



# School Facility Tax

**On November 8, 2016, the residents of Unity Point School will have the opportunity to vote on a county-wide sales tax referendum. The referendum will ask voters to approve a 1% sales tax increase (1-cent per dollar). Approval of the referendum provides a reliable and equitable source of revenue to maintain our facility without over reliance on our property owners.**

# What is Taxed?

- Sales Tax Base:

–Everything in the municipal and county sales tax base is included in the tax base **except for:**

- Cars, Trucks, ATVs
- Boats & RVs
- Mobile homes
- Unprepared Food (groceries)
- Drugs (including over-the-counter and vitamins)
- Farm Equipment and Parts
- Farm Inputs
- Services are not taxed

–If it is not currently taxed, it will not be taxed.

# Uses of Revenue?

<u>Uses of Sales Tax</u>	<u>Ineligible Uses</u>
New Facilities	Direct Instructional Costs
Additions & Renovations	Text Books
Security, Entrances, Safety, Disabled Access	Buses
Technology Infrastructure	Detached Furniture & Fixtures
Architectural Planning	Computers
Durable Equipment (non-moveable items)	Moveable Equipment
Fire Prevention and Life Safety	Operating Costs
Land Acquisition	Salaries and Overhead
Energy Efficiency	
Parking Lots	
Demolition	
Roof Repairs	
<b>Refund Bonds or Abate Property Taxes Levied to Pay Bonds Issued for Capital Purposes</b>	

# How to Use Sales Taxes?

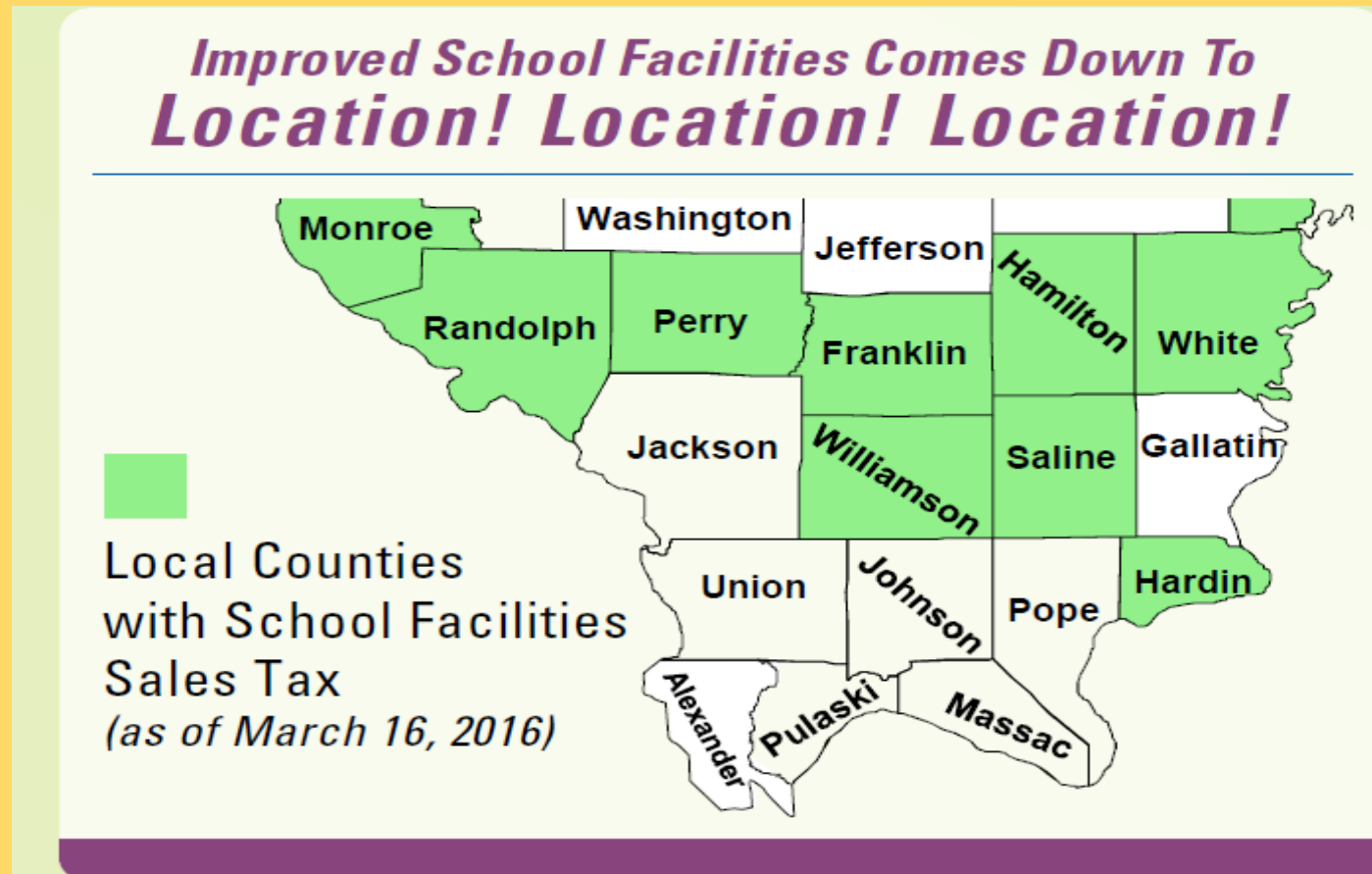
- **Pay as you go capital projects....**
  - Sales tax can be saved up over time
- **Issue new bonds for current capital needs....**
  - Support bonds with sales tax
- **Retire existing debt issued for capital purposes....**
  - Abate taxes – annual decision
  - Refund qualifying debt – locks in abatement
  - \*Please note: abatement of property taxes doesn't necessarily equate to a lower tax bill
- .....Or any combination of the above.
- Every district decides for themselves how to spend the funds.

