

Frequently Asked Questions

Is this a sales tax increase?

No! Harris County sales tax will remain at its current level. This referendum will simply extend the current 1% sales tax for an additional 5 years. Collection of the renewal ESPLOST can only be collected after the current ESPLOST expires.

What is the state contribution to the construction projects identified as needs for the Harris County School District?

Harris County Schools have earned \$9.4 million in state allocations for construction projects. ESPLOST allows the HCSD to maximize these available state dollars.

What other money will be used to fund the needed construction projects?

It may be necessary to levy additional bond millage to ensure the issued bonds can be paid back in 15 years.

HARRIS COUNTY CHILDREN ARE OUR FUTURE

1¢ EDUCATION SALES TAX REFERENDUM November 5, 2019

Early Voting will be from
October 14 , 2019 through
November 1, 2019

For questions and concerns
please contact
Dr. Justin Finney at
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ESPLOST VI FOR EDUCATION



Harris County
School District



1¢ EDUCATION SALES
TAX REFERENDUM
November 5, 2019

**Information for
Parents and
Citizens**

What is an Education SPLOST (ESPLOST)?

An Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (ESPLOST) allows local school districts the option to ask voters for the ability to levy and collect a one percent sales tax to help fund school improvements. It can be used to pay for capital projects (construction, buses, technology) or to retire debt, but cannot be used to pay operating expenses, such as salaries. ESPLOSTs are enacted by a voter referendum.

Previous ESPLOST Projects

- ◇ School additions and Construction Since 1997
- ◇ HVAC improvements
- ◇ Bus purchases
- ◇ System-wide technology
- ◇ Roof improvements
- ◇ New transportation facility
- ◇ Safety and security improvements at all schools

FACTS ABOUT CONTINUING THE 1¢ EDUCATIONAL SALES TAX



- ◆ No new sales tax!
- ◆ An extension of the current sales tax, not an additional tax.
- ◆ Renewal educational sales tax starts after the current educational sales tax ends.
- ◆ Sales tax is paid by everyone who shops in Harris County including visitors.
- ◆ Provides modern, safe, and secure school facilities for Harris County children.
- ◆ Quality schools promote a better future for our students and economic growth for our community.
- ◆ To meet the challenges of rising student populations, the HCSD must continue to move forward with facility construction, renovations, and equipment replacement.

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

- A modern, safe, and secure middle school that will meet the needs of students well into the 21st Century.
- * Additional classrooms at Creekside Intermediate School.
- * Additional instructional space for Harris County High School.
- * A safe and well-maintained bus fleet.
- * 21st century technology for all Harris County students.
- * HVAC improvements at Harris County High School.
- * Painting, flooring, and roofing projects as needed.
- * Updated security systems and equipment at all schools.