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Special Questions to Face Area Voters

(KNZA)-Special questions will face voters Tuesday in Effingham USD 377 and the city of Holton.

USD 377 voters will decide the fate of a 17.5 million dollar bond issue for the construction of a new pre-kindergarten through 8th grade facility and renovations to the current Junior/Senior High building. The new elementary school would be added to the east side of the high school.

School district officials say the state will pay 20 percent of the \$17.5 million bond issue or \$3.5 million. The property tax levy to support the project will average 21.3 mills over the next 25 years. For the owner of a \$100,000 home, it means they would pay about \$245 extra annually.

Meanwhile, voters in the city of Holton will decide whether a one-half percent citywide retailers' sales tax should be imposed to fund maintenance of public infrastructure and to pay down outstanding debt.

If approved, the sales tax would take effect January 1st, 2014 and remain in place for ten years, ending December 31st, 2023. The sales tax is projected to generate about \$390,000 annually.

Currently, the city of Holton has a $\frac{1}{4}$ percent sales tax dedicated to street maintenance, which brings in about \$195,000 annually.

The polls will be open Tuesday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

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