



Coupland ISD Board Calls Voter-Approval Tax Rate Election for November

As Coupland ISD welcomed students to its new junior high and high school campus to begin the school year, the Board of Trustees has voted to call a Voter-Approval Tax Rate Election (VATRE) for the Nov. 3, 2026, election.

The election will ask voters to consider a three-cent increase to the district's tax rate. If approved, the measure would generate an estimated \$262,412 annually for Coupland ISD's operating budget. All of the additional revenue would remain in Coupland ISD and would not be subject to recapture by the state.

Earlier this week, Coupland ISD opened its first secondary campus, bringing high school students back to the district for the first time in nearly 80 years. The new campus will initially serve students in grades 7 through 9 before expanding one grade level each year until becoming a full junior high and high school.

"Opening a second campus brings new opportunities for students, but it also creates ongoing operating costs associated with staffing, instruction and daily operations. The proposed VATRE would provide additional operating funding to support those costs," Superintendent Dr. Earl Parcell said.

The additional funding would help Coupland ISD support employee recruitment and retention, classroom instruction and address the ongoing operational costs associated with serving students on two campuses.

"Opening our new secondary campus marks a milestone for Coupland ISD," Board President Crystal Ward said. "The proposed VATRE would generate additional operating revenue that could be used for staffing, transportation and other day-to-day operational expenses associated with serving students on two campuses."

Early voting begins Monday, Oct. 19, and continues through Friday, Oct. 30. Election Day is Tuesday, Nov. 3. Additional information about the VATRE and the November election will be available on the district's website in the coming weeks.