



BOARD NOTES

A Summary of the August 21, 2017 Palestine ISD Board of Trustees Meeting

Public Hearing

A Public Hearing was called to order at 7:00 PM. An announcement was made by the President that a quorum was present and that notice of the meeting was posted for the time and manner required by law.

The purpose of the Public Hearing was to provide an opportunity for community input regarding the following:

- 1) 2017-2018 proposed Budget & Tax Rate
- 2) 2017-2018 Texas Afterschool Centers on Education (TACE): Pay for contract employees

David Atkeisson, Chief Financial Officer, reported a proposed total budget for 2017-2018 of \$35,895,789 which is composed of the General Fund budget (\$29,804,236), the Food Service budget (\$2,015,700) and the Debt Service budget (\$4,075,853)

Mr. Atkeisson reported that the District is proposing a total tax rate of \$1.548 which is composed of (\$0.378/\$100 valuation) for Interest and Sinking and (\$1.17) for Maintenance and Operations) Note: The I&S tax rate was reduced from \$0.396/\$100 valuation in 2016-2017, and there has been no increase in the tax rate since the 2010-2011 school year.

President Sheeley offered an opportunity for questions or public comment regarding the 2017-2018 proposed budget/tax rate. There were no questions or public comments.

Information regarding 2017-2018 TACE program pay for contract employees was presented by Superintendent Jason Marshall. Texas Government Code Section 180.007 prohibits a political subdivision from paying an employee more than the person is owed under a contract without first providing a public hearing. Professional staff who provide instruction in the TACE Program would be paid an hourly rate of \$35, and non-professional staff would receive \$25 per hour.

President Sheeley offered an opportunity for questions or public comment regarding the TACE program pay for contract employees. There were no questions or comments from the public regarding TACE program pay.

There being no further discussion of the proposed budget, tax rate, or TACE program pay for contract employees, the hearing was adjourned 7:11 PM.

The regular meeting began at 7:12 PM.

Pledges of allegiance were recited to the American and Texas flags.

Public Comment

There were no public comment requests.

Spotlight

The Palestine Herald Press was recognized by Palestine ISD as the Texas Association of School Boards 2017 Media Honor Roll recipient.

2017-2018 Tax Rate

Ordinance approved to adopt Maintenance & Operations Tax Rate of \$1.17 and an Interest and Sinking Tax Rate of \$0.378 for a total tax rate of \$1.548.

2017-2018 Budget

Proposed 2017-2018 budget adopted as presented. Total budget (\$35,895,789) composed of General Fund (\$29,804,326), Debt Service (\$3,827,482), and Food Service (\$2,015,700).

Financial Update

David Atkeisson, Chief Financial Officer, presented a financial update for the 2016-2017 budget noting that tax collections are at 91.90%, district has received 88.83% of budgeted general fund revenue, and district has spent or encumbered 91.38% of general fund expenditure budget.

Preliminary Schools FIRST Rating

David Atkeisson, Chief Financial Officer, reported that preliminary ratings from the 2016-2017 Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas (FIRST) Report had been released and that Palestine ISD had earned the highest preliminary rating possible of Superior. Final ratings will be announced at a future school board meeting.

2017-2018 Fuel Contract

David Atkeisson, Chief Financial Officer, informed the Board that the district had advertised for fuel bids in the newspaper, on the internet, and contacted companies that have previously submitted fuel bids by telephone. The district received three fuel bids prior to the deadline. A bid for fuel was awarded to Sun Coast Resources, and a bid for fluid products to Sumrall Distributing for the period of September 1, 2017 through August 31, 2018.

Consent Items Approved

- Minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 17, 2017
- Minutes of the Called Meeting of July 27, 2017
- Corrected Minutes of Regular Meeting of June 19, 2017
- Bills paid for July, 2017
- Financial Report
- Monthly Investment Report
- Tax Collection Report
- Donations

Palestine CTE

\$6,540 from Anderson County Master Gardener Association to be used for water tanks and a slab at Wildcat Acres.

