

**AN ORDER OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE COUNTY OF GRANT
DIRECTING AN ELECTION TO BE HELD TO AUTHORIZE ADDITIONAL TAX LEVIES
FOR THE FISCAL YEARS BEGINNING JULY 1, 2025, JULY 1, 2026, JULY 1,
2027, JULY 1, 2028, AND JULY 1, 2029**

BE IT ORDERED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE COUNTY OF GRANT:

After full consideration, The Board of Education of the County of Grant, being of the opinion that the maximum levies for current expenses authorized by Article 8, Chapter 11, of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, will not provide sufficient funds for the payment of the general current expenses of schools in Grant County, including expenditures for the purposes hereinafter stated, during the fiscal years beginning July 1, 2025; July 1, 2026; July 1, 2027; July 1, 2028; and July 1, 2029, and has ascertained that the amounts hereinafter shown in excess of the amounts raised by regular levies will be needed by The Board of Education of Grant during each of said five (5) fiscal years, and that an election should be held to increase such levies, in conformity with the law, hereby **ORDERS** and **DECLARES**:

1. That the purposes for which funds are needed are to maintain and improve the instructional programs and the operation of school services in Grant County including, but not limited to:

- a. **General Maintenance, Improvements, and Equipment:** Including, but not limited to, UEC track addition (\$100,000 total, \$20,000 annually), PHS track replacement (\$650,000 total, \$130,000 annually), classroom furniture replacement (\$500,000 total, \$100,000 annually), UEC stage replacement (\$80,000 total, \$16,000 annually), extra-curricular complex at PHS (\$400,000 total, \$80,000 annually), PES gym floor replacement (\$180,000 total, \$36,000 annually), upgrade PHS football field lighting (\$350,000 total, \$70,000 annually), classroom addition at MES (\$350,000 total, \$70,000 annually), and other related expenses.

APPROXIMATE ANNUAL AMOUNT OF: \$522,000

- b. **Safety and Security:** Including, but not limited to, aides on ALL school buses (\$700,000 total, \$140,000 annually), School Resources Officers (4) with benefits (\$1,325,000 total, \$265,000 annually), interior security gates for PHS and UEC (\$30,000 total, \$6,000 annually), metal/vape detectors at PHS and UEC (\$120,000 total, \$24,000 annually), Safe School entrance at PHS (\$2,500,000 total, \$500,000 annually), and other related expenses.

APPROXIMATE ANNUAL AMOUNT OF: \$935,000

- c. **Curriculum and Instruction:** Provide funding to include, but not limited to, additional curriculum and instructionally related items for summer school (\$500,000 total, \$100,000 annually), STEAM (science labs) (\$75,000 total, \$15,000 annually); materials and supplies for South Branch Career & Technical Center (\$20,000.00 total, \$4,000 annually); band and music (\$75,000 total, \$15,000 annually); technology upgrades (\$200,000 total, \$40,000 annually), and other related expenses.

APPROXIMATE ANNUAL AMOUNT OF: \$174,000

- d. **Civic and Community Organizations:** Including, but not limited to, community

libraries in Petersburg and Mount Storm (\$50,000 total, \$10,000 annually), and 4-H (\$25,000 total, \$5,000 annually), and other related expenses.

APPROXIMATE ANNUAL AMOUNT OF: \$15,000

- e. **Athletic Passes:** All Grant County residents will have free admission to *ALL* Grant County Schools Athletic Contests (\$537,500 total, \$107,500 annually).

APPROXIMATE ANNUAL AMOUNT OF: \$107,500

- f. **Class Size Reduction:** Allow funding for up to two (2) professional educators and two (2) service educators with benefits to combat overages at county schools (\$1,170,000 total, \$234,000 annually), and other related expenses.

APPROXIMATE ANNUAL AMOUNT OF: \$234,000

2. The approximate amount considered necessary for said purposes in said five (5) fiscal years is the sum of \$1,987,500 annually.
3. The total amount necessary to carry out the above purposes over five (5) fiscal years, after making reasonable allowances for uncollected taxes and shrinkage, is approximately \$9,937,500, or the sum of \$1,987,500 annually. The actual amounts budgeted, as well as the amounts spent, for each purpose and in aggregate, likely will vary from one fiscal year to the next depending on the realized tax collections and the needs of the Grant County School District, as determined by the Board with respect to each fiscal year. If the amounts budgeted by the Board for a specific purpose or purposes for a fiscal year are not able to be spent entirely in such fiscal year, then the unspent amount shall be carried over and spent on such specific purpose or purposes in subsequent fiscal years.
4. That the separate and aggregate assessed valuation of each class of taxable property within its jurisdiction is as follows:

Class I	\$ 0.00
Class II	\$ 293,177,126
Class III	\$ 846,870,029
Class IV	\$ 53,398,713
Aggregate	\$1,193,445,868

5. That the proposed maximum rate of levy in cents on each class of property per \$100.00 valuation within the Grant County School district shall be as follows:

Class I	4.95 cents
Class II	9.9 cents
Class III	19.8 cents
Class IV	19.8 cents

6. That the years to which the proposed levy shall apply are the fiscal years beginning July 1, 2025, July 1, 2026, July 1, 2027, July 1, 2028, and July 1, 2029.
7. That no issuance of bonds is proposed in connection with this levy.

