Washington County Public Schools

Sales Tax Referendum Plan

(November 5, 2026)



Changes made during School Board Meeting

- The Board made a few changes from the original plan recommendation during the meeting on November 5th
- You can see the changes in the following slides with ~~strike throughs~~ and highlights

Year 1

All High Schools

- Window Replacement
- Exterior Door Replacement
- Band Towers

Safety Vestibules

- Abingdon Elementary
- High Point Elementary

Year 1

E. B. Stanley Middle

- Band Room Addition

Science / STEM Labs

- ~~Meadowview Elementary~~
- ~~Rhea Valley Elementary~~
- ~~Valley Institute Elementary~~
- ~~Watauga Elementary~~
- Moved to after Middle and High Schools are complete

Year 2

AHS and JSB

- Auxiliary Gyms
- MEP Updates

Safety Vestibules

(Year 1 if possible)

- WCCTEC
- GSMS and WMS

Year 2

Bleachers, Stage Curtains, and Restroom Updates, MEP etc.

- AES, GES, MES, RVES, VIES, WES
- EBSMS
- HHS and WCCTEC

Science / STEM Labs

- ~~Abingdon Elementary~~
- ~~Greendale Elementary~~
- ~~High Point Elementary~~
- Moved to after Middle & High Schools are complete

Inclusive Playground

- Rhea Valley Elementary

Years 3-5

- Science and STEM Labs at ~~Middle and High Schools~~ Elementary Schools
- Windows and doors at various Elementary and Middle Schools
- HVAC at all schools with focus on AES, GES, RVES and VIES
- Roof drain repair at multiple schools

Rationale

1. Includes MEP, new construction, and items for our current CIP
2. Annual costs are below annual projections
3. Completes Safety Vestibules in Year 2 except WMS and GSMS
4. Addresses safety, instruction, and efficiency in Year 1
5. Completes smaller construction projects in Year 2
6. Continued focus on instruction, efficiency, and MEP in Years 3-5

Rationale (continued)

7. Allows time to plan
    - Actual versus Projected Sales Tax Revenues
    - Actual versus Projected Enrollments
    - Actual progress on new housing options
    - New Local Composite Index is known in December of Year 1

Rationale (continued)

8. We believe that we will come in under budget
   - Some work will be done by our staff
   - We will purchase classroom units and install as needed
9. After configuration decisions are determined, adjustments can easily be made to the plan

Things to Consider

- School Construction Assistance Grant would be written for as many projects as possible under the guidelines
  - 3 projects per division per application window
  - Windows at all high schools counts as 1 project
  - Science labs at all elementary schools may be considered differently
  - We will work with VDOE to ensure we are getting the best possible outcome

Things to Consider (continued)

- We are currently eligible for 20% of project total (LCI of .40 reduces to 10%)
- Procurement of CTE Center on Eastern Side of County begins in Year 1
- No investment in GSMS, DMS, or WMS in Years 1-5
- No athletic improvements at PHHS or HHS in Years 1-5

Things to Consider (continued)

- This could easily be changed if a different reconfiguration model is chosen
- If Sales Tax Referendum does not pass, I would recommend that our request to the Board of Supervisors increase by $10 million annually. That is in addition to the known increases we will experience based on 2nd year of biennium raises and future LCI changes. Obviously, this would take new revenue.