

PRESS RELEASE ANNOUNCING A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE

The Evans County Board of Education today announces its intention to increase the property taxes it will levy this year by .59% (less than 1%) over the rollback millage rate.

Each year, the board of tax assessors is required to review the assessed value for property tax purposes of taxable property in the county. When the trend of prices on properties that have recently sold in the county indicate there has been an increase or decrease in the fair market value of any specific property, the board of tax assessors is required by law to re-determine the value of such property and adjust the assessment. This is called a reassessment.

When the total digest of taxable property is prepared, Georgia law requires that a rollback millage rate must be computed that will produce the same total revenue on the current year's digest that last year's millage rate would have produced had no reassessments occurred.

The FY 2019 budget approved by the Evans County Board of Education requires a millage rate to be equivalent to 14.00 mills (O.C.G.A 20-2-165 (a)(9)(C)). If the Evans County Board of Education were to maintain a millage rate 14.00 mills, then the school system would see a decrease in local property tax revenues from the prior year of \$5,545.51. If the Board were to adopt the rollback rate of 13.918 mills, then the school system would lose state equalization funds of \$1,776,088.

Georgia law requires three public hearings to be held to allow the public an opportunity to express their opinions on the increase.

All concerned citizens are invited to the public hearings on this tax increase to be held at the Evans County Board of Education, Central Office, 613 West Main Street, Claxton, GA 30417 on Monday, September 23, 2019 at 11:00 am, on Monday, September 23, 2019 at 6:00 pm AND then again on Monday, October 7, 2019 at 5:30 pm.