

½ Cent Tax Citizens Accountability Committee

Hernando County voters approved reinstatement of a half-cent discretionary sales surtax (hereinafter the “1/2 Penny”) on Sept. 8, 2015. All proceeds from the sales ½ Penny surtax will be used for Capital maintenance and repair projects. The Hernando County School District’s five-year Capital Improvement Plan identifies the projects to be funded using sales surtax proceeds, including types and estimated cost of projects. The District’s five-year Capital Improvement Plan will serve as the primary source document for all projects to be funded using ½ Penny sales surtax proceeds collected between January 1, 2016 and December 31, 2025.

The District is committed to being transparent and accountable to the residents of Hernando County for the use of the sales surtax proceeds. In a manner consistent with the Board-approved resolution prompting the request for a special election hereby forms the Citizens Accountability Committee for the purpose of developing reports for the School Board. The reports shall focus on information concerning project status, progress and spending. The Committee will provide general oversight to the School Board’s maintenance and capital construction projects involving funds from the ½ Penny surtax, and assist with the School Board in disseminating information regarding projects funded by the half-cent sales 1/2 Penny surtax to the general public. Additional information regarding the duties of committee members, and the application for service will be made available on the District’s website at <https://www.hernandoschools.org/departments/facilities-construction/half-cent-sales-tax-information>.

The Committee shall consist of not less than five (5) and not more than seven (7) community members and two (2) ex officio School Board Employees, which shall include the District’s Director of Facilities Operations or designee and Director of Budget or designee.

The Superintendent shall select committee members through an application process. The Committee shall elect a Chair and a Vice Chair from among the community members. All Committee members serve in a voluntary capacity and shall be residents of Hernando County. Community members will be removed automatically should they miss two (2) consecutive regular meetings without good cause. In addition to members, a list of two (2) alternates shall be selected shall the need arise to provide a replacement for any committee member unable to complete their term.

The term for each Committee member shall be two (2) years. and such terms shall be staggered as determined by the Superintendent of Schools to ensure overlap of committee members. Member requests to serve for an additional term shall be made and considered by the Superintendent.

Committee members are part of a citizen advisory committee, and *are exempt* from the requirement of filing financial disclosure pursuant to § 112.3145, Fla. Stat.

Committee members, shall be subject to the requirements of § 112.313, Fla. Stat., § 112.3143, Fla. Stat., and pertinent Opinions of the Florida Commission on Ethics, and neither Committee members and/or their company(ies) in which the members have a direct financial interest, shall not do business with the District during the members' term.

The Committee shall be non-partisan with respect to political party and while serving on the committee, no member will actively campaign for an elected position within the County.

The Committee shall meet on a quarterly basis and call special meetings as required with proper notice. A quorum of the committee for a meeting will be fifty percent of the members plus one member. Committee meetings are to be conducted under Robert's Rule of Order Newly Revised. All Committee and subcommittee meetings are governed by the Sunshine Law as required by Chapter 286, Fla. Stat.

Application and attachments for membership shall be submitted to the Superintendent.