

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

IS THIS A TAX INCREASE?

NO! Decatur County sales tax will remain at its current level, this will simply extend the current 1% sales tax for education for an additional 5 years. Collection of this renewal ESPLOST can only begin after the current ESPLOST expires.

HAVE THE PREVIOUS ESPLOSTS BEEN SUCCESSFUL?

YES!! The Decatur County Board of Education has a creditable record of keeping promises. There have been many facility and equipment improvements using the funds provided by the education sales tax.

WHY AN ESPLOST?

The ESPLOST can pay bond debt and shares the cost of educational facilities and equipment with visitors and all citizens – not just property owners. Sales tax helps keep property taxes stable.



DECATUR COUNTY CHILDREN ARE OUR FUTURE

1¢ Education Sales Tax Referendum

November 8, 2011



EARLY VOTING BEGINS OCTOBER 17th

ESPLOST FOR EDUCATION



DECATUR COUNTY SCHOOLS



1¢ Education Sales Tax Referendum

November 8, 2011

Information for Parents and Citizens

What is an Education SPLOST (ESPLOST)?

An “ESPLOST” is the option for a local school system to call a referendum approving a one percent sales tax for school construction and/or retire bond debt. The penny sales tax spreads the responsibility of educating our children to all citizens and visitors of the community. Anyone who spends money in Decatur County is funding the ESPLOST, regardless of whether or not the person lives in the county.



Previous ESPLOST Projects

- ✓ A new Bainbridge High School
- ✓ A new West Bainbridge Elementary School
- ✓ Hutto Middle School Renovation
- ✓ Potter-Street Elementary Renovation
- ✓ John-Johnson Elementary Renovation
- ✓ Bainbridge Middle School Renovation
- ✓ Bus Fueling Station

What will the continued 1% Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (ESPLOST) provide for students in Decatur County? The proposed projects include:

- Debt service on the 2007 bonds
- Renovation/construction, and equipment needed for elementary schools
- Renovating and improving existing school and administrative facilities
- Improving system-wide instructional and administrative technology
- Purchase school buses and transportation equipment
- Purchase fine arts, music career/technical, and physical education equipment
- Safety and security equipment

FACTS ABOUT THE CONTINUATION OF THE 1¢ EDUCATION SALES TAX NOVEMBER 8, 2011



- ✓ No new sales taxes!
- ✓ An extension of the current sales tax, not an additional tax
- ✓ Renewal Education Sales Tax starts after the current Education Sales Tax ends June, 2012
- ✓ Sales tax is paid by everyone who shops in Decatur County, including visitors
- ✓ Provide modern, safe and secure school facilities for Decatur County children
- ✓ Quality schools promote a better future for our students and economic growth for our community

GREAT SCHOOLS BENEFIT EVERYONE IN DECATUR COUNTY