

RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, capital funding is adequate to meet the district's current needs, given the current and contemplated continuance of the ad valorem tax;

WHEREAS, the Monroe County School District had operation budget shortfalls for teachers' salary increases, insurance, teacher benefits and classroom materials prior to the enactment of the increase in ad valorem taxes in 2004;

WHEREAS, the state funding formula does not allow for the Monroe County public schools to have flexibility between operation funds and capital funds;

WHEREAS, the School Board continues to need sufficient revenues to maintain and improve its high quality schools;

WHEREAS, although, Florida law provides for an increase in ad valorem taxes for four (4) years for operating purposes pursuant to voter referendum; and the District does have the flexibility to reduce ad valorem taxes to an amount equal to the ad valorem tax increase for operating expenditures; thereby creating a tax neutral shift after a successful referendum under 1011.71(6), Florida Statute.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of Monroe County, Florida, in a public meeting duly called and assembled:

1. That pursuant to Section 1011.73(2), Florida Statutes, the Board of County Commissioners of Monroe County is hereby directed to call a special election for March 17th, 2020, for the qualified electors of Monroe County School District to vote on an ad valorem millage increase for operating expenses of the School District as authorized by Section 1011.71(9) Florida Statutes.

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2. The substance of the millage referendum and the ballot title shall read:

RENEW FLEXIBLE FUNDING FOR MONROE COUNTY SCHOOLS:

The District's objective is to continue to make available a portion of the existing capital ad valorem tax levy for operations – such as teachers, school nurses and classroom materials. The District intends to continue its reduced millage for capital projects, and continue to make available the equivalent amount for operations.

Shall the district continue to enact a yearly ad valorem tax of .5 mill, for four (4) years beginning July 1, 2020, for operating purposes?

_____ **YES**

_____ **NO**

PASSED AND DULY ADOPTED this 22nd day of October, 2019.

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MONROE
COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: _____
Robert Highsmith - Chairman

Attest: _____
Mark T. Porter - Superintendent

* January 31, 2012, is the tentative date set for the next Presidential Primary Election and is currently subject to change.