

2007 Education SPLOST Renewal Phase I of "The Plan"

The Gwinnett County Board of Education has called for a vote on **November 7, 2006**, to extend the current penny sales tax for schools for an additional five years (July 1, 2007-June 30, 2012). Revenue from the sales tax renewal will be used to build new schools for a student enrollment that continues to grow dramatically each year; to renovate and add classrooms to existing schools, and to provide system-wide technology improvements for teaching and learning.

Why SPLOST is needed...

- Gwinnett County Public Schools enrolls over 152,000 children this school year, about 7,300 more than last year. By 2010-11, enrollment will soar to almost 175,000. Gwinnett must continue to build schools so it can maintain the quality educational program this community expects and deserves.
- Gwinnett's School Board is seeking approval to fund classroom construction through continued use of the special purpose local option sales tax for schools (Education SPLOST). Look at what the penny has provided since it was first approved in 1997:
 - ✓ More than 3,000 classrooms in 30 new schools (the last four to open in 2007) and multiple school additions
 - ✓ Brick-and-mortar classrooms rather than trailers for about 70,000 students
 - ✓ Updated technology for teaching and learning system wide
 - ✓ Land for future schools

What SPLOST III will provide for students...

- ✓ Almost 1,800 needed classrooms in 27 new schools and nine school additions
- ✓ Technology advancements to support instruction system wide
- ✓ Land for future schools
- ✓ Much-needed improvements at existing schools throughout Gwinnett.

In approving SPLOST, voters also will authorize the Board to sell short-term bonds to be paid for with the sales tax. This will be beneficial for cash flow purposes, allowing the system to meet more classroom needs more quickly. When SPLOST sunsets in 2012, the bond debt will have been repaid. It will not impact property taxes in any way.

Extending the penny sales tax for another five years will enable the school system to keep up with its rapid growth while continuing to provide quality education for every student, attracting and keeping the best teachers, and ensuring that children learn in a safe, comfortable, disciplined classroom.

Become informed about the 2007 Education SPLOST. The school system's Web site provides information at www.gwinnett.k12.ga.us. See "The Plan/SPLOST III" under the link "Planning for our Future." And please remember to vote on November 7!