



Texarkana
Independent School District

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MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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**TISD BOARD OF TRUSTEES MARCH MEETING COVERS
MAINTENANCE & CONSTRUCTION VENDORS,
INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS ALLOTMENT,
SNOW DAY PAYOUTS AND TRUSTEE ELECTION CANCELLATION**

Texarkana, TX – During the March 20, 2018 regular meeting of the Texarkana Independent School District Board of Trustees approval was given on various maintenance & construction vendors, instructional materials allotment, snow day payout for non-exempt employees and cancellation of the 2018 Trustee election.

Consent was given for proposals on building materials, hardware, supply, equipment and repair vendors for maintenance and construction related items. Primary vendors will be: Carrier Enterprise (HVAC); Commercial Contract Flooring (flooring material/labor); Elliott Electric (electrical); Modern Glass (glass/storefronts); Moore Supply (plumbing); Red River Lumber (building materials/lumber); Sherwin Williams (paint supplies); Sword (door hardware); Texarkana Tent & Awning (canopy). Secondary vendors include: R.E. Michel (HVAC); Red River Lumber (flooring supplies); Sherwin Williams (flooring material/labor); Wholesale Electric (electrical).

Additionally, Trustees approved the expenditure of \$40,989 for a new Ford Expedition to be added into the district's travel fleet. This vehicle will replace one of the high mileage trip vehicles which will now go into usage within the local travel fleet as a maintenance vehicle.

Also approved were the Instructional Materials Allotment and TEKS Certification for the 2018-19 school year. Texas Education Code requires each school district's Board of Trustees to certify annually that the instructional materials selections transmitted through the state Educational Materials System (EMAT) have been approved for use in their district. These selections may include textbooks, technology and other instructional resources. The certification also states that the district's instructional materials allotment from the state will be used only for expenses allowed by the Texas Education Code and that the instructional materials will cover all elements of the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) of the required curriculum.

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In other business, Trustees approved payment to non-exempt employees who were idle during a day of closure resulting from inclement weather. On January 16, 2018, TISD closed operations due to snow for the safety of students, staff and the community as a whole. Exempt employees (teachers, administrators, counselors and other professional level employees) are required by the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) to be paid for the entire week if they work any part of the week in which the district is closed. Non-exempt employees (secretaries, maintenance, custodial, teachers' aides and other hourly employees) require Board approval to receive continued wage payments during school closings.

"We believe that it is imperative to support this group of employees who continually go above and beyond what is required of them in order to carry out their employment duties for the district," said Autumn Thomas, Deputy Superintendent. "Their work schedules were affected by circumstances completely beyond their control." Wages needed are already incorporated in the 2017-18 budget.

Lastly, Trustees approved the cancellation of the May 5, 2018 Trustee election due to all candidates being unopposed. Candidates were Bill Kimbro, representing District 1, and Paul Miller, representing District 6 At-Large.

"We have a wonderful group serving as our Board of Trustees," shared Paul Norton, Superintendent of Schools. "They provide creative and effective administrative leadership and are key to the success of TISD."

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