

Voter Approval Tax Rate Election

Groveton Independent School District



Town Hall Meeting Format

- **Brief Presentation** The superintendent will present information pertaining to the proposed VATRE.
- **Question and Answer** Attendees are asked to raise their hand indicating that they would like to ask a question about the VATRE.
- Audience Participation Attendees are asked to raise their hand to indicate that they would like to voice an opinion about the proposed VATRE.

Voter Approval Tax Rate Election



What is a VATRE?

- OA VATRE is a special election that allows school districts to seek voter approval to increase their Maintenance and Operations tax rate above the statement mandated threshold.
- OUnder Texas law, if a school district wants to set it's M&O tax rate above a certain amount, it must obtain approval from the voters in the form of a VATRE.

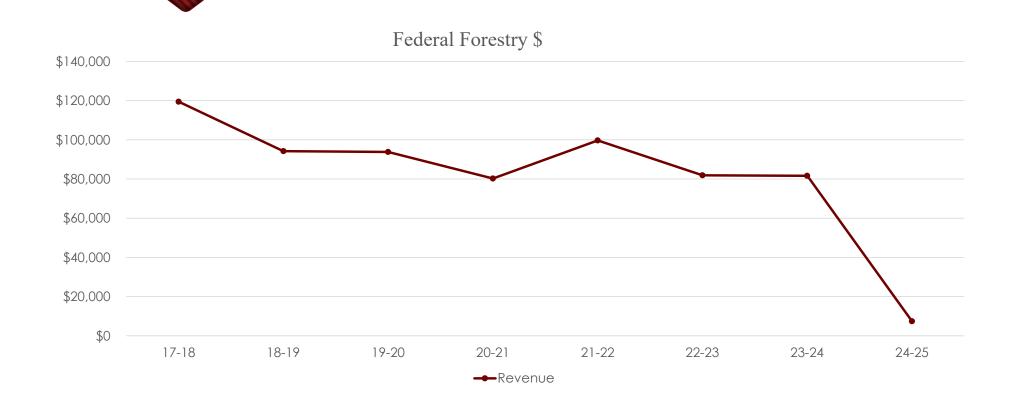
Why Now?



- ODecline in State and Federal Revenue
- ODecrease in Total Enrollment (ADA)
- ORising Costs / Economic Status
- OAccess Additional State Funding



Example of a Reduced Revenue Source



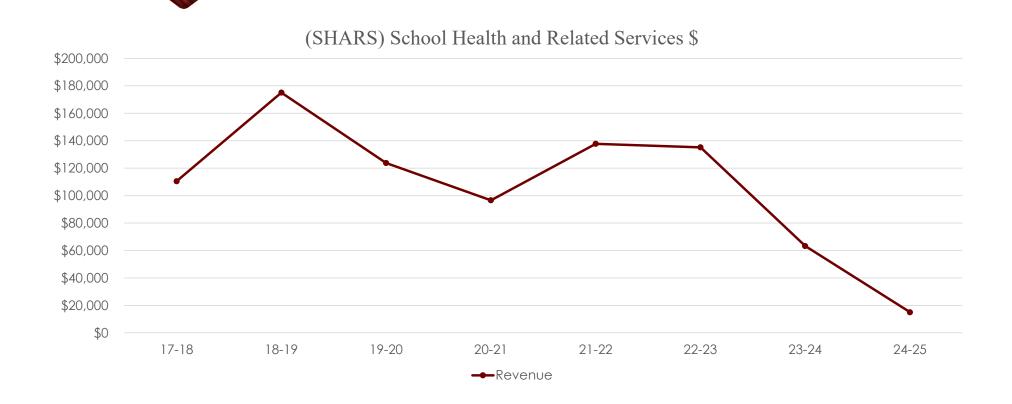


Federal Forestry Funds

"The Secure Rural Schools (SRS) and Community Self-Determination Act is in danger of expiring, leaving thousands of <u>rural schools with national forest land in their borders at</u> <u>risk of underfunding</u> at the same time a host of other factors like declining enrollment and declining state revenues chip away at school budgets."



