

# PARTNERS IN COMMUNICATION

Woodsboro ISD - August 20, 2018

## Summary of Board Meeting August 20, 2018

### Public Hearing on Proposed Budget and Tax Rate

Using a PowerPoint, I conducted the public hearing on the proposed budget and tax rate. The information was acted on during the regular meeting. Time was allotted for attendees to ask questions or make comments.

TEA has awarded the highest designations: Financial—SUPERIOR Campus Accountability Rating WES: MET STANDARD WJH/HS: MET STANDARD District: MET STANDARD
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## Reports

The WISD Board of Trustees heard reports on the following matters:

**1. Facilities:** Architect Bill Wilson, WKMC Architects, reported on his efforts to write specifications for demolition of the 1956 auditorium/band hall, the 1939 gym with classrooms, and the elementary wing with adjacent teacher's lounge. Asbestos and utilities must be taken care of before demolition. In the bid package, he will include a specification to restore the ground surface. He has drawn a preliminary band hall which will be constructed where the 1939 gym currently stands on Locke Street. Building a new auditorium is not planned.

**2. Budget:** The Board adopted a balanced budget for the 2018-19 fiscal year. I reported that almost every budget had been cut. The district has lost about \$3 million in values since Hurricane Harvey damaged and destroyed so many homes. With state funding based on student attendance, the 2017-18 attendance rate was 96.1%. Enrollment has declined. While enrollment in 2009-10 was 534, enrollment in 2017-18 dipped to 450. On August 14, 2018, the first day of school, the elementary had 240 check in and the secondary had 190 for a district total of 430 students.

What increased in 2018-19 budget was the fund balance, expenditures, transportation costs, special education coop expenses, and federal funding for Title I & II. The tax rate increased from \$1.50 to \$1.515 so that bonded indebtedness could be paid.

What decreased for 2018-19 was state revenue and appraised property values.

**3. State Accountability:** In August 2018 the Texas Education Agency activated the A-F accountability system. Those districts affected by Hurricane Harvey were not awarded an overall district score this year. TEA awarded WISD the following scores based on student progress on the 2018 STAAR tests:

- Student Achievement: **B**
- School Progress: **A**
- Closing the Gap: **C**

Next year the district and campuses should receive their overall letter scores from TEA.

**4. District of Innovation (DOI):** HB1842 created DOI designation which allows public

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schools to have greater local control over decision making. When the Board adopted DOI on April 17, 2017, they asked to receive updated reports on teacher certification. For this semester, three certified teachers are teaching outside of their certified subject areas for some class periods.

**5. FIRST:** WISD has a Superior rating on the TEA Preliminary 2017-18 Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas (FIRST).



## Board Meeting Action

The WISD Board of Trustees approved the following items:

**1. Budget Adopted for 2018-19:**

Anticipated local revenue is \$3,970,183 and state revenue is \$1,755,353. Projected expenditures totaled \$5,724,864. The difference is \$672. Therefore, the Board unanimously passed a balanced budget. Administrators and directors will receive their copies of the budgets after September 1 when the new fiscal budget begins.

**2. Tax Rate of \$1.515:** In order to cover bonded indebtedness, the district required an increase in the tax rate of .015. The tax rate will be \$1.17 for Maintenance and Operations and .34500 for Interest and sinking (debt). The debts should be paid off in 2044. The motion passed unanimously.

**3. Salary Increase:** Approved a 2% salary increase for three employees who are not on a salary schedule: Athletic Director, Elementary Principal, and Human Resource/Technology/Safety Director for the 2018-19 fiscal year.

**4. Contract:** Approved a contract with Linebarger, Goggan, Blair & Sampson for the 2019-2020 fiscal year. This law firm works to collect delinquent taxes for public taxing entities.

**5. IPM Coordinator:** Appointed the Superintendent to be the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Coordinator for a three-year term (2018-2021).

**6. 4-H:** Approved a Resolution regarding the extra-curricular status of the 4-H organization to enter an adjunct faculty agreement with the Refugio County Extension Agent, Candice Moeller (2018-19).

**7. Technology Course:** Approved eliminating the local credit requirement for graduating seniors, class of 2019, to complete a technology-based course. With all students, grades 5-12, being able to use Chromebooks and with so many students taking dual credit courses online, the principal supported this change. The class of 2019 was the last class to be under this local credit.

**Mottos:**

**Only the Best!**

**Tradition—Honor—Success**