

SPRINGBOARD

A Publication of the Spring ISD Board of Trustees

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The **Springboard** e-newsletter is provided as a community service to inform the public of actions during the monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees. The official minutes from the meeting will be posted online at www.springisd.org once approved by the Board.

Trustees

Rhonda L. Faust
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Assistant Secretary

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Deborah Jensen

Rhonda Newhouse

Public Participation is Welcomed

Citizens who want to speak at a Board meeting are asked to register at least 15 minutes prior to the time when the meeting is scheduled to begin.

For more information, go online at www.springisd.org and click on the Public Participation at Board Meetings link under General Info.

The next regular Board meeting will be at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 10 at Gordon M. Anderson Leadership Center, 16717 Ella Blvd.



You Tube

Spring Independent School District is an equal opportunity employer. The Board of Trustees and its agents, officers and staff members shall not discriminate on the basis of gender, race, disabling condition, age, color, religion, national origin, military status, or any other legally protected status in making decisions regarding staff members or students.

The Spring ISD Board of Trustees met at 7 p.m. Tuesday, June 30 at the Gordon M. Anderson Leadership Center to address items on the agenda. President **Rhonda L. Faust** called the meeting to order and led the pledges of allegiance.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent **Dr. Rodney Watson** reported on the work being done following the board's approval at the last board meeting of salary increases for teachers and bus drivers.

"We have really worked hard with our Communications and HR departments to create some marketing pieces and videos to share on social media. We want to share with you tonight the videos of some of the wonderful things that are happening as a result of the hard work you have done," Watson said.

[Believe in Spring Recruitment videos](#)



Dr. Rodney E. Watson

President's Remarks

President **Rhonda Faust** said the public hearing and the vote on the 2015-16 budget are the culmination of a lot of hard work by many people throughout the district.

"We are looking forward to culminating the discussion, hearing from the public and passing a budget before we leave here this evening. I just want to say thank you to everyone who has been involved in this process," Faust said.



Rhonda L. Faust

Action Items

Spring ISD Board of Trustees Approves 2015-16 Budget

The Spring ISD Board of Trustees adopted a 2015-16 operating budget that allows the district to increase salaries for teachers, restore transportation services to 1.5 miles, provide an in-house Disciplinary Alternative Education Program for students who are reassigned due to conduct or behavioral issues, and improve curriculum and technology infrastructure across the district. All items are priorities listed in the district's new five-year strategic plan – EVERY CHILD 2020.

For the first time, the district used a zero-based, priority-focused approach to develop this year's budget. "By looking at each item in the existing budget and weighing its effectiveness, the district has been able to accommodate initiatives that our district and community have identified as important," said Ann Westbrooks, chief financial officer.

According to Westbrooks, the district was able to cut \$2.4 million from existing departmental budgets using the new process to fund district priorities. Many items in the budget support the district's commitment to compensating and retaining highly qualified staff. [See adopted budget.](#)

The \$378 million operating budget, which includes \$298,548,892 in the general fund, \$54,165,228 in the debt service fund and \$25,603,000 in the child nutrition fund, will be supported by a proposed tax rate of \$1.51, the same as last year.

The tax rate is based on preliminary certified assessments of property values within the district. Board action on the tax rate will be taken in September after the District receives certified tax rolls from the Harris County Appraisal District.

The district held a public hearing prior to the board's adoption of the budget to give citizens an opportunity to express their views and opinions. Summary copies of the budget are available to the public upon request. For more information, call 281-891-6077.

Board Approves Funds for Renovating the Support Services Center to Serve as New Disciplinary Alternative Education Program

The board approved a proposal for renovations to the school Support Services Building in an amount not to exceed \$1.7 million.

"This comes to you as a guaranteed maximum price. We are actually working daily with the architect and construction manager to hold the cost below that amount," said Mark Miranda, chief operations officer.

The district is using a construction management at-risk process to renovate the building at 341 East Richey Rd to serve as the district's new, in-house Disciplinary Alternative Education Program. This method allows for a faster completion of time-sensitive projects.

In Other Action the Board Approved:

- Employee compensation manual and staffing guidelines;
- Resolution to waive making up the day missed due to Tropical Storm Bill on May 26 and pay all employees for the day missed;
- Contract with the Flippen Group for implementation of districtwide positive behavior support programs: Capturing Kids Hearts and CHAMPS/DSC (Discipline in the Secondary Classroom);
- 2015-16 Spring ISD Student Success Initiative and Accelerated Instruction;
- Second reading of EIA local re: grading and progress reports to parents;
- Second reading of EIC local re: class ranking;
- Second reading of EIE local re: retention and promotion;
- First reading of proposed revisions to Board policy DNA local re: teacher appraisal system;
- First reading of proposed revisions to Board Policy CPC local re: records management;
- Service contract with Harris County Department of Education to serve six students with disabilities at the Academic and Behavior Center (ABC) East;
- Reconstitution plans for Bammel Elementary and Lewis Elementary schools;
- Interlocal agreement with the Texas Department of Information Resources;
- Interlocal agreement with the Harris County Department of Education;
- 2014-15 third budget review;
- Tri-annual financial report of 2014-15 budget and actuals; and
- Certification of anticipated collection rate for the district.