



# NEWS RELEASE

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## **Public hearings scheduled on millage rate adoption— Rate to remain the same, tax increase announced due to non-rollback**

As required by law, the Gwinnett County Board of Education (GCBOE) will hold three public hearings as part of its process for setting the millage rate. The first hearing will be held on July 8 at 6 p.m. The second and third public hearings will take place on July 15 at 11:45 a.m. and 6 p.m. All of the public hearings are scheduled to take place in the Board Room at the J. Alvin Wilbanks Instructional Support Center, located at 437 Old Peachtree Road NW in Suwanee.

The school system's Fiscal Year 2022 (FY2022) budget was adopted June 17, 2021. In setting the millage rate to support the FY2022 budget, the School Board is looking to maintain the current total school millage rate of 21.60.

The budget provides resources—both financial and human—to help the school system accommodate its growing student population. Gwinnett County Public Schools' enrollment is expected to grow by over 2,542 students, bringing the total projected enrollment for next school year to more than 179,900 students.

Total FY2022 state revenue will increase largely due to additional funding formula earnings related to projected student growth. Local revenue is budgeted to increase primarily due to a projected net growth in the property tax digest.

All of the local revenue projected for FY2022 is needed to fund the projected student enrollment growth, provide salary increases for eligible teachers and other school system employees, and to help offset the impact of the QBE austerity reduction.

In order to keep the local tax digest current, the Gwinnett County Tax Assessor's Office conducts annual property value updates (reassessments) on a rotating basis. By state law, local taxing authorities, such as GCBOE, must either keep their tax collections revenue-neutral (by decreasing the millage rate to offset the gained taxes from the property value updates) or announce a tax increase (even though the actual millage rate is not increasing). The Board is considering adopting a combined millage rate of 21.60, a rate unchanged from FY2021. The total millage will still generate more revenue for FY2022, requiring the announcement of a proposed property tax increase.

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for each student,  
resulting in measured  
improvement against  
local, national, and  
world-class standards.*

437 Old Peachtree Road, NW  
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[www.gwinnett.k12.ga.us](http://www.gwinnett.k12.ga.us)

It is the policy of Gwinnett County Public Schools  
not to discriminate on the basis of race, sex,  
religion, national origin, age, or disability in any  
employment practice, educational program,  
or any other program, activity, or service.

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However, taxpayers whose property values have not increased due to reassessment will see no increase in their school tax bill.

The total school millage rate is made up of two portions—the maintenance and operations (M&O) millage and the debt-service millage. Funds generated by the M&O millage pay for the day-to-day operations of the school system, including employee salaries, instructional materials, student transportation, and school utility costs. The debt-service millage is used to pay down the School Board’s long-term debt from bond referenda passed over the years to pay for school construction.

The M&O millage is recommended to remain at 19.70 mills and the debt-service rate is recommended to remain unchanged at 1.90. This will result in a total recommended millage rate of 21.60 mills.

Citizens may address the Gwinnett County Board of Education at any of the three public hearings. A sign-up sheet will be available at the hearings for those wishing to speak. There is no need to sign up in advance of the meeting date.

A copy of the budget is available for public review on the school system’s website [www.gcpsk12.org](http://www.gcpsk12.org) or through the school system’s Budget Department. For information, call 678-301-6200.