Example of a Reduced Revenue Source





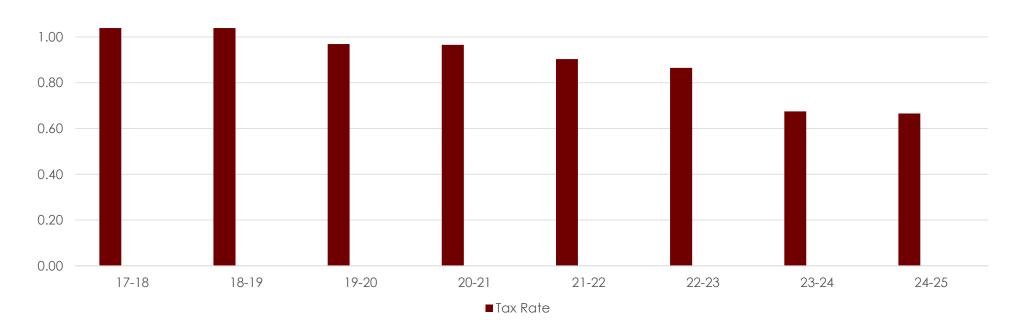
School Health & Related Services Funds

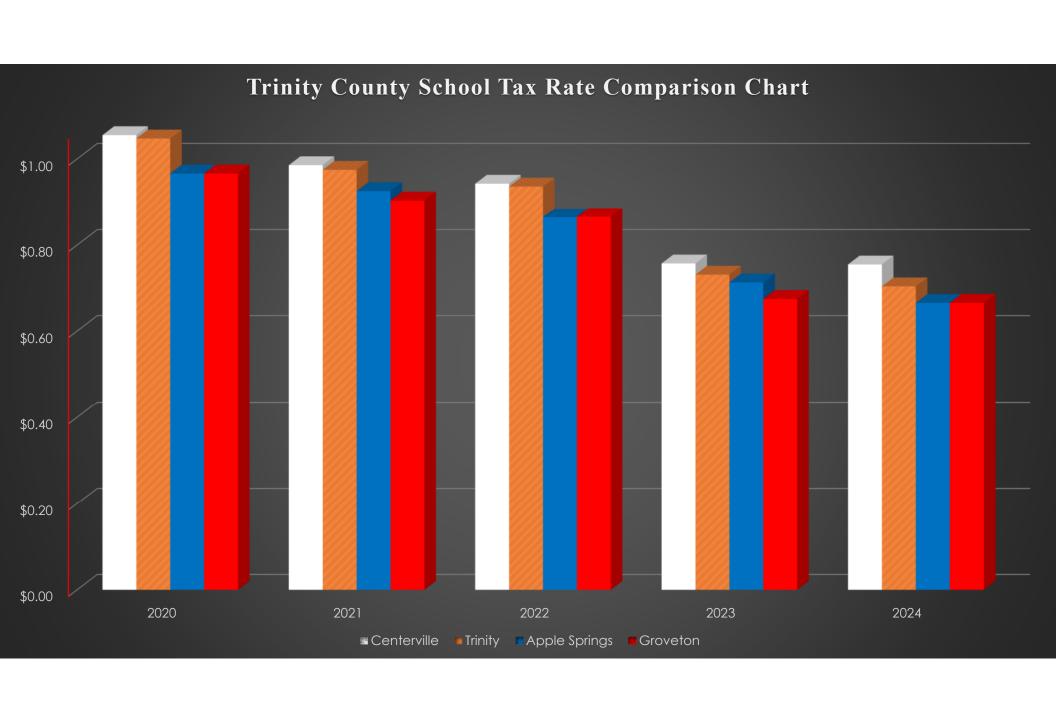
"SHARS funding is significantly declining for Texas schools, with the state having slashed over \$600 million in expected reimbursements due to strict new limitations on billable services imposed by the <u>Texas</u> <u>Health and Human Services Commission</u> (HHSC) following federal audits of billing practices. These cuts are expected to strain school budgets and services, potentially affecting students with disabilities who rely on these funds for therapies, nursing, and counseling."



GISD Historical Tax Rate

GISD Adopted Tax Rate







Declining Enrollment

Yearly Enrollment	August	September	October	November	December	January	Feburary	March	April	May	Average	Refined ADA
2021-2022	763	749	741	743	746	745	754	754	747	740	748	679
2022-2023	773	773	764	762	766	766	764	766	777	781	769	709
2023-2024	780	770	768	769	768	760	762	754	755	756	764	701
2024-2025	759	760	753	758	754	760	764	771	770	769	762	683
2025-2026	738	738									738	?





