

Hello everyone!

On November 2, 2021, the Monticello Community School District will be asking our community to consider the approval of an updated **Revenue Purpose Statement**. We updated our Revenue Purpose Statement a few years ago through 2029 and since then, the penny sales tax (SAVE) program was extended through 2050 by the state legislature. Because the penny sales tax (SAVE) program was extended, we need voter approval to be able to spend the funds through the duration of the program. If voters approve the Revenue Purpose Statement in November, the school district will be able to spend the penny sales tax (SAVE) funds in any way Iowa law allows. The last time we used these funds they reduced the cost of a general obligation bond for the new middle school, saving the tax payers of the Monticello Community School District 7 million dollars.

In order to better explain the Revenue Purpose Statement, I have put together some Q & A below:

### **What is a Revenue Purpose Statement?**

- It is a ballot issue that describes how school districts can spend the penny sales tax/SAVE (Secure an Advanced Vision for Education) funds that the state of Iowa has dedicated to Iowa schools.

### **Do we currently have a Revenue Purpose Statement?**

- We do have a current Revenue Purpose Statement that allows the Monticello Community School District to spend the funds raised by the penny sales tax (SAVE) in any way Iowa law allows, but this will **expire in 2029**.

### **Why is this important now?**

- Our district's current Revenue Purpose Statement will expire in 2029. We would like to extend our current Revenue Purpose Statement language **for the duration** of the penny sales tax (SAVE) which is through 2050.

### **Will this raise my Taxes?**

- **This will absolutely not raise your taxes.** This is an extension of the current Revenue Purpose Statement which will allow the school district to continue to spend the funds as allowed by Iowa law. This is not a vote on the penny sales tax (SAVE). The state legislature has already set the rate at a penny. It is a vote to extend our current Revenue Purpose Statement language **for the duration** of the penny sales tax (SAVE).

### **When will the Revenue Purpose Statement vote be held?**

- The election is set for November 2, 2021. Only a simple majority (50% + 1) is needed for the Revenue Purpose Statement to pass.

### **How have the Penny Sales Tax (SAVE) funds been used in the past?**

- In the past these funds were used to pay off the high school general obligation bond in Monticello earlier than expected. Since then we have used these funds to reduce the cost of our current general obligation bond for the new middle school that opened in 2020, by 7 million dollars. If approved, the penny sales tax

(SAVE) funds can be used to offset tax payer costs of any future construction projects.

Please feel free to share these facts with anyone and everyone. Our goal is to create an awareness and understanding about why the Revenue Purpose Statement is on the ballot on November 2, 2021.

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO VOTE ON NOVEMBER 2, 2021.**

If you or anyone you know has questions, please feel free to have them call or email me at [\(319\) 465-3000](tel:3194653000) or [brian.jaeger@monticello.k12.ia.us](mailto:brian.jaeger@monticello.k12.ia.us)

Thank you,

Dr. Brian Jaeger  
Superintendent  
Monticello Community School District