDA STATUTES.

WHEREAS, section 1011.73(2) of the Florida Statutes authorizes the School Board of Lake County, Florida, pursuant to a resolution adopted at a regular meeting, to direct the Board of County Commissioners of Lake County, Florida, to call an election at which the electors within the school district may approve an ad valorem tax millage as authorized under Section 1011.71(9) of the Florida Statutes; and

WHEREAS, section 1011.71(9) of the Florida Statutes authorizes public school boards to levy, by local referendum, additional millage for school operational purposes up to an amount that, when combined with the non-voted millage levied, does not exceed the 10-mill limit established in s. 9(b), Art. VII of the State Constitution, and the current millage is well below such limit; and

WHEREAS, the tragic massacre of students and staff by a gunman at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School on February 14, 2018 led to the enactment of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Act (“the Act”) by the 2018 Florida Legislature, which made significant school safety reforms and imposed upon all Florida public school districts numerous additional requirements to achieve greater safety for public school students and staff; and

WHEREAS, the funds allocated by the State of Florida to Lake County District Schools (“the District”) are insufficient for the District to satisfy the important objectives and requirements contained in the Act without compromising the quality of instructional and other services provided by the District; and

WHEREAS, the School Board has determined that it is in the best interest of the District students and staff to submit to the voters the question of approving an additional three-quarter (0.75) mill of ad valorem millage tax for a period of four (4) years to satisfy the objectives and requirements of the Act, and to provide for operating expenses necessary to the District’s delivery of high-quality services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of Lake County, Florida, that:

1. Pursuant to section 1011.73(2), the School Board directs the Board of County Commissioners for Lake County, Florida to place a referendum on the ballot for the August 2018 election, whereby the electors within the Lake County School District may vote on the approval of an additional three-quarter (0.75) mill of ad valorem millage tax for District operating expenses over a period of four (4) years, as authorized by section 1011.71(9) of the Florida Statutes.

2. The substance and title of the millage referendum shall be as follows:

BALLOT TITLE: APPROVAL OF ADDITIONAL THREE-QUARTER MILL AD VALOREM TAX FOR SCHOOL SAFETY AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES.

BALLOT QUESTION: Shall an additional three-quarter (0.75) mill of School District ad valorem millage tax, beginning July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2023, be approved for the implementation of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Act and for enhancement of school safety, security, and mental health services, creating a sustainable funding source critical to improving safety for our children, prevention programs and services, and emergency response?

___ YES

___ NO

ADOPTED AND APPROVED by the School Board of Lake County, Florida, at a regular meeting held this 11th day of June, 2018.

ATTEST:



Diane S. Kornegay, Superintendent




Stephanie Luke, Chairperson, District 5



Bill Mathias, District 1



Dr. Kristi Burns, District 2



Marc Dodd, District 3



Sandy Gamble, District 4