

LIBRARY MILLAGE RENEWAL IS ON THE NOVEMBER 3 BALLOT

**NOT
A NEW
TAX**

BCLS is asking for a **RENEWAL** at a **LOWER** rate!

BCLS libraries connect people, ideas, and information.

Our vital services include resources for parents, students, teachers and home schoolers, storytimes for your little ones, computers for online job searching, movies, music and ebooks for downloading, and traditional books to check out. With four buildings throughout the county, a bookmobile, a book bike, and a robust website that offers materials 24/7, [your award-winning library system](#) is here where--and when--you need us!

What will this renewal cost me?

The renewal is for six years at 1.75 mills (down from 2.0 mills), so you will be paying a lower rate. The cost for a home with \$80,000 taxable value will be only \$70 per year.

What happens if the library millage is not renewed?

The millage provides 86% of our operating revenue, with the rest coming from state aid, penal fines, and other sources, which are expected to decrease substantially. Approval means hours, programs, services, and buildings are maintained at current levels. If the millage is not renewed, devastating layoffs and building closures would happen in 2021.

What is the library doing during the pandemic?

Providing library service during the pandemic has allowed us to create new opportunities including expanding our electronic material collections, providing more access to streaming titles for movies and music, introducing online library card sign-up, producing virtual storytimes and crafts, and curating resources for home schoolers. Patrons are also able to get physical materials either in the buildings or through our curbside service.

How much are the libraries being used?

People use the library for education, entertainment, exploration, and lifelong learning. In 2019, the library held 1,962 programs attended by 64,893 patrons of all ages. We circulated 660,000 items, of which nearly 75,000 were e-books and other media. An average of 800+ people walked through our doors each day!

MICHIGAN VOTER REGISTRATION INFORMATION: Visit mvic.sos.state.mi.us

“You can register at any time up to 8 p.m. on Election Day at your city or township clerk’s office. If you’re registering another way, in order to vote in the November 3, 2020 election, your completed voter registration application must be received or postmarked by October 19, 2020.”