

**KENT ISD SCHOOL BOARD**

**A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT  
THE YES READY BY FIVE EARLY CHILDHOOD MILLAGE RENEWAL PROPOSAL**

WHEREAS, the Ready by Five Early Childhood millage received bipartisan support and was overwhelmingly approved by Kent County voters in 2018 because voters recognized the importance of supporting new parents and ensuring young children have the resources they need to thrive; and

WHEREAS, Ready by Five funding complements state and federal resources, ensuring more young children and families are served by high-quality, effective programs; and

WHEREAS, over the last five years, thousands of young children from every ZIP code in Kent County have benefitted from these programs and services – more than 12,400 last year alone; and

WHEREAS, the Ready by Five reinvestment will help expand childcare access in the county where 14% of parents had to leave a job in the last six months due to child care issues according to a report issued by the Grand Rapids Chamber; and

WHEREAS, The Kent County Board of Commissioners approved placing the millage renewal of .25 mill on the August 6 ballot, generating \$7.7 million; and

WHEREAS, working together, we can make sure every Kent County child age five and younger continues to have access to community-based programs, such as in-home support, visiting nurses, developmental screenings for all children, early learning and programs that support parents; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kent ISD School Board supports the August 6, 2024 ballot proposal to renew The Ready by Five Early Childhood Millage in order to make sure children in Kent County age five and under are healthy and ready to learn by kindergarten.

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Andrea Haidle, School Board President  
Kent ISD