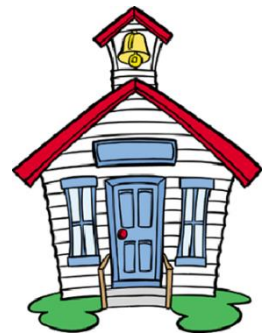
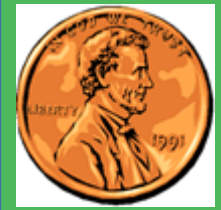


November 8th

**SPL**  **ST**  
**FOR SCHOOLS**

Oconee County Schools

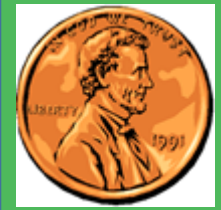




# OCS Today

- 7500 students in 10 schools
- 700 new students over the last 3 years  
Almost one new school!
- Even with cuts in state and federal revenue and the demands from population growth, OCS has consistently cut operational expenses and has decreased the millage rate from 18.5 to 17.0 in the last four years



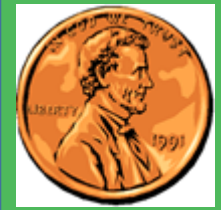


# Funding Our Growth

Voters approved the ESPLOST IV in November 8, 2011 creating funding for:

- Total renovations at CFES and OCHS
- Additions at MBMS and OCMS
- Security upgrades at all schools
- HVAC installations in all gymnasiums
- Stadium renovations at NOHS and OCHS
- Improvements in Technology and Transportation
- Retiring of Bond Debt

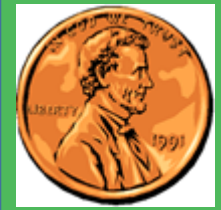




# Funding our Future

- Two options: ESPLOST or Property Taxes
- OCS BOE voted in December to place an ESPLOST vote on the November 8, 2016 ballot
  - \*Current ESPLOST expires December 2017
  - \*A vote one year prior allows for advance planning
  - \*For 2016 school districts can place special referendums on voter ballots in November

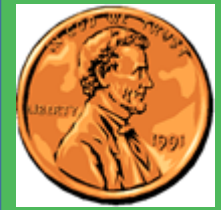




# What is ESPLOST?

- One-cent sales tax on goods that lasts a maximum of five years or until the established cap is reached
- By law, SPLOST for School Funds can only be used for capital outlay projects for educational purposes and to make payments on bonds
- Oconee County voters approved SPLOST for Schools referendums in 1997, 2002, 2006, and 2011. All projects promised in these referendums have been completed

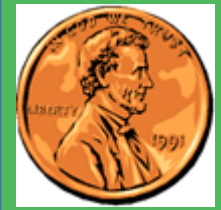




## What is ESPLOST? (cont.)

- ESPLOST is a consumption tax and not a property tax. It is charged on goods purchased in Oconee County, regardless of where the purchaser resides
- Oconee County Government taxes and SPLOST/Bond Referendums are not related to the school system, each is a separate government entity

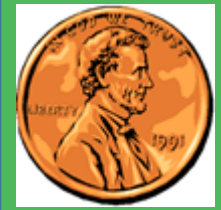




# If Approved the ESPLOST Would...

- Go into effect in January 2018 and allow for collections to continue without interruption
- Allow \$24.5 million to be bonded in 2017 for immediate funding to meet growing enrollment needs
- Expire in December 2022 or when a projected maximum of \$45 million is collected



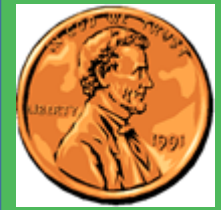


## If the ESPLOST is Not Approved...

- Oconee County Board of Education will have to review its only other source of funding – property taxes
- Current millage rates are at a decade low of 17.0 total mills



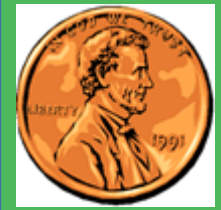




# Voting Information

- If you are not an Oconee County registered voter, the new voter registration deadline is Monday, October 11
- Ways to Register:
  - \*Voter Registrar's office is located at 10 Court Street, Watkinsville, GA
  - \*By mailing a voter registration form located at [www.oconeecounty.com](http://www.oconeecounty.com)
  - \*Any Oconee County public library
  - \*Division of Family and Children Services
  - \*Department of Public Health
  - \*Department of Driver Services
  - \* iTunes Voting App for Georgia  
<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/ga-sos/id779488195?mt=8>





# Early Voting

- Early Voting

- \* Monday, October 17th to Friday, November 4th

- \* Weekdays, 8:00 – 5:00 pm

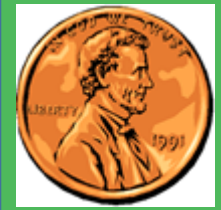
- \* Oconee County Board of Elections Office

- Saturday Voting

- \* October 29<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 – 4:00 pm

- \* Oconee County Board of Elections Office

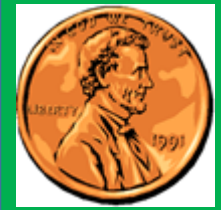




# Tuesday, November 8 – Voting Day!

- 7:00 am to 7:00 pm
- Voter Designated Precinct
- To find your location visit State of Georgia My Voter Page: <http://sos.ga.gov/index.php/elections/2015-2016> elections and voter registration calendar





# Be Informed!

- [www.oconeeschools.org/ESPLOST](http://www.oconeeschools.org/ESPLOST)
  - \*Q & A
  - \*Facts & Figures
  - \*PowerPoint
- Informational Meetings
  - \*Thursday, September 15, 8:00 pm  
at Oconee Veteran's Park

