

**ELECTION MARCH 17**

**UP-TO-DATE SCHOOLS | SAFETY & SECURITY | PROPERTY TAX RELIEF**

## Crawford County Schools



# ONE-CENT SALES TAX

**ON MARCH 17**, a one cent sales tax proposal is on the ballot in Crawford County. The revenue from this sales tax, if passed, can only be used to improve school facilities, retire new or existing building bonds or help support school resource officers and mental health professionals. Our Board of Education voted to place this proposal on the ballot because it will provide a reliable source of revenue to keep our schools up-to-date and, at the same time, provide property tax relief to our residents.

### THIS ONE-CENT SALES TAX CAN BE USED TO PROVIDE:

- Up-to-date schools
- Energy efficient heating and air conditioning
- Improved safety and security for our students
- Funding to keep roofs, windows and doors in good working order
- Up-to-date labs and technology
- Property tax relief for our residents
- School resource officers and mental health professionals

### PROPERTY TAX RELIEF

All across Illinois there has been a call for property tax relief. This proposal, in part, is an answer to that call. Traditionally, all school building improvements have been funded through property taxes. By passing this proposal, much of the burden for funding public education facility improvements will be shifted to a sales tax— and a sales tax that is very equitable and fair in its design (*see the back page*).



**CRAWFORD COUNTY SCHOOLS**

### IMPROVEMENTS TO BE FUNDED THROUGH A ONE PERCENT SALES TAX

- Safety and security improvements
- Energy efficiency upgrades
- Repair and maintenance of existing buildings
- Future construction or additions
- Potential application of sales tax revenue to existing bond payments
- Salaries and benefits for mental health and school resource officers

## Be Informed & Remember to Vote!

This proposal is important to the future of our District.

Please be fully informed on this issue and remember to vote on March 17.

*There is more information about this proposal on the back of this flyer.*



**IF THIS PROPOSAL PASSES,**  
our District will have the ability to keep  
our facilities up-to-date and in good  
working order without a total reliance  
on property taxes.



# ONE-CENT SALES TAX

**REMEMBER TO VOTE ELECTION DAY IS MARCH 17**

The County School Facility Sales Tax represents the first shift away from relying on property taxes for local school district funding in Illinois. The law went into effect in 2007 (based on a similar law in Iowa) allowing voters to approve a sales tax to fund school facility needs. The sales tax is for one cent on every dollar spent on qualifying retail purchases. School Boards representing a majority of all resident student enrollment have passed resolutions to place this proposal on the March 17 ballot.

## A MORE EQUITABLE SALES TAX

The design of this sales tax is more equitable to those living on fixed or with lower incomes that could be negatively impacted by a new property tax because this sales tax does not tax most "essential" items like unprepared food and medicine.

## IT IS IMPORTANT TO KNOW WHAT IS NOT SUBJECT TO THIS TAX

- Unprepared Food (groceries)
- Prescriptions and over-the-counter medications
- Cars, Trucks, ATVs, Boats, RVs and Mobile Homes
- Farm Equipment, Parts, and Farm Inputs
- Services are also not taxed
- If it is not currently subject to sales tax, it will not be taxed

## HOW THE REVENUE CAN BE USED

Revenue from this one-cent sales tax can only be used for improving school facilities, retiring new or current building bonds, or for school resource officers and mental health professionals. It cannot be used for general school salaries, instructional materials, or other operating costs.

### Specifically, it can be used for:

- New School Facilities
- Additions and Renovations
- Land Acquisition
- Safety and Security Improvements
- Energy Efficiency
- Paying Off Building Bonds
- Architectural Planning/Engineering
- Durable Equipment
- School resource officers and mental health professionals

*Please take the time to learn about this important issue.*

## How much more would I actually be paying if this passed?



**\$15,000 car/truck = NO INCREASE**



**\$100 of grocery food = NO INCREASE**



**\$40 of medicine = NO INCREASE**



**\$50 of gas = 50 cents**



**\$7 of fast food = 7 cents**



**\$450 TV = \$4.50**



**\$70 pair of shoes = 70 cents**



## Questions or More Information

To learn more about what the county school facility sales tax means to you, contact the superintendent in your school district.