



**Texarkana**  
Independent School District

*The Place To Be!*

# MEDIA RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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**TISD BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVE NEW PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT FOR  
TWO CAMPUSES, BUDGET CALENDAR FOR 2017-18  
AND CANCELS TRUSTEE ELECTION DURING FEBRUARY MEETING**

**Texarkana, TX** – During their Tuesday, February 21, 2017 regular session, the Texarkana Independent School District Board of Trustees approved the purchase of new playground equipment for the Spring Lake Park Elementary and Theron Jones Early Literacy Center campuses. “Both schools have equipment that is twenty years of age and are in desperate need of replacement,” said Paul Norton, Superintendent of Schools. Equipment will be purchased for \$186,608 from Child’s Play, Inc. out of Dallas and is expected to be installed during the summer.

In other business, Trustees approved the 2017-18 budget calendar in order to begin making preparations and determinations of financial needs for the upcoming school year.

“Since January, we have been preparing our estimated budgets and will now be moving forward through the end of March visiting with campuses and departments to review their respective needs,” shared Deidra Reeves, Chief Financial Officer. “Although school finance state numbers from the State of Texas are unknown at this time, we will run several different scenarios as legislators meet throughout the session. Appraised values from Bowie County Appraisal District will in given to us in April.”

TISD has completed some assessment surveys to determine what the expected needs are for the upcoming year. According to Reeves, “Each campus or department will be given a budget template by March to work from and they, in turn, will review to make the best decisions on what staffing and non-payroll items will be a necessity for 2017-18.”

During the March through April period, campuses or departments will make their budget presentations to the Budget Cabinet that consists of the Superintendent, Deputy Superintendent, Chief Operating Officer and Chief Financial Officer. Additionally, the Bowie County Appraisal District will release their estimated projections in April. It is anticipated that the TISD Board of Trustees will hold their First Budget Reading during their regular scheduled meeting in April with final budget approval expected in late June.

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Trustees also approved the cancellation of the May 6, 2017 Trustee Election due to all candidates being unopposed.

“We are extremely fortunate to have seven dynamic representatives from our community leading TISD towards excellence,” shared Paul Norton, Superintendent of Schools. “Their collective efforts continue to drive the district in providing a superior education that inspires, challenges and engages each student through a wide range of opportunities. I am pleased to have Amy Bowers, Gerald Brooks and Fred Norton, Jr. continuing for another three years in their respective roles.”

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