

# TAX RATIFICATION ELECTION

# SATURDAY, AUGUST 5



July 19 - August 11

**Proposal:** On June 22, 2017 Port Arthur ISD Board of Trustees adopted an order calling for a Tax Ratification Election (TRE) for **August 5, 2017**. Port Arthur voters will be asked to ratify the new Maintenance and Operations (M&O) tax rate of \$1.17 (a 13¢ increase).

## INITIATIVES



With these funds, Port Arthur ISD will be able to promote & enhance student success by improving curriculum programs:

- Restore Reading Program (i.e., hiring reading coaches)
- Expanding bilingual program
- Increasing participation in the Virtual School Program



## COMMUNITY

It is a goal of PAISD to surpass the number of students served by community organizations:

- AARP Foundation Experience Corps
- Communities in Schools (CIS) & by
- Hiring additional social workers



## FINE ARTS

- Purchase and/or repair band equipment & instruments
- Implement rotation cycle to replace fine arts uniforms such as band & choir



## BILINGUAL PROGRAM

- Purchase more materials in Spanish to appropriately serve our students
- The hiring of more bilingual teachers and employees



## PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE

- Restoration of an annual preventative budget which protects taxpayers' investments in our facilities
- Students learn best when facilities are safe, accessible, hygienic & cognitively stimulating
- Re-establish vehicle replacement process based on age & maintenance costs, etc.



## COMPENSATION PLAN

- Pursue salary increases for ALL by implementation of new compensation plan to recruit, employ, & retain staff in order to remain competitive
- Investigate ways to enhance employer's contribution to employee health insurance expense

## Academic Distinction

- ✓ PAISD maintains a "Met Standard" rating for 2015-2016
- ✓ 5 campuses received Distinction Designations
- ✓ Updated curriculum framework for 2017-2018
- ✓ Math & Science scores continue to rise
- ✓ First year of Early College High School successfully completed



## FINANCIAL IMPACT

- ★ For the average Port Arthur homeowner with a home valued at \$52,065 last year, the homeowner's tax will increase from \$365 to \$418 per year. Keep in mind, a portion of the increase (\$16.26) is a result of an increase in the market value for the home. The remaining increase (\$37.22) would occur if the TRE passes. With this total increase, the taxpayer would pay about \$53.83 annually which is less than \$5 more a month. Of the \$5 monthly increase, the impact of the tax increase is about \$3 per month.
- ★ Taxpayers with additional exemptions (disabled, over age 65, etc.) would have smaller increases. Over 65, homeowners' taxes are frozen.
- ★ Rate is lower now than it was in 2005-06, when it was \$1.68.
- ★ Interest & Sinking (I&S) taxes would NOT be increased. The I&S rate provides funds to repay debt which was incurred to purchase major equipment or to build/renovate facilities.
- ★ The estimated increase the District would receive of \$5.9M is net of any recapture costs.



## % of Taxable Income

The major factor used to derive property taxes for individuals or businesses is based on the value of property owned. According to the 2016 property values, see the percentages attributed to each group below:

- Industrial (55%)
- Commercial (22%)
- Residential (20%)
- Land (3%)