



What is a Tax Ratification Election?

In order to raise the maintenance and operations (M&O) tax rate from \$1.04, the state cap, a school district must go to voters for approval. The election is called a Tax Ratification Election, or TRE, because it is an election to ratify the higher rate adopted by the Board of Trustees. A district that adopts a tax rate above its maximum M&O tax rate must hold a TRE for the voters to ratify the higher rate. If a majority of the votes are cast in favor of the proposition, the tax rate for the current year is adopted by the Board. If the proposition is not approved, then the Board may not adopt a tax rate for the current year that exceeds the maximum rate.

Why did McDade ISD call a TRE?

The School Board increased the tax rate to restore some of the funding lost due to cuts in state aid.

- A TRE will raise revenue to help McDade ISD move closer to the state average for revenue per student. MISD currently receives \$5,501 per student compared to \$10,456 average for districts across the state.
- McDade ISD Scored a B on the A-F State Rating System. This was a higher rating than any other District in Bastrop County. Funding is needed to maintain and improve that Recognized rating.
- Most immediately, these funds will allow the District to hire teachers and staff for growth, and provide a competitive salary schedule to attract and retain quality teachers. Starting teacher pay in MISD currently falls in the bottom quartile in the area, \$1,500 below the median.
- Without these funds, McDade ISD's ability to provide the current level of education and meet the needs of continued growth is greatly affected. The TRE would provide thousands of funds in additional budgets over the next three years.
- With authorization from voters, MISD will be in the best position possible to benefit from any potential future legislative action regarding school funding. Passing a TRE will maximize State and Federal dollars.

What will MISD do without this funding?

MISD has been in a cost-savings mode for years due to funding reductions from the State Legislature and will continue to look for ways to reduce spending and increase efficiency. Without the maximized funding from the State and Federal Government, McDade ISD would have to cut additional funds from the budget.

Our local student population is continuing to grow. Because schools are a people-intensive business, with 80-85 percent of the operating budget going toward payroll, there is no way to cut funding without affecting personnel and student achievement. As our enrollment rises, we will need to continue without the ability to hire more teachers or other staff. The inability to give raises or maintain competitive salary schedules significantly hinders the District's ability to hire and keep the best teachers. The ability to keep up with growth and to accommodate the growth and staffing our schools would also be impacted causing portables to be more prevalent.

Under the current school funding system increases in assessed property values do not help McDade ISD in the area of general operating revenue. The reasons for this is:

- Maintenance and operations revenue is subject to the state's funding formula, which determines how much funding school districts should receive based on enrollment and the various needs of the student population. The state calculates a total amount, subtracts the amount the school district is able to generate locally and then makes up the difference. As a result, when property values go up, the state's portion goes down. The District's operating budget does not benefit from new property development or rising property values. None of the increase in values is retained to hire more teachers, maintain and improve programs or increase campus support. The only way to add revenue is to add students, which also comes with more costs, or increase the tax rate.

Early Voting

Date	Time	Location
10/22/2018 - 10/31/2018	M-F 8:00-5:00 Sat 7:00-7:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Bastrop Courthouse Annex Bldg ◆ Smithville City Hall ◆ Cedar Creek United Methodist Church ◆ Elgin Public Library
11/1/2018 - 11/2/2018	Thurs & Fri 7:00-7:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Bastrop Courthouse Annex Bldg ◆ Smithville City Hall ◆ Cedar Creek United Methodist Church ◆ Elgin Public Library

Election Day Voting

Date	Time	Location
11/06/2018	Tuesday 7:00-7:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Faith Lutheran Church McDade 230 Waco St. McDade, TX 78650



Bastrop County Elections

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BASTROP COUNTY VOTING SCHEDULE for the 2018 GENERAL ELECTION

— EARLY VOTING LOCATIONS, DATES AND TIMES —

- ❖ **Bastrop Courthouse Annex Bldg.**, 804 Pecan St., Lower Level, Conference Room, Bastrop
- ❖ **Smithville City Hall**, 317 Main St., Smithville
- ❖ **Cedar Creek United Methodist Church**, 5630 FM 535, Cedar Creek
- ❖ **Elgin Public Library**, 404 N. Main St., Elgin

OCTOBER 22, 2018 – NOVEMBER 2, 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	22	23	24	25	26	27
	8am – 5pm	8am – 5pm	8am – 5pm	8am – 5pm	8am – 5pm	7am – 7pm
	29	30	31	1	2	
	8am – 5pm	8am – 5pm	8am – 5pm	7am – 7pm	7am – 7pm	

— ELECTION DAY POLLING LOCATIONS — TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2018

PLEASE NOTE THAT ON ELECTION DAY A VOTER MUST VOTE AT THE POLLING LOCATION ASSIGNED TO THEIR VOTING PRECINCT.

- 1001 **Bastrop County WCID#2 Bldg**, 106 Conference Dr., Bastrop
- 1002 **First Baptist Church**, 1201 Water St., Bastrop
- 1003 **First Baptist Church Newest Expansion** 915 Hwy 71 W., Bastrop ****NEW LOCATION****
- 1004 **Bastrop County Pct. 1 Road Barn**, 601 Cool Water Dr., Bastrop ****NEW LOCATION****
- 2005 **Smithville City Hall**, 317 Main St., Smithville
- 2006 **Lake Thunderbird Community Center**, 104 Thunderbird Dr., Smithville
- 2007 **Rosanky Community Center**, 135 Main St., Rosanky
- 2008 **Heart of the Pines VFD**, 109 Green Acres Loop, Smithville
- 2009 **Calvary Baptist Church**, 3001 Loop 150 E., Bastrop
- 2010 **Paige Community Center**, 107 S. Main St. (off Hwy 290), Paige
- 2011 **Bastrop Fire Department Station #3 (Circle D)**, 926 FM 1441, Bastrop
- 3012 **Hills Prairie Baptist Church**, 1338 Hwy 304, Bastrop
- 3013 **Red Rock Community Center**, 114 Red Rock Rd., Red Rock
- 3014 **Bluebonnet VFD #2**, 5554 FM 535, Cedar Creek
- 3015 **Cedar Creek United Methodist Church**, 5630 FM 535, Cedar Creek
- 3016 **Wyldwood Baptist Church**, 398 Union Chapel Rd., Cedar Creek
- 4017 **Elgin Public Library**, 404 N. Main St., Elgin
- 4018 **Elgin Public Library**, 404 N. Main St., Elgin
- 4019 **Family Worship Center**, 2425 FM 1704, Elgin
- 4020 **New Life Baptist Fellowship**, 175 Hwy 95 S., Elgin
- 4021 **Faith Lutheran Church**, 230 Waco St., McDade

