



# Randolph County E-SPLOST

## Early Voting Has Started!

On November 2, 2021, Randolph County voters will be asked to consider continuing the E-SPLOST (Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax). Over the years, Randolph students and school communities have benefited from the E-SPLOST, which has assisted the system in having new technology improvements that are essential to teaching and learning and the necessary maintenance and operations of the school district.

On the election ballot, the voters of Randolph County will be asked the following question: Shall the special one-cent sales and use tax for education currently in effect in Randolph County be continued for a period of time not to exceed 20 calendar quarters and for the raising of not more than \$5,000,000 for the purpose of (a) paying a portion of the principal of and interest on the Randolph County School District (Georgia) General Obligation Bonds, Series 2021 in the approximate amount of \$3,056,100 and (b) acquiring, constructing, repairing, improving, renovating, extending, upgrading, furnishing and equipping school buildings and support facilities in the Randolph County School District?

### Questions and Answers:

#### What is an E-SPLOST?

An E-SPLOST is a Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) for education. It is a one-cent sales tax on all retail purchases in Randolph County. This means that everyone who makes a purchase in Randolph County, including visitors, contributes to the support of local schools. By law, an E-SPLOST can be used only for certain capital projects, like buildings, furnishings, buses, and computers. **It cannot be used for salaries or the day-to-day operational expenses of a school system.**

#### Is the proposed E-SPLOST a new tax? How long would it be in effect?

Randolph's E-SPLOST is not a new or additional tax but a continuation of the one-cent tax already being collected on sales. The current education sales tax ends on June 30, 2022. If voters approve the extension, the penny would be collected for another five-year period, beginning July 1, 2022.

#### What happens if voters do not approve continuation of the E-SPLOST?

The BOE will have to increase property taxes in order to make the Bond payments. The E-SPLOST is the primary source of funding for building, maintaining, and equipping quality school facilities for students. Without this source of funds, the school district would be limited in its ability to construct the K-12 Project and maintain existing school facilities. The E-SPLOST also is a substantial funding source for ensuring that technology for students and teachers is updated. Educational technology continues to change and is playing a bigger role as RCSS blends digital learning into its instructional model. The E-SPLOST is key to the ongoing effort to meet the teaching and learning needs of our students and teachers and to improve communication with parents.

#### Who has an E-SPLOST?

**Randolph, Dougherty, Lee, Terrell, Stewart, Quitman, Calhoun, Clay, Early, Dooly, Macon, Mitchell, Chattahoochee, Crisp, Sumter and other surrounding counties.**

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