SPLOST for Education

SPLOST stands for Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax. This is a one cent tax that is voted on by and applied to any taxed purchases in the county. This tax can be applied for no longer than 5 years before it must be renewed by a vote. SPLOST for education allows school systems to build new schools, renovate existing schools, and purchase other capital such as buses, instructional technology, and computing devices for the classrooms. ESPLOST VI shall be continued beginning October 1, 2021.

Will SPLOST raise my property taxes?

No. SPLOST will not raise property taxes. SPLOST is a consumption tax. The one cent tax will be applied to all retail purchases. Through SPLOST, those who do not own property in Baldwin County will also contribute to the education system. The tax is charged on goods purchased in Baldwin County, no matter where the person resides.

What can SPLOST be used for?

SPLOST can be used to build new schools, renovate older schools, purchase instructional technology infrastructure, purchase computing devices to be used in the schools, and any other capital needs the school system may have. The SPLOST money is NOT able to be used for any salaries or any other operational costs. The SPLOST money must be used on capital projects that will improve the schools in Baldwin County. The SPLOST for Education will allow Baldwin County Schools to enhance safety and security, provide new technology district wide, purchase new buses and other transportation, make athletic improvements as well as energy efficient improvements, and maintain our schools.

Don't my property taxes already pay for this?

Around 86% of the money generated from property taxes goes directly to salaries of the teachers, administrators, bus drivers, food service, custodians, and other staff that make running a school possible. The other 14% of the operating budget includes such as text books, general maintenance and utilities. SPLOST would allow the school system to improve infrastructure as well as other capital needs.