

Auburn Community Unit District No. 10



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COUNTY-WIDE SCHOOLS FACILITY SALES TAX

It is important that you are aware of the County-Wide Schools Facility Sales Tax that will be on the ballot on November 6. The citizens of Sangamon County can now considering this as an option. It would be a fundamental shift in how school are funded.

It is projected that if the County Schools Facility Sales Tax passes in Sangamon County, the Auburn School District would benefit by an estimated \$932,000 annually. All county schools would benefit based on student enrollment. A large portion of the tax is projected to be paid by individuals not from Sangamon County, driving through on I-55 or I-72. The revenue can only be used for school facility improvements or to pay off facility-related debt that is being paid through the property tax levy. It is a unique tax because it has the ability to lower property taxes or keep property taxes from increasing through incurred debt. This is why it is known as a replacement tax. It has already passed in 51 counties throughout Illinois.

On November 6, the voters in Sangamon County will be given the opportunity to decide. It is important that you are knowledgeable about this topic so you can make an informed decision at the polls.

The County Schools Facility Sales Tax, often referred to as the Penny Sales Tax, is money raised through putting a 1%, or penny, sales tax only on goods that are currently being taxed. It does not include cars, trucks, ATVs, boats, RVs, mobile homes, unprepared food, drugs (including over-the-counter and vitamins), farm equipment or parts. These services are not taxed. The money goes directly to the schools with students who live in the county proportionately by enrollment. It is not collected by the state nor is it subject to becoming absorbed by any state financial shortfalls. It is county-wide. It is collected by the county clerk and distributed directly to the school districts within the county, in direct proportion to the students in their districts who live in Sangamon County.

The revenue cannot be used for salaries, textbooks or any other expense not directly related to school facility improvements.

If you have any questions regarding the County Schools Facility Sales Tax, visit our website www.auburn.k12.il.us or contact me through email or by calling the district office.

Darren J. Root, Ed.S.

Superintendent Auburn CUSD #10