

RESOLUTION 2026-02

A RESOLUTION OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BREVARD COUNTY, CALLING FOR A REFERENDUM ELECTION TO DETERMINE IF THE ELECTORS OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZE RENEWAL OF THE SCHOOL BOARD'S ONE MILL AD VALOREM TAX MILLAGE FOR FOUR YEARS TO BE USED FOR SCHOOL OPERATIONS TO INCLUDE MAINTAINING A HIGH QUALITY WORKFORCE THROUGH COMPETITIVE COMPENSATION FOR TEACHERS AND STAFF TO ENSURE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT; PROVIDING FOR NOTICE OF THE REFERENDUM ELECTION; PROVIDING FOR PLACES OF VOTING, INSPECTORS, AND CLERKS; PROVIDING FOR AN OFFICIAL BALLOT; PROVIDING FOR ABSENTEE VOTING; PROVIDING FOR EARLY VOTING; PROVIDING FOR PRINTING OF BALLOTS; PROVIDING FOR REFERENDUM ELECTION PROCEDURE; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING A REPEALING CLAUSE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of Brevard County, Florida ("Board"), acting as the governing body of the School District of Brevard County, Florida ("District"), as follows:

SECTION 1 – AUTHORITY FOR RESOLUTION: This resolution is adopted pursuant to Section 1011.73(2), Florida Statutes (2025), and other applicable provisions of law.

SECTION 2 – FINDINGS: The Board, as the governing board of the District, pursuant to Article IX, Section 4(b), Florida Constitution and Sections 1001.32(2) and 1001.40, Florida Statutes (2025), hereby finds and determines the following:

- A. The Board has a primary goal to continue elevating student achievement for students attending its public schools.
- B. The education funds available to the Board through the Florida Educational Finance Program funding formula are not sufficient to provide competitive wages to its employees and to sustain essential educational programs and opportunities that prepare its public school students for the future.
- C. Funding is needed to supplement salary resources provided by the Florida Educational Finance Program in order for Brevard Public Schools to compete for highly qualified and experienced educators and support staff.
- D. Increased compensation for teachers, particularly for experienced teachers, is critical to recruiting and sustaining a highly qualified faculty work force.

- E. The Board is aware that voters in over 25 school districts in Florida have approved additional millage for school operations, creating a competitive advantage for them.
- F. Students directly benefit from having a well-trained and experienced teacher in their classroom.
- G. Students directly benefit from expanded academic programs, including Career and Technical Education (CTE) and Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) programs, athletics, arts and classroom technology.
- H. A high-quality education system benefits all residents of Brevard County, regardless of whether they have children in school.
- I. Section 1011.73(2), Florida Statutes (2025), authorizes the qualified electors of Brevard County to vote on an additional millage for operational purposes.
- J. That the voters approved an additional one (1) mill ad valorem tax millage for school operations for four (4) years in November 2022
- K. The Board finds it is in the best interest of the students in public schools that the qualified electors be given the opportunity to approve the renewal of the one (1) mill ad valorem millage for school operations, specifically focused on teacher and staff compensation and/or benefits and financial support for academic programs, early childhood instructional support, athletics, arts and classroom technology as defined in the Plan for Use of Ad Valorem Millage Proceeds which is attached hereto and incorporated herein as Exhibit A.
- L. The renewal of the millage is subject to approval by the electors of the District at a referendum held as provided in Section 1011.71(9), Florida Statutes (2025), and, if approved, is hereby levied for the period commencing January 1, 2027, and ending December 31, 2030 and will be collected as authorized in the manner required by law. Also, the funds raised by the one (1) mill levied under Section 1011.71(9), Florida Statutes shall be shared with charter schools based on each charter school's proportionate share of the district's total unweighted full-time equivalent student enrollment and used in a manner consistent with the purposes of the levy.
- M. That to ensure proper fiscal stewardship of the millage proceeds, an independent citizens oversight committee has been appointed by the School Board. Annual reporting of the status of projects funded (expenditures) utilizing these funds will be presented to the School Board and shall be available for public review.

SECTION 3 – PLAN FOR USE OF AD VALOREM MILLAGE PROCEEDS:

- A. The Board intends that the revenue generated by the millage for operational purposes shall be used to recruit and retain instructional and support staff personnel including teachers, support staff, administrators, to make its compensation more competitive with surrounding counties.
- B. The Board further intends to use some of the revenue generated by the millage to expand staffing in early childhood education programs, maintaining and expanding Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs for students, to support early childhood education, to enhance art, music and athletic programs, to expand access to educational programs and continue the modernization of classroom technology learning environments.
- C. The plan for the use of the revenue generated by the millage is identified in the Plan for Use of Millage Proceeds which is attached hereto and incorporated herein as Exhibit A.

SECTION 4 – RENEWING THE LEVY OF ONE (1) MILL AD VALOREM MILLAGE: Subject to approval by the electors of the District at a referendum held as provided in Section 1011.71(9). Florida Statutes (2025), and, if approved, is hereby levied for the period commencing January 1, 2027, and ending December 31, 2030 and will be collected as authorized in the manner required by law.

SECTION 5 - REFERENDUM ELECTION ORDERED: That pursuant to Section 1011.73(1), Florida Statutes (2025) the Board of County Commissioners in and for Brevard County, Florida, is hereby directed to place the required referendum election on the ballot of the general election to be held on November 3, 2026, for the qualified electors of Brevard County Public Schools to vote whether to renew the ad valorem millage of one (1.0) mill for a period of four (4) years. The millage shall be limited to operating expenses of the School District as described in this Resolution.