School Cost of Inflation 2019 to 2024



Fuel 35%



General Insurance Policies 128%



Health Insurance 31%



Food Service 25%



General Construction 26%



Access Additional State Funding

If the voters approve the November VATRE, Local Tax Payers will contribute an additional \$549,026 which will in turn increase additional State Funding totaling \$415,009. Combined collections will provide GISD with \$954,035 in annual revenue.





How is this going to affect me?

- OProperty Values
- OAge (65 or Older?)
- **O**Exemptions
- ONew Homestead Exemption 100K to 140K



How is this going to affect me?

Various real estate sources show the average property value in the Groveton ISD area to be \$200,000.

2025-2026 TAXES DUE

TAXABLE HOME VALUE	WITHOUT VATRE	WITH VATRE	MONTHLY INCREASE
\$150,000	\$993	\$1,173	\$15
\$200,000	\$1,324	\$1,564	\$20
\$250,000	\$1,655	\$1,955	\$25
\$300,000	\$1,986	\$2,346	\$30
\$350,000	\$2,317	\$2,737	\$35
\$400,000	\$2,648	\$3,128	\$40
\$450,000	\$2,979	\$3,519	\$45
\$500,000	\$3,310	\$3,910	\$50
\$350,000 \$400,000 \$450,000	\$2,317 \$2,648 \$2,979	\$2,737 \$3,128 \$3,519	\$35 \$40 \$45

In Texas, a Voter-Approval Tax Rate Election (VATRE) does not increase school district property taxes for homeowners aged 65 and older who have an approved over-65 homestead exemption. Your school district property tax rate is frozen at the amount from the year you qualified for the exemption.







New Homestead Exemption?

STATE OF TEXAS PROPOSITION 13

Proposition 13 is a proposed constitutional amendment that increases the homestead exemption for Texas homeowners. The homestead exemption is the portion of your home's value that is not subject to school property taxes. By raising this exemption, the state is reducing the taxable value of your home, which lowers your school tax bill.



What is the bottom line?

If the VATRE is approved the tax rate will be set at \$0.7819.

IF the VATRE in not approved the tax rate will be set at \$0.6619.



Voting Times and Locations

ATTENTION: Groveton ISD has voters in Trinity County and Houston County. Before you vote make sure you are going to the appropriate location before you go!



Trinity County Residents

Early Voting Schedule For Trinity County

Early voting begins Monday, October 20, 2025, and ends Friday, October 31, 2025.

Early voting will take place at the Groveton ISD Administration Building at 207 North Main St, Groveton, TX 75845

Monday Oct. 20 - Friday Oct. 24 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM Monday Oct. 27 - Wednesday Oct. 29 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Thursday Oct. 30 - Friday Oct. 31 7:00 AM - 7:00 PM



Houston County Residents

Early Voting Schedule For Houston County

Early voting begins Monday, October 20, 2025, and ends Friday, October 31, 2025.

Early voting will take place at the Houston County Senior Citizens Center at 716 West Wells, Crockett, TX 75835

Monday Oct. 20 - Friday Oct. 24 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM

Monday Oct. 27 - Wednesday Oct. 29 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM

Thursday Oct. 30 - Friday Oct. 31 7:00 AM - 7:00 PM



Trinity County Residents

Election Day for each county is November 4, 2025.

The Polling location will be at the Groveton ISD Administration Building at 207 North Main St, Groveton, TX 75845.

The polling location will be open from 7:00 AM - 7:00 PM.

Precinct(s)

