

On April 2, voters in Tazewell County will decide on a 1¢ county-wide sales tax dedicated to school maintenance, renovation, and construction. This proposal is an innovative way to fund schools while helping our local economy and reducing property taxes.

### Safe Learning Environments

Providing a quality education depends on school buildings and classrooms that are well maintained and up-to-date. At the same time, it's critical to make sure that our schools are safe and secure and operate as efficiently as possible. Every penny will go directly to our schools who will decide how best to use the funds in their individual district.

### More Jobs

The 1¢ sales tax for schools also means that ongoing funds will be available for school facilities' needs, including construction and renovation. The projects funded by this sales tax will put people to work across Tazewell County. Job creation means economic growth for our communities and a better quality of life for everyone in our county.

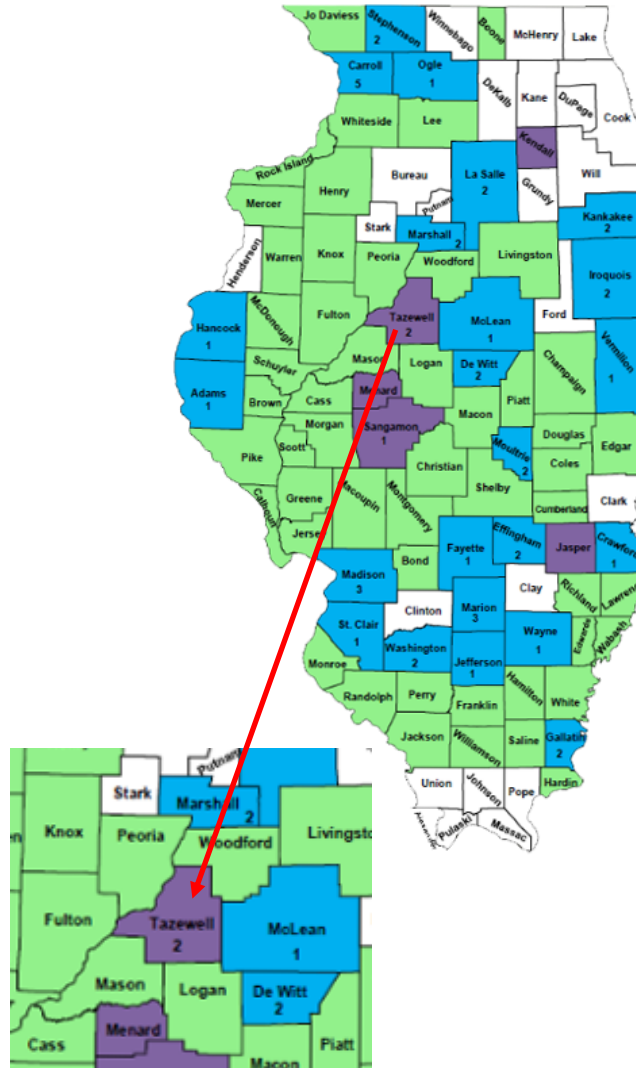
### Lower Taxes

Until now, our school districts have depended on property owners to fund school improvements through higher property taxes. *The 1¢ sales tax is a fair way to fund our schools.* This tax burden can now be shared with visitors to the county who will be supporting our schools with their spending. School Districts will have a dedicated funding source for school facility improvements that does not require increases in property taxes. With the additional funding source existing property taxes can then be lowered.



### Did you know?

51 out of 102 counties in Illinois have passed the 1¢ sales tax. Five out of six neighboring counties have voted YES.



- = Counties with CSFT (51)
- = Counties in which CSFT failed (27). Number indicates how many times CSFT failed.
- = Counties Voting November

## Tazewell County Schools Facility Sales Tax



### Washington Community High School

#### The Ballot Question:

“Shall Tazewell County be authorized to impose a retailers’ occupation tax and a service occupation tax (commonly referred to as a “sales tax”) at a rate of one percent (1%) to be used exclusively for school facility purposes?”

**VOTE APRIL 2**

# 1¢ Sales Tax for Schools: A Different Way to Fund Schools

## Guaranteed Income

The revenue generated flows directly to the schools and does not come from the State of Illinois. It is a reliable source of income for the future.

## How much sales tax will each district receive?

The money generated each year by the sales tax will be divided between the school districts based on each district's percentage of the overall student population within Tazewell County. Washington Community High School District #308 is projected to receive about \$900,000 each year in sales tax revenue.

## How will this proposal affect the sales tax rate?

A 1¢ sales tax would be added to qualifying purchases.

## Items NOT subject to the sales tax:

- Groceries
- Over the Counter or Prescription Medication
- Medical Supplies
- Cars/Trucks
- Farm Equipment or Parts
- Rent/Mortgage
- Mobile Homes
- Boats/RVs/ATVs

## How can the school districts use the sales tax revenue?

The revenue can ONLY be used for property tax reduction and facility improvements. By law it CANNOT be used for salaries or programs.

## THE POWER OF A PENNY



**\$13.7M**

**COUNTY-WIDE  
REVENUES**

**20-30% GENERATED  
BY VISITORS  
FROM OUTSIDE  
THE COUNTY**

**\$900,000**

**Estimated Annual  
Revenue Gain for WCHS**

### > 1¢ = an investment in safety

The 1¢ sales tax is a dedicated source of revenue our district will use to enhance safety in all of our learning environments for Washington students, staff, and community members.

### > 1¢ = an adjustment to property taxes

The District #308 Board of Education has voted to apply no less than 50% of the revenues for the abatement (reduction) of property tax. The district will use the revenues to pay off existing debt (like outstanding building bonds) AND pay for new facility projects reducing the need to levy local property tax.

### > 1¢ = local control of funds

As a community, we can work directly with our elected school board members to make decisions about the best use of the revenue.

### > 1¢ = an investment in our community

Quality schools help attract families to Tazewell County and keep them here. Many of the projects funded by the 1¢ sales tax will put local people to work and support businesses throughout our county.

## QUESTIONS?

**Please call (309) 444-3167**

**Please Vote on April 2!**