



March 17, 2017

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I hope this letter finds you doing well. I appreciate your great efforts and the support you provide for your children. I want to share information explaining the importance of the Madison County Schools Facilities Sales Tax which will be on the April 4th ballot this election. This revenue is generated by adding one penny to the Madison County sales tax and could generate 3.5 million dollars to Granite City School District Facilities every year. This does not apply to groceries or medicine. This revenue can only be used for facility projects including roofs, parking lots, technology infrastructure, and renovations. Granite City School District #9 needs additional parking and improved traffic flow at all schools. This is especially true at Grigsby, which has daily issues at Pontoon Road and surrounding streets. We also need a new roof at Prather School, HVAC upgrades at Coolidge Jr. High, and technology infrastructure upgrades to support PARCC testing and increase technology usage in daily classroom instruction.

Another great aspect of this would be a reduction of current property taxes and the ability to help reduce the need for future property tax increases for facility needs. The district has the opportunity with this revenue to reduce property taxes paid in 2018 and 2019 saving the owner of a \$100,000 house \$146 over those two years. This is an important issue for our schools, community, and children and is key to our continued vision to provide the safest and best learning environment to promote student growth and achievement.

Please visit our website <http://www.gcsd9.net> for more detailed information on what this revenue can be used for and specifics on items that would be included or excluded from this sales tax.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mr. James J. Greenwald".

Mr. James J. Greenwald, Ed.S.
Superintendent of Schools