1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 12, & 16

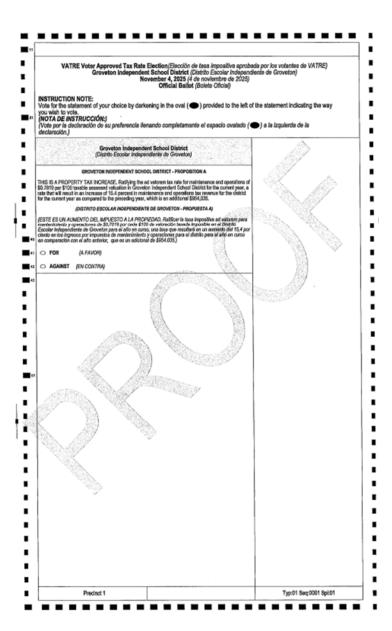
Polling Location

Groveton ISD Administration Building 207 North Main St, Groveton, Texas 75845



Houston County Residents

Precinct(s)	All polling locations will be open from 7:00 AM - 7:00 PM. Polling Locations
3	Crockett ISD Administration Building-Cafetorium
	1400 W. Austin, Crockett, Texas 75835
11	Houston County Senior Citizen Center
	716 W. Wells, Crockett, Texas 75835
18	Lovelady Community Center 2
	124 E. Cox, Lovelady, Texas 75851
19	First Baptist Church Kennard
	300Carson Street, Kennard, Texas 75847





WHAT CAN I EXPECT TO SEE ON THE BALLOT?



Houston County

November 4, 2025, Joint Special Election (4 de Noviembre de 2025, Elección Especial Jonjunta) Houston County, Texas (Condado de Houston, Texas) Official Ballot (Boleta Oficial) INSTRUCTION NOTE: Vote for the statement of your choice in each race by darkening in the oval () provided to the left of the statement ote por la declaración de su preferencia en cada carrera llenando completamente el espacio ovalado () a la izquierda de la declaración.) STATE OF TEXAS PROPOSITION 7 Constitutional Amendment Election (Elección sobre Enmiendas a la Constitución) "The constitutional amendment to dedicate a portion of the revenue derived from state sales and use taxos to the Texas water fund and to provide for the allocation and use of that visiature to provide for an exemption from adsegistative to provide for an extendition included value of the residence homestead of the surviving spouse of a veteran who died as a STATE OF TEXAS PROPOSITION 1 "The constitutional amendment providing for the creation of the permanent technical institution esult of a condition or disease that is presumed (PROPUESTA NÚMERO 4 DEL ESTADO DE inder federal law to have been infrastructure fund and the available workforce education fund to support the capital needs of educational programs offered by the Texas State Technical College System." (PROPUESTA NÚMERO 7 DEL ESTADO DE TEXAS) fondo de aqua de Texas parte de los ingresos derivados de los impuestos estatales sobre las ventas y sobre el uso, así como para estipular (PROPUESTA NÚMERO 1 DEL ESTADO DE V a enmienda constitucional que autoriza a la TEXAS) legislatura a establiscer una exención de impuestos ad valorem de la totalidad o parte del la asignación y el uso de esos ingresos".) valor de mercado de la residencia familiar del creación del fondo permanente de conyuge sobreviviente de un veterano fallecido (A Favor) compuge aperevivance de un veierario haveco como resultado de una condición o enfermod que se presupcine, según la ley faderal, haber estado relacionadas con el servicio".) infraestructura de instituciones técnicas y el fondo de educación de la fuerza laboral disponible para apoyar las necesidades de capital de los programas educativos ofrecidos por el Sistema de Universidades Técnicas del Against (En Contra) STATE OF TEXAS PROPOSITION 5 Estado de Texas".) "The constitutional amendment authorizing the Against (En Contra) legislature to exempt from ad valorem taxation STATE OF TEXAS PROPOSITION 8 O For (A Finyor) Against /En Contra) lecistature from imposing death taxes applicable (PROPUESTA NÚMERO 5 DEL ESTADO DE to a decedent's property or the transfer of an estate, inheritance, legacy, succession, or gift." STATE OF TEXAS PROPOSITION 2 nda constitucional que autoriza a la The constitutional amendment prohibiting the imposition of a tax on the realized or unrealized (PROPUESTA NÚMERO 8 DEL ESTADO DE TEXAS) legislatura a eximir de impuestos ad valurem los bienes inxiebles fangibles consistentes en alimento para animalas en poder del propietario del bien para su venta al por menor".) pital gains of an individual, family, estate, or a enmienda constitucional para prohibir que ("La entrienca constitución para proteix du la legislatura imponga impuestos sucesorios apócacles a la propiedad de un diflunto o a la transferencia de un patrimonio, herencia, legado, sucesión o donación".) (PROPUESTA NÚMERO 2 DEL ESTADO DE (A Favor) ("La enmienda constitucional que prohibe la ossición de un impuesto sobre las ganancias capital realizadas o no realizadas de un lividuo, familia, patrimonio o fideicomiso".) Against (En Contral) STATE OF TEXAS PROPOSITION 6 The constitutional amondment prohibiting the STATE OF TEXAS PROPOSITION 9 legislature from enacting a law imposing an occupation tax on certain entities that enter into The conditational amendment to authorize the transactions conveying securities or imposing a tax on certain securities transactions.* legislature to exempt from ad valorem taxation a portion of the market value of tangible ersonal property a person owns that is held or STATE OF TEXAS PROPOSITION 3 (PROPUESTA NÚMERO 6 DEL ESTADO DE used for the production of income." The constitutional amendment requiring the TEXASI denial of bail under certain circumstances to persons accused of certain offenses punishable (PROPUESTA NÚMERO 9 DEL ESTADO DE PT a annianda constitucional que protifee a la (La entmenda constitucional que promitiva a la legislatura promulgar una fey que Imponga un impuesto ocupacional a determinadas entidades que realicen transacciones de (PROPUESTA NÚMERO 3 DEL ESTADO DE legislatura a eximir de impuestos ad valorem una parte del valor de mercado de los bienes muebles tangibles que posea una persona y que se mantengan o utilicen para la producción TEXAS) transmisión de valores o que imponga un mpuesto a determinadas fransacciones de ("La enmienda constitucional que exige la denegación de la libertad bajo fianza en de ingresos". terminadas circunstancias a las personas sadas de ciertos delitos sancionables como (A Favor) ielito grave*) Against (En Contral) O Against (En Contra) (A Favor) O Against (En Control) Vote Both Sides (Vote ambos lados) Typ:01 Seq:0004 Spl:01 **GROVETON ISD** Houston County

