



1/2 Penny
for Schools





### 1/2 Penny Still Needed

- Maintain over 30 million sq. ft. and \$9 billion dollars of buildings to avoid creating deteriorating facilities and maintenance backlog
- Existing funding streams are not sufficient to maintain current needs due to escalation of construction, materials, and maintenance costs
- There are no other funding options available for schools
- Due to legislative changes, school districts
   receive 25% less in capital revenue as compared to 2008







#### SCHOOL DISTRICT OF

## PALM BEACH COUNTY PENNY PLAN



#### **ENHANCES**

school Security and Safety



#### **FUNDS**

Capital and maintenance projects



#### **IMPROVES**

classroom technology and equipment



#### **UPGRADES**

the school bus fleet



#### **REINVESTS**

in schools and facilities



#### THE 1/2 PENNY

is a continuation of an existing sales tax rate for schools in Palm Beach County and will not raise taxes



## **Referendum Projects**

- Buildings, Facilities and Equipment
  - o Safety and Security Enhancements
  - o Planned Maintenance to Maintain Schools and Facilities
  - o School-Based Initiatives
- Technology
- School Buses
- Charter Schools













# Facts About the ½ Penny for Education

- **Dedicated Funding:** Dedicated funding for specific capital-related projects for traditional public and charter public schools.
- All Funds Stay Local: All funds stay in Palm Beach County and invests in our kids, classroom technology and school safety.
- **Does Not Raise Taxes:** The ½ penny is a continuation of an existing sales tax for schools and will not raise taxes.
- **Tax Has a Cap:** The  $\frac{1}{2}$  penny is capped at the first \$5,000 of a single consumer purchase.
- **Exemptions For Essentials:** Certain groceries, medicine, medical equipment, baby formula and diapers are generally exempt from all sales taxes.
- **Tourists and Visitors Pay:** Tourists and visitors also pay the sales tax.
- **Expires in 10 years:** The ½ penny expires in 10 years and cannot be extended without voter approval.
- Oversight: Overseen by an independent committee of local citizens and experts.



## 1/2 Penny for Schools and Kids on the November Ballot

## PALM BEACH COUNTY SCHOOLS SECURITY, TECHNOLOGY, FACILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE ONE-HALF CENT SALES SURTAX

To support educational opportunities for students by upgrading and enhancing safety and security of schools; classroom technology and equipment, school buildings and facilities, and school buses, for Palm Beach County traditional public and charter public schools; shall the School Board levy a one-half cent sales surtax beginning January 1, 2026 and, by law, automatically ending December 31, 2035, with oversight of all funds by an independent committee of citizens and experts?



\_\_\_\_\_ FOR THE ONE-HALF CENT TAX
\_\_\_\_\_ AGAINST THE ONE-HALF CENT TAX

Election Day is Tuesday, November 5, 2024



### **Three Ways to Vote**



October 24

Vote By Mail
Request Deadline



October 21 - November 3

**Early Voting** 



November 5

**Election Day** 

Register to Vote at VotePalmBeach.gov