# How does the sales tax increase work?

- **1-cent for every dollar spent would generate 5.4 million dollars annually for Jackson county schools.**
- **Would be distributed to the 8 county school districts based upon enrollment. Unity Point would receive approximately \$538,000 annually.**
- **If passed, the sales tax would go into effect on July 1, 2017 and Districts would receive new sales tax revenues beginning in October of 2017.**

# Local Counties with CSFT...

Williamson County passed the county-wide sales tax in 2008. If you shop in Marion, Carterville, or Herrin, you are paying for their school facilities.



## **Board Position**

**We believe, with a county-wide emphasis on educational facilities, our county would attract even more families to the area and further stimulate our local economy.**

# Why do WE need an increased sales tax?

## To address both immediate and future facility needs:

- Roof Replacement and Repairs (1986 Addition, Library, 1964 Gym, Junior High Addition)
- HVAC Replacement for 2003 Addition
- Carpet Replacement (Library, Band Room, Speech Room, 2003 Office)
- 10-Year Health, Life, Safety Survey Required
- Upgrades (Fire Rated Classroom Doors)
- Electrical, Phone, Security System and Technology
- Infrastructure Upgrades
- Phillippe Field Upgrades
- Refinish Ludwick Gym Floor
- Parking Lot Repair and Maintenance
- Early Pay-Off of 2007 QZAB Bonds
- Construction of All-Weather Practice Track
- Construction of Pre-K Facility



# What happens to the money generated by the operating referendum passed in 2014?

- **Should the school facility tax pass, monies spent on facility improvements and maintenance will be paid for specifically from the generated sales tax revenue, therefore creating flexibility in the general budget and allowing the funds generated from the operating referendum to further support instructional and extracurricular programming for Unity Point students.**

- **Simply Stated:**

**Operating Referendum Revenue = Student Instruction and Programming**

**Facility Tax Revenue = Building Maintenance and Facility Improvements**

# Sales Tax Ballot Question

- The sales tax referendum question will appear on the ballot as follows:

**“Shall a retailers’ occupation tax and a service occupation tax (commonly referred to as a “sales tax”) be imposed in The County of Jackson, Illinois, at a rate of 1% to be used exclusively for school facility purposes?”**

YES

NO

# Voting Information

- **Date: November 8, 2016**
- **There will be two questions on the ballot. First, will be the School Facility Tax question. Second, the establishment of the Public Building Commission by the Jackson County Board of County Commissioners.**
- **The School Facility Tax must pass by a simple majority vote county-wide.**

# Questions and Comments