



Our Schools. Our Community. Our Future.
 A referendum for school facilities and economic growth

What Will a Half-Penny Do for Our Schools?

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<p>Our schools are the oldest in the state. They desperately need basic maintenance and upgrades, such as air conditioners, roofs, paint, and window replacement. The maintenance backlog will reach \$1 billion over the next five years.</p>	<p>Some schools are very small or operating way below student capacity, which wastes precious dollars to maintain the buildings. They need to be consolidated with other schools to increase resources for teaching and cut overhead.</p>	<p>Safety and security upgrades will be provided for every school.</p>	<p>New schools are needed in some areas, which will allow us to remove portables in existing schools.</p>	<p>It is proven through research that a good learning environment improves student achievement. All students in the county deserve a building and resources to meet today's challenges for teaching and learning.</p>

Why is it Needed? Old Schools, State Cuts, Economic Stimulus

Duval Schools Are Florida's Oldest

ORANGE	20 YEARS
PALM BEACH	21 YEARS
BROWARD	28 YEARS
PINELLAS.....	32 YEARS
HILLSBOROUGH	33 YEARS
MIAMI DADE.....	33 YEARS
ST. JOHNS	25 YEARS
DUVAL	44 YEARS

Average Age of Florida Schools in 7 Largest Districts plus St. Johns.

20% Funding Loss

State funding cuts since 2008 have reduced facility funding by almost \$300 million. This has caused backlogged maintenance of \$243 million. Because of the age of the schools, backlogged maintenance will balloon to \$1 billion in five years.

Economic Stimulus

The referendum provides a communitywide economic stimulus package. The cost to the individual is small, while the benefit to the community is huge. It will boost our economy, expedite the road to recovery, create thousands of jobs, and help hundreds of businesses. It will increase the value of neighborhoods and homes while improving schools.