8. That the Board of Education of the County of Grant is hereby authorized and empowered to expend, during the term of this levy, the surplus, if any, accruing in excess of the amounts needed for any of the above stated purposes, plus excess collections due to increased assessed valuations to enrich, supplement, and improve the educational services and/or facilities in the public schools of the County of Grant. In the event that the amount collected is less than the amounts noted for the aforementioned purposes, the Board of Education expenditures may be reduced in any particular category or categories, as may be required.
9. In the event the Board of Education of the County of Grant shall obtain additional money, by grant or otherwise, from the state or federal government or from any agency of either, or from any other source, for the purposes aforesaid, such additional money may be used either in substitution for, or in addition to, the sums obtained from such additional levies as said Board of Education of the County of Grant may from time to time determine.
10. That should any item in the aforementioned purposes be declared unconstitutional or invalid due to judicial or legislative action, or for any other reason, affected funds will be distributed among remaining unaffected items.
11. That the Board of Education of the County of Grant may, if the Board deems it to be in its best interests, reduce these said rates in any given year or years during the term of this levy after determining the sufficiency of funds for school purposes for the next ensuing taxable year.
12. That the question of such tax levies shall be submitted to a vote at an election to be held on May 14, 2024.
13. That notice calling such election shall be given by the publication of this Order once each week for two successive weeks before said election in two newspapers of opposite politics and of general circulation in the Grant County School District. All the provisions of the laws concerning general elections shall apply as far as they are practicable, with the exception of the provisions contained in Section 17, Article 8, Chapter 11 of the West Virginia Code, as last amended.
14. That the registration of voters, and use of registration books shall be governed by the permanent registration laws of the State of West Virginia; and the Board of Education of the County of Grant does hereby adopt the registrations lists of and for said Grant County, as amended and corrected, according to law, as the official registration lists of said Grant County School District for such Primary Election.
15. The Secretary of the Board is hereby authorized, and directed to attend to the publication of this Order as herein set forth, and do any and all things necessary to present the questions proposed by this Order to the voters in the Grant County School District at said Primary Election.
16. That the ballot to be used at such election shall be in form as follows:

OFFICIAL LEVY BALLOT FOR ADDITIONAL SCHOOL LEVY
BOARD OF EDUCATION
GRANT COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA
LEVY ELECTION
TUESDAY, MAY 14, 2024

Special election to authorize additional levies for the fiscal years beginning July 1, 2025, July 1, 2026, July 1, 2027, July 1, 2028, and July 1, 2029, and for the purposes of maintaining and improving the instructional programs and the operation of school services in Grant County, according to the Order of the Board of Education of the County of Grant entered on the 27th day of February 2024, including, but not limited to:

- a. **General Maintenance, improvements, and Equipment:** Including, but not limited to, UEC track addition, PHS track replacement, UEC stage replacement, extra-curricular complex at PHS, PES gym floor replacement, upgrade PHS football field lighting, classroom addition at MES, and other related expenses.
APPROXIMATE ANNUAL AMOUNT OF: \$522,000
- b. **Safety and Security:** Including, but not limited to, aides on ALL school buses, School Resources Officers (4) with benefits, interior security gates for PHS and UEC, metal/vape detectors at PHS and UEC, Safe School entrance at PHS, and other related expenses..
APPROXIMATE ANNUAL AMOUNT OF: \$935,000
- c. **Curriculum and Instruction:** Provide funding to include, but not limited to, additional curriculum and instructionally related items for STEAM (science labs); materials and supplies for South Branch Career & Technical Center; band and music; technology upgrades, and other related expenses.
APPROXIMATE ANNUAL AMOUNT OF: \$174,000
- d. **Civic and Community Organizations:** Including, but not limited to, community libraries in Petersburg and Mount Storm, and 4-H, and other related expenses.
APPROXIMATE ANNUAL AMOUNT OF: \$15,000
- e. **Athletic Passes:** All Grant County residents will have free admission to **ALL** Grant County Schools Athletic Contests, and other related expenses.
APPROXIMATE ANNUAL AMOUNT OF: \$107,500
- f. **Class Size Reduction:** Allow funding for up to two (2) professional educators and two (2) service educators with benefits to combat overages at county schools, and other related expenses.
APPROXIMATE ANNUAL AMOUNT OF: \$234,000

TOTAL APPROXIMATE NET ANNUAL AMOUNT NEEDED AFTER DUE ALLOWANCES FOR DELINQUENT TAXES, DISCOUNTS, AND EXONERATIONS: \$1,987,500

Should any item in the aforementioned purposes be declared unconstitutional or invalid due to judicial or legislative action, affected funds will be distributed among remaining unaffected items.

The Board of Education of the County of Grant may, if the Board deems it to be in its best interests, reduce these said rates in any given year or years during the term of this levy after determining the sufficiency of funds for school purposes for the next ensuing taxable year. The Board of Education of the County of Grant is hereby authorized and empowered to expend, during the term of this levy, the surplus, if any, accruing in excess of the amounts needed for any of the above stated purposes, plus excess collections due to increased assessed valuations to enrich, supplement, and improve the educational services and/or facilities in the public schools of the County of Grant. In the event that the amount collected is less than the amounts noted for the aforementioned purposes, the Board of Education expenditures may be reduced in any particular category or categories, as may be required.

In the event the Board of Education of the County of Grant shall obtain additional money, by grant or otherwise, from the state or federal government or from any agency of either, or from any other source, for the purposes aforesaid, such additional money may be used either in substitution for, or in addition to, the sums obtained from such additional levies as said Board of Education of the County of Grant may from time to time determine.

The approval on February 27, 2024, of an additional levy for each \$100.00 assessed valuation of property shall be 4.95 cents on Class I property; 9.9 cents on Class II property; 19.8 cents on Class III property; and 19.8 cents on Class IV property.

☐

FOR THE LEVY

☐

AGAINST THE LEVY

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS: Place (X) in the square before "FOR THE LEVY", those against such levy place (X) in the square before "AGAINST THE LEVY".
