The School District of Palm Beach County has been putting its share of the one-cent sales tax to use. A series of projects are being funded by proceeds from the one-cent sales tax, which is expected to generate approximately $2.7 billion over the next 10 years.

School Police is **200 officers** strong. **59 officers** have been hired since February 14, 2018.

**Phone System Overhauled**

$6 million to upgrade the District’s phone system in order to contact first responders in emergency situations.

50 new school police cars

**$5 million** to purchase computer equipment

78 new school buses in 2018 & another **80** planned for 2019

**Independent Sales Surtax Oversight Committee**

serves as an advisory committee to the School Board. Its mission and membership is consistent with School Board Policy 1.09, Advisory Committees to the School Board.

More than **$5.9 million** of sales tax proceeds to date have been invested into HVAC units and/or repair, and there is another **$6.4 million** in purchase orders in process. In total, **44 schools** have received new chiller units, and an additional **64 schools** have units on order.

**$30 million** to create single points of entry for all schools

59 officers have been hired since February 14, 2018

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**SMART Boards Make Their Debut**

Fully interactive touchscreen flat panels are being installed in classrooms across the District, putting engaging lessons at students’ fingertips.

The SMART boards are invaluable tools that display animation and videos selected by teachers to enhance their lessons. Teachers can write directly into the application and highlight text, or use the flat panels to create an interactive quiz where students can provide answers right from their laptops.

The District’s Technology Trailblazers are the first to receive the SMART boards and have spent hours training on the devices, both online and on-site.

Eleven thousand flat panels will be installed in classrooms over the next two years, using money from the Penny Sales Tax approved by voters in 2016.
Del Prado Elementary School Enters the Next Two Stages of its Crucial Renovation Project

Originally built in the mid-1980s, 30 years worth of age has finally begun taking its toll on Del Prado Elementary School. Now two years into their Penny at Work renovations, the Boca Raton school is entering the next major phases of the project to revitalize and repair the school.

After years of crumbling pavement, leaks, dim hallways, and peeling paint, construction at the school is addressing these issues head on.

This summer, they enter the middle two phases of the four-phase project. In the first phase, Del Prado will be receiving a completely new roof. Having to relocate students and classes due to roof leaks was a common occurrence at Del Prado, showing the true necessity of this renovation.

The second phase being completed this summer is a general rejuvenation of the school including new classrooms, lighting, plumbing, paint colors, and HVAC. All of these improvements are crucial to the students’ overall learning experience.

Renovations Underway at Cypress Trails Elementary School

This August, when students return to Cypress Trails Elementary School for the start of a new school year, they may as well be walking into a new school. The first of many upgrades coming to Palm Beach County Schools this summer, thanks to the One Penny Sales Tax, has begun at Cypress Trails and includes major renovations to the bathrooms, floors, and ceilings.

The new buildings and campus renovations will now be ADA compliant and include more security features. These renovations cover new floors, new tile in the bathrooms, new bathroom fixtures, new ceiling tiles, an upgraded playground, and new paint jobs. In terms of security, the renovations at Cypress Trails will include upgrades to the school’s single point of entry features such as card access to the main buildings, buzz-ins to the main office, and cameras on the front building.

Working with five contractors doing upwards of 20 jobs, Cypress Trails, which is the first of 10 schools that will be renovated, will have classroom renovations finished by the time school starts.

Schools Receive New Audio Enhancements to Help Students Better Hear Instruction

Students in 177 schools across the School District will hear their teachers more clearly thanks to funds from the penny sales tax referendum. Systems are being installed or repaired in every instructional area of the schools to help teachers gain the attention of their students and keep them engaged without the need to raise their voice.

The state-of-the-art enhancements include amplifiers in the ceilings, speakers around the class, mics that hang from the teacher’s neck and hand-held microphones to allow students to also be heard.

Fifty-four percent of the project has already been completed with the remaining projects expected to be finished by June.