Palestine Athletics

\$7,000 from Shelby Savings Bank to be applied toward purchase of baseball scoreboard.

- Resolution Regarding Budget Transfers between functions: The Board authorized for Administrative staff to transfer budget allocations between function provided there is no change in the amount of the total budget.
- 2017-2018 Property & Casualty Insurance: North American Solutions
- 2017-2018 Honors Classes: Algebra 1 & 2 PAP, Calculus AP/Dual Credit, Pre-Calculus PAP/Dual Credit, Pre-Calculus PAP, Geometry PAP, Statistics Dual Credit, English 1 & 2 PAP, English 3 AP/Dual Credit, English 3 Dual Credit, English AP/Dual Credit, English 4 Dual Credit, Spanish 2 PAP, Spanish 3 PAP, Spanish 4 AP, Spanish 5 AP, Biology PAP, Biology 2 AP/Dual Credit, Chemistry PAP, Chemistry AP, Chemistry 2 AP/Dual Credit, Anatomy & Physiology PAP Dual Credit, Environmental Science AP, Principals of Engineering PAP, Government/Economics AP, US History Dual Credit, US History PAP/Dual Credit, World Geography PAP, and World History PAP.

- 2017-2018 Gifted and Talented Plan/Timeline
- 2017-2018 Certified Appraisers for Evaluation of Teachers
- 2017-2018 Teacher Appraisal Calendar

First Date formal observations may be conducted for appraisal purposes:

September 6, 2017

*if required orientation has been completed no Later than August 15, 2017; observation can begin 2 weeks after orientation is completed.

Formal observations are prohibited on the following dates, including days before and after a holiday, semester and end of year exams, and required testing days as applicable for each campus.*

October 19 & 23, 2017
 November 17 & 27, 2017
 Dec 13-15 & 18-20, 2017
 January 8, 12, & 16, 2018
 February 16 & 20, 2018
 March 9, 19 & 29, 2018
 April 2, 2018

*All campus state assessment testing days.

First date annual summative conferences may be conducted:

March 21, 2018

Last date formal observations may be conducted for appraisal purposes:

April 11, 2018

Last date for annual summative conferences:

May 4, 2018

End of the appraisal period and date written Summative annual appraisal report shall be placed in teacher's personnel file:

May 24, 2018

*Dates for additional testing/assessments where a choice for the scheduled time is allowed and/or where state assessments are applicable to specific segments of the student population are also dates when formal observations are prohibited for those areas of the campus. Appraisers are required to follow the prohibition of observations according to the campus testing calendar.

- 2017-2018 Teacher Shortage Area Stipends: Bilingual/English as a Second Language (Elementary and Secondary levels), Career and Technical Education, Computer Science/Technology Applications, Mathematics, Science, and Special Education (Elementary and Secondary levels)
- 2017-2018 Region 7 Education Service Center Service Agreements

2017-2018 TACE Program Pay for Contract Employees

Pay for contract employees providing instruction in Texas Afterschool Center on Education Programs approved as recommended.

Personnel Approved

Campbell, Kathryn	SLP Assistant	Palestine ISD
Jordan, Laurence	ESL	A.M. Story Intermediate
Ryal, Jonathan	Social Studies	Palestine High School
White, Norris	History	Palestine Junior High School

Superintendent Jason Marshall accepted resignations from Susan Cate and Megan Howard.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Jason Marshall reported on the following:

The 2017-2018 first few days of school had gone well. Student enrollment on day four of school was 3,362, slightly down from the previous school year day four enrollment of 3,410.

District is working with Texas Education Agency regarding the school calendar which may need an adjustment due to a requirement for District of Innovation school districts. If an adjustment is needed, the Board will be updated at a future school board meeting.

Calendar of events was presented to Board members.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:24 PM.