

# Eligible Projects for Sales Tax Referendum

## Gloucester County Public Schools

Throughout Spring 2020, school and county officials worked closely with Senator Norment to have the Virginia General Assembly pass Senate Bill 224 (effective July 1, 2020), allowing Gloucester County to propose an additional sales and use tax, not to exceed one percent, to support school construction projects, if approved by the voters at a referendum. Below are some of the school projects that *could* be addressed through community support for this sales tax referendum.

Please be reminded that the projects listed below are not subject of this referendum, and decisions regarding authorization of the projects themselves are made by the Board of Supervisors. The referendum is specifically focused on funding sources and whether or not to empower the Board of Supervisors to enact a Sales Tax to fund school renovation and construction projects that they authorize.

### Gloucester High School Renovation

Originally constructed in 1974, Gloucester High School has critical and longstanding infrastructural needs that must be addressed, including roof and HVAC replacement to address interior environmental quality, security and technology upgrades, and space utilization. This renovation would represent the most substantial investment and long-term community benefit. ([Link: GHS Master Plan Update, March 2020](#))

### Replacement of Playground Equipment

Safe and accessible school playgrounds are essential for child development and are used frequently during school hours, after school, and weekends. With such consistent use, it is critical that the equipment be maintained in proper working and hazard-free conditions. Due to the age and wear of equipment, the Achilles playground was replaced in 2019. Botetourt, Bethel, and Petsworth are next in the replacement cycle. ([Link: FY21-25 CIP](#))

### Achilles Roof Recoating

Roof systems deteriorate from constant exposure to sun and weather. It is critical to instructional success and operational efficiency of an educational facility that the environment be safe and dry. Roof coating systems are a practical, cost effective approach to addressing roof requirements. Roof coating systems provide warranty ranges of 10-15 years at half the cost of roof replacement.

### Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning Replacements

A cyclical replacement of school HVAC equipment is necessary to maintain building mechanical systems. Peasley needs new water source heat exchangers in various halls, boilers, circulator pumps and piping. HVAC units at the TC Walker Education Center range in age from 23-26 years old; with the increased space needs for Head Start and county agencies, the current units are inefficient and unable to fulfill demand. The HVAC system at Bethel is over 20 years old; parts are difficult to obtain and the air-to-air systems need replacement.

### Paving Projects

Parking and bus loop paved areas deteriorate from constant exposure to sun and weather. Many of these paved areas need replacement. Repairs, seals, and recoating are no longer sufficient to address the needs. Cracking and shifting create safety concerns.

### Lighting Projects

Due to changes in Federal lighting fixture requirements, the current model of lamps used in schools is no longer being manufactured. The transition to LED lighting will: result in the greatest energy cost savings; provide extended lighting fixture longevity; reduce labor costs by reducing lighting and fixture replacement; create additional cost savings by reducing amperage draw and increasing capability for existing and expanding technology needs.

**[SOURCE: Gloucester County FY21-25 Capital Improvement Plan](#)**