SECTION 6 – NOTICE OF REFERENDUM ELECTION: The Superintendent is hereby authorized and directed to place a notice of the referendum election in a newspaper of general circulation published in the District. The publication will be made at least thirty (30) days prior to the referendum and must be made at least twice, once in the fifth week and once in the third week prior to the week in which the referendum is deemed to be held. The notice of referendum must be in substantially the form provided in the attached Exhibit B. This Resolution shall be published as a part of such notice.

SECTION 7 – PLACES OF VOTING, INSPECTORS, AND CLERKS: The Brevard County, Florida polls will be open at the voting places on the date of the referendum election from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. All qualified electors residing within the District shall be entitled and permitted to vote at the referendum election on the proposition provided in this Resolution. The places of voting and the inspectors and clerks of the referendum election shall be those designated by the Supervisor of Elections of Brevard County, Florida, in accordance with law.

SECTION 8 - OFFICIAL BALLOT: The ballots to be used in the referendum election shall contain a statement relating to the authority of the School Board of Brevard County, Florida, to renew the levy of one (1) mill ad valorem millage for a period of four (4) years from January 1, 2027 to December 31, 2030, and shall be in substantially the following form:

OFFICAL BALLOT

**RENEWAL OF AD VALOREM MILLAGE TO SUSTAIN INCREASED TEACHER PAY AND
OTHER PURPOSES**

Shall the School Board renew a one (1) mill ad valorem millage for four years to sustain increased teacher and staff pay, fund technical training for students, and for other similar purposes, to ensure student achievement, recruit and retain teachers and staff with competitive salaries, and distribute funds as required to charter schools based on their proportionate share of district enrollment, with all expenditures reviewed by an independent citizens’ oversight committee.

_____YES - FOR RENEWAL OF MILLAGE

_____NO - AGAINST RENEWAL OF MILLAGE

SECTION 9 – ABSENTEE VOTING: Adequate provision shall be made for absentee voters. The form of ballots to be used in the referendum for absentee voters shall be the same as used in the polling places for the election.

SECTION 10 – EARLY VOTING: Adequate provision shall be made for early voting, to run continuously from October 19, 2026 through October 31, 2026, including Sunday. Monday through Friday hours are 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Weekend hours are from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The form of ballots to be used in the referendum for early voting shall be the same as used in the polling places for the election.

SECTION 11 – PRINTING OF BALLOTS: The Supervisor of Elections of Brevard County, Florida is authorized and directed to have printed on plain white paper a sufficient number of the ballots for use of absentee electors and early voters entitled to cast ballots in the referendum election; to have printed sample ballots and deliver the sample ballots to the inspectors and clerks on or before the date and time for opening of the polls for the referendum election; and to make appropriate arrangements for the conduct of the election at the polling places specified.

SECTION 12 – GENERAL ELECTION PROCEDURE: The Supervisor of Elections of Brevard County, Florida shall hold, administer, and conduct the referendum election in the manner prescribed by law for holding elections in the District. Returns shall show the number of qualified electors who voted at the referendum election on the proposition and the number of votes cast respectively for and against approval of the proposition. The returns shall be canvassed in accordance with the law.

SECTION 13 – SEVERABILITY: In the event that any word, phrase, clause, sentence, or paragraph of this Resolution shall be held invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, such holding shall not affect any other word, clause, phrase, sentence, or paragraph.

SECTION 14 – REPEALING CLAUSE: All Resolutions in conflict or inconsistent with this Resolution are repealed insofar as there is conflict or inconsistency.

SECTION 15 – EFFECTIVE DATE: This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

ADOPTED at a Meeting of the School Board of Brevard County, Florida the 23rd day of September 2025, with a quorum present and voting.

SCHOOL BOARD OF BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: 
Gene Trent, Board Chair

EXHIBIT A

PLAN FOR USE OF AD VALOREM MILLAGE PROCEEDS

- 1.** Pursuant to Section 1011.73(2), Florida Statutes, operational expenses to be funded by proceeds of the Millage shall be for:
 - a.** Teacher and staff compensation and/or benefits
 - b.** District-wide financial supplements for additional duties such as: Athletic Coaches, Teacher Mentors, Academic Team Sponsors, etc.
 - c.** Career and Technical Education and Academic Programs, Supplies and Staff
 - d.** Early Childhood Instructional Support Staff
 - e.** Athletic Programs, Supplies and Fees
 - f.** Performing Arts Programs, Supplies and Staff
 - g.** Classroom Technology – Advancing the “Classrooms of the Future” initiative
- 2.** To ensure proper fiscal stewardship of the millage proceeds, an oversight committee comprised of independent citizens has been appointed by the School Board. Annual reporting of the status of projects funded (expenditures) utilizing these funds will be presented to the School Board and shall be available for public review.

EXHIBIT B

**NOTICE OF REFERENDUM ELECTION IN THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF BREVARD COUNTY,
FLORIDA ON NOVEMBER 3, 2026**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT A REFERENDUM ELECTION will be held on November 3, 2026, in Brevard County, Florida, for the purpose of determining whether or not the Brevard County, Florida electorate approve renewing the one (1) mill ad valorem millage for a period of four (4) years, as specifically described and provided in a Resolution of the School Board of Brevard County, Florida, adopted September 23, 2025, and published below.

The polls will be open at the voting place on the date of the referendum election from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m., absentee voting will be available for the referendum election, and early voting will run continuously from Monday, October 19, 2026 through Saturday, October 31, 2026, including Sunday, with Monday through Friday hours from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., and weekend hours from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., all as provided in the Resolution published below.

All qualified electors residing within the School District shall be entitled, qualified, and permitted to vote at the referendum election.

SCHOOL BOARD OF BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA

By:  _____

Gene Trent, Board Chair