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NEWS RELEASE

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Board Approves Resolution to Continue E-SPLOST for Schools



HOUSTON COUNTY, GA – On Nov. 10, 2015, the Board of Education approved a resolution to continue the Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (E-SPLOST). An E-SPLOST is a one-cent sales tax that lasts a maximum of five years or until an established cap is reached. Houston County voters will be asked to vote on a continuation of the one-cent sales tax on Mar. 1, 2016.

A continuation of the E-SPLOST would provide funds to improve safety and security, facilities, technology and transportation. Overall the funds would be used to create safer and better learning environments.

The current E-SPLOST ends March 31, 2017. This referendum asks to continue the one-cent E-SPLOST for five years, from April 2017 to March 2022, or until a cap of \$135 million is reached, whichever comes first.

Information about the E-SPLOST is posted to the Board of Education website [E-SPLOST page](#). The following documents are posted:

- E-SPLOST Questions and Answers;
- Informational slides;
- Resolution to continue the E-SPLOST, which contains the ballot question in Exhibit B; and
- Ethics guidelines for employees.

A citizen's committee will be chaired by Jimmy Autry, a community volunteer. Legislation enacted in 1985 allows 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 or to retire debt, but cannot be used to pay government operating expenses, such as salaries.

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