



Proposed 1% Sales Tax Referendum



**ELECTION DAY:
NOVEMBER 3, 2026**

Earlier this year, the Virginia General Assembly approved legislation allowing counties and cities across the state to seek voter approval of an additional local sales and use tax of up to 1% for eligible school construction and renovation projects.

On **Tuesday, November 3**, our community will vote on implementing this proposed sales tax for Orange County Public Schools.

If approved, the measure would be supported by taxable purchases made in the community. This includes purchases made by residents, as well as visitors, commuters, and other nonresidents

The sales tax has the potential to relieve the burden on property taxpayers while providing an important tool for our division to address our most critical facility needs.

OUR KEY FACILITY NEEDS

- **Strengthen School Safety & Security:** Invest in critical facility improvements, including secure and reliable windows and doors, safer walkway connectors between buildings, and updated gym floors, to strengthen campus safety, reduce hazards, and provide students and staff with safe, durable, and dependable learning environments.
- **Modernize Aging Wastewater Systems:** Address critical wastewater infrastructure to ensure our schools remain reliable, sanitary, environmentally responsible, and prepared to serve students for years to come.
- **Improve HVAC & Air Quality:** Replace and modernize aging heating, cooling, and ventilation systems to provide comfortable classrooms, improve indoor air quality, and create better environments for teaching and learning.
- **Enhance Athletic Facilities for Students and Community:** Invest in safe, modern, and high quality athletic fields and facilities that support student athletes, school programs, and community teams. These improvements will create durable, welcoming spaces that expand opportunities for recreation, competition, and community connection while ensuring our facilities serve the entire community for years to come.
- **Protect and Extend the Life of Our Schools:** Make needed upgrades to aging buildings, systems, and infrastructure before problems become more costly, disruptive, or difficult to address.
- **Invest in Students, Teachers & Our Community:** Prioritize improvements that directly support student success, give teachers and staff the facilities they need to do their best work, and ensure our schools remain safe, functional, and welcoming community assets.

Orange County Public Schools works diligently to maximize the impact of available funding. However, our annual operating budget alone is not sufficient to address all of our facility needs.



Revenue from the sales tax cannot be used for employee salaries or benefits, instructional materials, routine supplies, general programs, or other day-to-day operating expenses.

PURCHASES AFFECTED

The additional 1% tax would apply to a variety of purchases already subject to Virginia's sales tax. Examples include clothing, electronics, furniture, restaurant purchases, certain leased or rented items, and some short-term lodging.

The sales tax would **not** apply to groceries and food purchased for human consumption, nor would it apply to personal hygiene products.



LEARN MORE

Find more information and answers to FAQs: <https://bit.ly/OCPSVA1>

