

Information for Parents and Citizens

1¢ EDUCATION SALES TAX REFERENDUM

March 19, 2019



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/renovations 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 Lowndes County is funding the ESPLOST, regardless of whether or not the person lives in the county.

FACTS ABOUT CONTINUING THE 1¢ EDUCATION SALES TAX

- **No new sales taxes**
- **An extension of the current sales tax, not an additional tax**
- Renewed Education Sales Tax starts after the current Education Sales Tax ends.
- Sales tax is paid by everyone who shops in Lowndes County, including visitors.
- Provides modern, safe, and secure school facilities for Valdosta City children
- Quality schools promote a better future for our students and economic growth for our community.

What will the continued 1¢ Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (ESPLOST) provide for Valdosta City students? The proposed projects include:

- **Retire bond debt**
- Addition, renovation, repair or improvement to existing school buildings, and equipping them
- Purchase of school buses, maintenance vehicles and equipment
- Technology improvements including eBooks
- Security and safety equipment, and/or fencing
- Textbooks, band and musical instruments, vocational equipment, PE & athletic equipment
- Renovation and modification of Central Office Complex
- Purchase of property for new construction, expansion, or improvement of existing facilities

EARLY VOTING: February 25 – March 1 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

March 4-15 (Monday through Friday) 7:00 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Lowndes County Board of Elections, 2808 N. Oak Street, Valdosta, Georgia