



# Bethalto Community Unit School District #8

610 Texas Boulevard, Bethalto, Illinois 62010  
Phone: (618) 377-7200 - Fax: (618) 377-2845  
www.bethalto.org

**Mr. Justin Newell**  
Curriculum Director  
**Mrs. Jennifer Weber**  
Pupil Personnel Services  
Coordinator  
**Dr. Barrett Deist**  
Business Manager (CSBO)

**Dr. Jill Griffin, Superintendent of Schools**

March 16, 2018

Dear Unit 8 Families:

On Tuesday, March 20th, voters in Madison County will have the opportunity to vote on a proposed 1% sales tax, also referred to as a 1-cent sales tax, to support county schools. This tax is presently supporting school districts in 49 counties across Illinois. The Bethalto School District is projected to receive an additional yearly **\$1,450,000 in funding** through the tax, about **\$590 per student**. It is estimated that 30-40% of the revenue generated by the tax will come from individuals living outside of Madison County.

The 1% sales tax is a way for our community to **provide a revenue source for our district and schools** for facility repairs, improvements, and upgrades, so that our students may learn in **quality educational environments for years to come**. This includes, but is not limited to:

- **increasing safety features**, such as **updated video camera systems, secured entrances, and lighting** at our schools
- maintaining parking lots, sidewalks, roofs, electrical and plumbing systems, flooring, and other repairs across the district
- replacing HVAC units at schools which are reaching end of life and are costly to repair and maintain
- updating the stage floor and electrical systems in the **CM auditorium**
- repairing the **gym floors at CM and TMS**, as well as resurfacing the **CM track and tennis courts**

The 1% sales tax also allows us to provide some **property tax relief** for our Unit 8 families and residents. In December, our board of education unanimously passed a resolution committing itself to using 50% of the potential \$1.45 million to **reduce property taxes** for our Unit 8 constituents. This equates to approximately **\$725,000 of property tax relief**. This amounts to an estimated **rate decrease of 37 cents, decreasing our rate from \$5.31 to \$4.94**, which corresponds to a **tax cut of \$123 per \$100,000 of property value or a potential savings of:**

- \$123 per year for a \$100,000 home
- \$184 per year for a \$150,000 home
- \$245 per year for a \$200,000 home
- \$307 per year for a \$250,000 home



The question on the ballot will appear as presented in this letter. Although the district can't officially come out in support of the 1% sales tax, we are **committed to providing district families and residents with honest information** regarding its value to our school community. Please take time to educate yourself about the benefits of the 1% County School Facilities Tax for our school district and district residents, to make a well-informed decision and **exercise your right to vote on March 20th**.

More information can be found at [www.onecentmakesense.org](http://www.onecentmakesense.org).

Sincerely,

Jill Griffin, Ed.D.

PROPOSITION	
PROPOSITION TO IMPOSE COUNTY SCHOOL FACILITY SALES TAX	
Shall a retailers' occupation tax and a service occupation tax (commonly referred to as a "sales tax") be imposed in The County of Madison, Illinois, at a rate of 1% to be used exclusively for school facility purposes?	
<input type="radio"/>	YES
<input type="radio"/>	NO