

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS PROPOSED TAX RATE

The Hitchcock Independent School District will hold a public meeting at 6:30 PM, September 28, 2026 in 7801 Neville Avenue, Bldg. B, Hitchcock, Texas 77563. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.

The school district has elected to adopt a tax rate before receiving the certified appraisal roll from the chief appraiser(s) of the appraisal district(s) and before adopting a budget. In accordance with Texas Tax Code, Section 26.05(g), the chief appraiser(s) of the appraisal district(s) in which the school district participates has (have) certified to the assessor for the school district an estimate of the taxable value of property in the school district as provided by the Texas Tax Code, Section 26.01(e). In accordance with the Texas Education Code, Section 44.004(j), following adoption of the tax rate, the school district will publish notice and hold another public meeting before the school district adopts a budget.

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

Maintenance Tax	\$0.663400/\$100 (proposed rate for maintenance and operations)
School Debt Service Tax	\$0.317300/\$100 (proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)
Approved by Local Voters	

Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value (as calculated under Section 26.04, Tax Code)

	<u>Preceding Tax Year</u>	<u>Current Tax Year*</u>
Total appraised value** of all property	\$2,321,988,285	\$2,318,012,752
Total appraised value** of new property***	\$34,002,123	\$71,307,680
Total taxable value**** of all property	\$1,480,047,998	\$1,450,045,098
Total taxable value**** of new property***	\$25,012,793	\$35,239,990

*All values identified are based on estimate(s) of taxable value received pursuant to Section 26.01(e), Tax Code.

**Appraised value is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Section 1.04(8), Tax Code.

*** "New property" is defined by Section 26.012(17), Tax Code.

**** "Taxable value" is defined by Section 1.04(10), Tax Code.

Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness* \$57,010,000

*Outstanding principal.

Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates

	<u>Maintenance & Operations</u>	<u>Interest & Sinking Fund*</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Local Revenue Per Student</u>	<u>State Revenue Per Student</u>
Last Year's Rate	\$0.717760	\$0.312330	\$1.030090	\$8,314	\$6,492
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$0.669100	\$0.317300	\$0.986400	\$6,359	\$5,477
Proposed Rate	\$0.663400	\$0.317300	\$0.980700	\$5,655	\$6,181

*The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both.

The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence

	<u>Last Year</u>	<u>This Year</u>
Average Market Value of Residences	\$275,745	\$276,640
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$53,131	\$62,709
Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100	\$1.030090	\$0.980700
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$547.30	\$614.99
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$67.69

Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in tax rate or property value.

Notice of Voter-Approval Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is \$0.980701. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the voter-approval rate of \$0.980701.

Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment.

Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$1,700,000
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$4,150,000

A school district may not increase the district's maintenance and operations tax rate to create a surplus in maintenance and operations tax revenue for the purpose of paying the district's debt service.

Visit [Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes](https://www.texas.gov/PropertyTaxes) to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.