STATE OF TEXAS PROPOSITION 10	STATE OF TEXAS PROPOSITION 13	STATE OF TEXAS PROPOSITION IT
The constitutional amendment to authorities the opidature to provide for a temporary exemption may always the support of the proposed value to the provided of the provided value had a completely destroyed by a fire. (PROPUESTA NUMERO 10 DEL ESTADO DE TEXAS) "La entmienda constitucional para autorizar a la	The constitutional amendment to increase the amount of the sumption of revisional moment of the summitton of revisional control to the summer of the summer	"The constitutional amendment to authorize the legislature to provide for an exemption from and valorem travaler or 6 the amencunt of the market value of real property located in an ecutify that borders the United Mexican States that a rises time the installation or construction on the property of border security intrastructure and related improvements." (PROPUESTA NÜMERO 17 DEL ESTADO
egislatura a prever una exención temporal de impuestos ad valorem del valor taxado de una mejora a una residencia familiar que haya sido completamente destruida per un incendio".]	de las residencias familiares por un distrito escolar de \$100,000 a \$140,000".) © Fer (A Fevor)	DE TEXAS) ("La enmienda constitucional para autorizar a l legistatura a establecer una extención de impuestos ad valoren del monto del valor de mencado de los bienes immuebles ubicados en
○ For (A Favor)	Against (En Contra)	un condado fronterizo con los Estados Unidos Mexicanos que surja de la instalación o
Against (En Contra)	STATE OF TEXAS PROPOSITION 14	construcción en la propiedad de infraestructur de seguridad fronteriza y mejoras
STATE OF TEXAS PROPOSITION 11 The constitutional amendment authorizing the egislature to increase the amount of the	"The constitutional amendment providing for the establishment of the Dementia Provention and Research Institute of Texas, establishing the Dementia Prevention and Research Fund to	relacionadas*) For (A Favor)
exemption from ad valorem taxation by a school district of the market value of the residence homestead of a person who is elderly or disabled."	provide money for research on and prevention and treatment of dementia, Abheimen's disease, Parkinson's disease, and related disorders in this state, and transferring to that fund \$3 billion from state ceneral revenue."	Groveton Independent School District
(PROPUESTA NÚMERO 11 DEL ESTADO DE TEXAS) ("La enmienda constitucional que autoriza a la	(PROPUESTA NÚMERO 14 DEL ESTADO DE TEXAS)	(Distrito Escolar Independiente de Groveton) Proposition A
La eliminaria communicación de la esemble de impuestos ad valorem por un distrito escolar del valor de mencado de la residencia famillar de una persona de edad avanzada o únicapacitada".)	CLa ecmienda constitucional que prevé la creación del hatilituto de Prevención e Investigación de la Demencia de Texas, establaciendo el Fondo de Prevención e Investigación de la Demencia para destinar dinero para la investigación, prevención y batamiento de la demencia, la enfermedad de	"THIS IS A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE" Ratifying the ed valorem tax rate for maintenance and operations of \$0.7819 per \$100 taxable assessed valuation in Groveton Independent School District for the current year arate that will result in an increase of 15.4
