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TO: Board of Education
FROM: Dale Ellis
DATE: December 5, 2011
SUBJ: INFORMATION ITEM (Sales Tax Update)

I met with Interim County Manager Matt Woodard this past week. The County Commissioners will need to pass a resolution to levy the ¼ cent tax. It will then go into effect on April 1. The Department of Revenue requires a 90 day notice on this tax to notify merchants and then it starts at the next quarter. This method is clearly delineated in statute. Therefore, April 1 was the earliest it could start given the November referendum approval. The Commissioners will pass the resolution at their December meeting.

Also, Mr. Woodard said the county will set up a separate account so that the revenue can be clearly accounted for so that citizens can see it is used for schools and citizens can see what schools receive the revenue for given projects, to ensure equity of distribution to the extent possible. I feel this method will be very effective in letting the public who entrusted us with these funds know that they are being used as intended.

I will be available to answer any questions you may have.