

Leon County School District ½ Penny Extension

November 2026 Ballot — Voter Information Guide

OFFICIAL BALLOT LANGUAGE

School District Referendum Continuing Sales Surtax to Fund School Technology, Safety, Transportation and Facilities Improvements

To help improve safety and security, maintain high-quality classrooms, and reduce classroom overcrowding by expanding, constructing, and improving school facilities, technology and transportation, with revenues collected to be shared with eligible charter schools pursuant to Florida law, shall the school district of Leon County **continue to levy a one-half cent sales surtax for fifteen years** to fund such activities for Leon County schools, with review by a School Board appointed citizen advisory committee?

YES

For the ½% (0.5 cents) tax

NO

Against the ½% (0.5 cents) tax

Note: This is an **extension** of an existing tax, not a new one. Leon County voters have approved this same half-penny surtax twice before.

KEY FACTS

Who can vote	All registered Leon County voters.
What is needed to pass	Simple majority — more than 50% of votes cast. This is a local referendum, not a constitutional amendment, so the 60% supermajority threshold does not apply here.
Duration	15 years
Tax rate	½ cent (0.5 cents) per \$1.00 of taxable purchases
Oversight	Citizen advisory committee appointed by the School Board

WHAT THE FUNDS MUST BE USED FOR

Revenue is restricted exclusively to capital improvement projects. Permitted uses include:

- Safety and security improvements
- Expanding, constructing, and improving school facilities
- Technology upgrades
- Transportation improvements
- Proportionate share to eligible charter schools (as required by Florida law)

Funds cannot be used for teacher or staff salaries, day-to-day operating expenses, or instructional programs.

The total sales tax rate in Leon County, Florida is **7.5%**. This combined rate consists of Florida's **6.0%** state sales tax and a **1.5%** local discretionary sales surtax applied uniformly across the county.

Tax Breakdown

- **State Sales Tax:** 6.0%
- **Local Discretionary Surtax:** 1.5% (includes a 1% Infrastructure Surtax [Blueprint] and a 0.5% School Capital Outlay Surtax)
- **Total Combined Rate:** 7.5%

This document is provided for informational purposes only and does not advocate for or against the measure. For official ballot language and school district capital improvement plans, contact the Leon County Supervisor of Elections or the Leon County School District.