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## Study suggests nearly doubling Lee school impact fees

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A just-released study of Lee County school impact fees recommends a 95 percent hike, one that would take the fee from \$2,232 to \$4,345 for every single-family home built.

The school board will review the 32 pages of new information during budget hearings on Tuesday, when the board expects a recommendation from Superintendent Jim Browder on a proposed half-cent sales tax referendum.

The school district plans to spend \$1.2 billion to build 41 new schools over the next nine years. School impact fees have produced almost \$70 million since the county started collecting them in 2002. With building at an all-time high the fees are producing around \$3 million every month.

The school district has said over and over this school year that it cannot find the money to build enough schools to accommodate the increasing number of students streaming into the county and balance that growth with the demands of the class-size amendment.

A half-cent sales tax would be expected to produce around \$40 million a year.

*Find additional coverage in Saturday's edition of the Bonita Daily News or Naples Daily News.*

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