



PRESS RELEASE

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**KITCHEN EXPANSION FOR SPRING LAKE PARK ELEMENTARY
& FIRST READING OF 2013-14 BUDGET
ADDRESSED DURING TISD BOARD OF TRUSTEE MEETING**

Texarkana, TX – During their Tuesday, April 16, 2013 regular session, the Texarkana Independent School District Board of Trustees approved proposal contract recommendations for a kitchen structural package at Spring Lake Park Elementary School and reviewed the First Reading of the 2013-14 budget.

Spring Lake Park Elementary School was built in 1961 and renovated in 2002. Kitchen upgrades during the years have been limited to paint and flooring with no major renovations occurring. With the ageing equipment and increased student enrollment, the expansion of the kitchen area has been most needed. The upgrade will include square footage expansion from 1,375 to 2,885 along with additional freezer, cooler space, walk-in freezer and refrigerator. Along with the new equipment, serving lines will be expanded and installed to increase the overall effectiveness and efficiency of the cafeteria operation. Funding for the kitchen upgrade will be through the Child Nutrition Fund and has been approved by the Texas Department of Agriculture.

In other business, the First Reading of the 2013-14 budget was given by Chief Financial Officer, Deidra Reeves.

“These numbers are very, very preliminary at this time,” she shared with Board Trustees. “For our first reading, you will see three varying scenarios. The first is assuming that all funding, revenue and expenditures remain the same as in 2012-13. With that, TISD would face a \$1,086,951 deficit. In the second scenario, we are showing the passing of Senate Bill 1 which would return back to the district \$937,860 that was lost in educational funding during the last biennium. In this situation, the budget deficit would be \$259,211. Our final funding scenario is assuming that Senate Bill 1 passes with the House Substitute of \$1,716,220 being funded to TISD from the state. This picture would give TISD a surplus of \$752,867.”

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TISD's budgeting process began in February with campus and department meetings reviewing their anticipated needs for the upcoming year. Current appraised values for the district have not been finalized and the legislature is still in session with decisions to be determined by June 1, 2013.

No change will be made to TISD's total tax rate which has remained the same since 2008. The 2013-14 proposed tax rate is represented by \$1.17 for Maintenance & Operations (M&O) and \$.169 for Interest & Sinking Funds (I&S) which is used to repay bonded indebtedness and other debts.

Board of Trustees will hear the second and third readings in May and June, respectively, with final budget approval given in late-June

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