

**Our Mission**

*Catoosa County Public Schools is a student-focused learning community, where excellence is expected from staff and students, every day, without exception.*

**Our Vision**

*Catoosa County Public Schools will prepare every child to reach their full potential so they graduate prepared to be good citizens and leaders of the future.*

**September Board Meeting**

Volume 7, Issue 1
September 2, 2015

**A Message from the Board of Education**

We would like to take the opportunity to thank each of you for a great back-to-school experience for our students. We appreciate your dedication and commitment to the children of Catoosa County. It is an honor for us to serve on this Board of Education because you have given Catoosa County Public Schools a reputation for excellence.

**Information Reports**

ESPLOST IV Update - Maintaining the Communities Investment in Facilities: Mr. Suits shared photos of the new VCT flooring and paint at LFO High School and Battlefield Elementary School.

Community Engagement Meeting - October 1, 2015: The Board of Education is hosting a *Community Engagement* meeting at 6:00 p.m. at the Colonnade to listen to community priorities for ESPLOST V. ESPLOST V will be presented on the ballot on March 1, 2016.

In 2013, on the strategic plan stakeholder surveys, our community identified five financial priorities. We need ESPLOST V to accomplish three of these priorities:

- ★ Maintaining up-to-date technology: *Let's Get CONNECTed!* with digital classroom platforms and an iPad or Chromebook for every student.
- ★ Maintaining clean, up-to-date, and secure buildings: Security & Surveillance equipment, Sielox security/communication system, major revitalization at Graysville Elementary, and middle school athletic fields and facilities.
- ★ Investing taxpayer resources wisely to provide a high quality education and financial stability: With ESPLOST, *consumers* share the responsibility of providing and maintaining the county's schools with taxpayers. This penny sales tax adds almost 31% in additional local revenue to be used for capital outlay projects, so property taxes are targeted for improving student achievement.

With ESPLOST IV, we planned projects based on our 5-year facility plan, then we LISTENED to the community on September 30, 2010 to determine additional projects. For ESPLOST V, we have planned projects based on stakeholder input from the 2012 survey, and we will LISTEN to the community again on October 1, 2015 to determine additional ESPLOST V projects. We hope you will plan to attend this very important meeting.

*Superintendent Denia Reese*

*and the Board of Education*

*invite you to a Community Engagement Meeting at*

*The Colonnade Theater*

*October 1, 2015*

*6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.*

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*The Superintendent and the Board of Education are seeking community participation to develop priorities for ESPLOST V (Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax). Please join us for this important event. We want to listen to parents, business leaders, and the community as we plan for capital projects for the children of Catoosa County.*