

PALESTINE INDEPENDENT  
SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF TRUSTEES AGENDA

August 25, 2014

STANLEY SOKOLOWSKI, PRESIDENT  
JASON MARSHALL, SUPERINTENDENT

**AGENDA**  
**PALESTINE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Palestine ISD Administrative Offices Board Room**  
**Monday, August 25, 2014**  
**6:00 P.M. – 7:00 P.M.**

Call to order by President Sokolowski

**Closed Session**

The Board of Trustees will convene in closed session to discuss matters authorized by the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code Section 551.001 et. seq., including, but not limited to the following sections and purposes:

- A. Discussion for the purpose of a private consultation with the Board's attorney on any or all subjects or matters authorized by law. (Tex. Govt. Code Sect. 551.071)
- B. Discussion of purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property. (Tex. Govt. Code Sect. 551.072)
- C. Discussion of prospective gift or donation to the District if deliberation in an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the Board's position in negotiations with a third person. (Tex. Govt. Code Sect. 551.073)
- D. Discussing personnel or to hear complaints against personnel. (Tex. Govt. Code Sect. 551.074)
- E. Investments. (Tex. Govt. Code Sect. 551.075)
- F. Considering the deployment, specific occasions for, or implementation of, security personnel or devices. (Tex. Govt. Code Sect. 551.076)
- G. Considering discipline of a public school child, or complaint or charge against personnel. (Tex. Govt. Code Sect. 551.082)
- H. Considering the standards, guidelines, terms, or conditions the board will follow, or will instruct its representatives to follow, in consultation with representatives of employee groups. (Tex. Govt. Code Sect. 551.083)
- I. Excluding witnesses from a hearing. (Tex. Govt. Code Sect. 551.084)
- J. Telephone consultation with the Board's attorney. (Tex. Govt. Code Sect. 551.129)
- K. Discussion or adoption of individual assessment instruments or assessment instrument items. (Education Code Sect. 39.030(a))

The Board of Trustees will reconvene in open session for action to be taken on closed session items.

# **Agenda of Public Hearing**

## **The Board of Trustees Palestine ISD**

A Public Hearing of the Board of Trustees of Palestine ISD will be held August 25, 2014, beginning at 7:00 PM in the Palestine ISD Administrative Offices Board Room, 1007 East Park Avenue, Palestine, Texas 75801.

The subjects to be discussed or considered or upon which any formal action may be taken are listed below. Items do not have to be taken in the same order as shown on this meeting notice. Unless removed from the consent agenda, items identified within the consent agenda will be acted on at one time.

1. Public Meeting to Discuss School District's 2014-2015 Proposed Budget and Tax Rate 4
2. Adjournment
3. The Palestine ISD Board of Trustees regular meeting will immediately follow the public hearing.

**PALESTINE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT  
1007 E. PARK AVENUE  
PALESTINE, TEXAS 75801**

**OFFICIAL COMMUNICATION**

**Date: August 20, 2014**  
**To: Board of Trustees**  
**From: David Atkeisson, Director of Business Services/CFO**  
**Subject: FY 14-15 Budget and Tax Rate Information**

---

The proposed budget is based on a flat enrolment from the 13-14 school year. All indications lead me to believe that the enrollment will be increased over last year's enrollment but I am not prepared to speculate on that fact. I am very confident, however, that our enrolment will not be less than last year's, therefore providing the building blocks of what you will be presented.

As we have discussed before, our property values have increased slightly and the state formula is kind to us in this second year of the biennium, slightly increasing our projected revenues. We should also remember that some of the increased revenues are to offset the new district contribution to each teacher's TRS. I will provide a more detailed summary of the budget later this week.

The proposed total tax rate of \$1.566 is the same tax rate as the past three years. Again, as in the previous years, you will notice that the motion language for setting the tax rate contains the words "effectively increases" regarding the tax rate. This language can be deceptive, causing some to think we are raising the tax rate, which is untrue. This particular language is required by law, however, because, through a series of calculations, (and mostly due to the slight increase in local property values) our proposed tax rate is slightly higher than our calculated effective tax rate. This should not be confused with the rollback rate. We would not be required to conduct a rollback election unless we were to adopt a rate of \$1.5854.

It is my recommendation that the budget and tax rate be approved.

Respectfully submitted,



David Atkeisson  
Director of Business Services/CFO

**PALESTINE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT  
1007 E. PARK AVENUE  
PALESTINE, TEXAS 75801  
(903) 731-8000**

**ORDINANCE SETTING TAX RATE**

August 25, 2014

On this date, we, the Board of Trustees of the Palestine Independent School District, hereby levy or set the tax rate on \$100 valuation for the District for the School Year 2014-2015 at a total rate of \$1.566, to be assessed and collected by the duly specified assessor and collector as follows:

\$1.170           for the purpose of Maintenance and Operations  
\$0.396           for the purpose of Interest and Sinking

**THIS TAX RATE WILL RAISE MORE TAXES FOR MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS THAN LAST YEAR'S TAX RATE.**

---

Stanley Sokolowski  
President, Board of Trustees

Motion:

**"I move that the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of \$1.566, which is effectively a 1.2% increase in the tax rate."**