FIRST PUBLIC HEARING FOR TAX DIGEST
THURSDAY, JULY 13, 2023

The Cobb County Board of Education met for a Tax Digest Public Hearing on Thursday, July 13, 2023, at 11:30 a.m. with the following members present: Messrs. Banks, Chastain, Scamihorn, Wheeler, Ms. Sayler, Mr. Ragsdale, Executive Secretary, and Mrs. Wilcox, Interim Board Attorney. Ms. Davis and Mr. Hutchins were not present for the public hearing.

All official meetings of the Cobb County Board of Education conform to state law and are open to the public. The minutes of this meeting are available for public review anytime during the regular office hours or on our website: www.cobbk12.org

CALL TO ORDER
Mr. Wheeler, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m.

TAX DIGEST PRESENTATION
Chief Financial Officer Mr. Bradley Reuben Johnson presented the following summary of the required three tax digest hearings.

Today’s Tax Digest Hearing is a special hearing required by the state of Georgia. Each year property values are assessed by the Cobb County Tax Assessor, and the school district sets a millage rate that generates local revenue based on property value. The FY2024 Budget was approved by the Board on May 18, 2023 and included a reduction of the millage rate from 18.9 Mills to 18.7 Mills.

It is important to note that a separate entity (Cobb County Tax Assessor) assesses property values annually in Cobb County. If the Tax Assessor lowers the value of a Cobb Citizen’s home, the district’s millage rate will be applied to the lower value and that property owner will pay less property tax. If the Tax Assessor increases the value of a Cobb Citizen’s home, the district’s millage rate will be applied to the higher property value and that property owner will pay more property tax.

Georgia Law currently contains a provision which was originally called the GA Taxpayers Bill of Rights, which states that in a year when the property value digest increases, school districts must hold three public hearings for citizen input due to the fact that even if the district’s millage rate remains the same, the school district will receive additional property tax revenue because of the increased property values assessed by the Cobb County Tax Assessor.
The district is scheduled to conduct three (3) public hearings on this matter. The public hearing schedule is as follows:

- Hearing #1 – Thursday, July 13, 2023, at 11:30 a.m.
- Hearing #2 – Thursday, July 13, 2023, at 6:05 p.m.
- Hearing #3 – Thursday, July 20, 2023, at 6:30 p.m.

The district is scheduled to establish the General Fund Millage Rate on Thursday, July 20, 2023, during the 7:00 p.m. Voting Session of the Board Meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Scamihorn, seconded by Mr. Chastain, to extend the 2-minute public speaking time limit to 3 minutes per speaker. Motion passed 5-0. Ms. Davis and Mr. Hutchins were not present for the vote.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**
There were three (3) public commenters.

**ADJOURN** – Without objection, the hearing adjourned at 11:42 a.m.

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CHAIRMAN  EXECUTIVE SECRETARY