For (A Favor) Against (En Control	Alzheimer, la enformedad de Parkinson y trastornos relacionados en este estado, y transfiriendo a dicho fondo \$3 mil miliones de los ingresos generales del estado".)	percent in maintenance and operations tax revenue for the district for the current year as compared to the preceding year, which is an additional \$954,035."
STATE OF TEXAS PROPOSITION 12	O For (A Favor)	(Propuesta A "ESTE ES UN AUMENTO DEL IMPUESTO A L
The constitutional amendment regarding the	Against (En Contra)	PROPIEDAD") ("Ratificar la tasa impositiva ad valorem para
membership of the State Commission on Judicial Conduct, the membership of the tribunal to review the commission's	STATE OF TEXAS PROPOSITION 15	manterimiento y operaciones de \$0,7819 por cada \$100 de valoración tasada imponible en
recommendations, and the authority of the commission, the tribunal, and the Texas Supreme Court to more effectively sanction judges and justices for judicial misconduct."	"The constitutional amendment affirming that parents are the primary decision makers for their children."	Distrito Escolar Independiente de Groveton para el año en curso, una tasa que resultará- un aumento del 15.4 por ciento en los ingreso por impuestos de mantenimiento y operacion para el distrito para el año en curso en
(PROPUESTA NÚMERO 12 DEL ESTADO DE TEXAS)	(PROPUESTA NÚMERO 15 DEL ESTADO DE TEXAS)	comparación con el año anterior, que es un adicional de \$954 035. ")
("Le enmienda constitucional relativa a la composición de la Comisión Estatal de Conducta Judicial, la composición del Inbunal para revisar las recomendaciones do la	("La enmienda constitucional que afirma que los padres son los principales responsables de la toma de decisiones para sus frijos".)	For (A Favor) Against (Sn Contra)
comisión, y la autoridad de la comisión, el tribunal y la Corte Suprema de Texas para	○ For (A Favor)	
sancionar más eficazmente a los jueces y magistrados por mala conducta judicial".)	○ Against (En Contra)	
O For (A Favor)	STATE OF TEXAS PROPOSITION 16	
Against (En Cordra)	"The constitutional amendment clarifying that a voter must be a United States citizen."	
	(PROPUESTA NÚMERO 16 DEL ESTADO DE TEXAS)	
	("La enmignda constitucional que aclara que un votante debe ser ciudadano de los Estados Unidos".)	
	○ For (A Favor)	
	O Against (En Contra)	Vote Both Sides (Vote ambos lados)
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Additional Information

- Please visit our website and access the VATRE button on the homepage or visit www.grovetonisd.net/vatre (Polling Locations, Dates, & Times)
- Brief explanation of the VATRE and why GISD called for the election
- VATRE Brochure
- Official Order of Election (Polling Locations, Dates, & Times)
- Trinity County Sample Ballot
- Houston County Sample Ballot
- Two informative VATRE videos



Additional Information

Elections Administrators

• Trinity County – Priscilla Rasbeary
(936)-642-3959

priscilla.rasbeary@co.trinity.tx.us

• Houston County – Cindy Lum
(936)-544-3255 ext 243
clum@co.houston.tx.us



Additional Information

Jim Dillard (936)-642-1473 ext 8001 jim dillard@grovetonisd.net



- OPlease raise your hand to indicate that you would like to ask a question.
- OPlease state your name and question.
- OIf your question is for a specific individual, please indicate who the question is for.



Audience Participation

- OPlease raise your hand to indicate that you would like to make a public comment about the VATRE.
- OPlease keep your comments to 3 minutes or less to provide ample time for others in attendance to do the same.

EARLY VOTING

October 20-31, 2025

ELECTION DAY

November 4, 2025

THANK YOU!