

**WELCOME TO THE**

***SMITHVILLE R-II***

***SCHOOL DISTRICT***

***BOARD CANDIDATE***

***WORKSHOP***

November 19th, 2024



**SMITHVILLE**  
School District  
Tradition of Excellence

***THANK YOU FOR EXPRESSING  
INTEREST IN YOUR SCHOOL  
DISTRICT BY CONSIDERING  
BEING A CANDIDATE FOR THE  
BOARD OF EDUCATION!***

# QUESTIONS

# AGENDA



- INTRODUCTIONS
- PERCEPTIONS ABOUT SERVICE ON THE SMITHVILLE R-II BOARD OF EDUCATION
- PERTINENT INFORMATION ABOUT THE SMITHVILLE R-II SCHOOL DISTRICT
- QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

***BOARD MEMBER  
PERCEPTIONS ABOUT  
SERVICE ON THE  
SMITHVILLE R-II  
BOARD OF EDUCATION***

# ROLE OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION



- Missouri School Boards Association suggests that local boards of education should have two primary functions
  - *Establish district policy*
  - *Hire and evaluate superintendent to implement district policy*
- Boards of education operate best when focused on the “big picture” or governance of a district
  - *Leaving management of the district to staff and administration*
- New Board members with an “agenda” often become quickly frustrated
- Keys to focusing on major policy issues
  - *Trust in the administration*
  - *Open communication*

## How the Board can help the superintendent:

- support of admin
- no surprises
- clear goals
- show up
- offer grace
- understand the big picture
- allow autonomy
- hold accountable
- listen
- engage with the community
- listen
- financial support

## What the Board needs from the superintendent:

- communicate often
- educate on issues, curriculum, policies
- answer questions
- invite to school activities and participate in celebrations
- provide/lead administrators
- positive culture
- follow budget
- follow policies
- give both praise and critical feedback

# RESOURCES FROM MSBA

[New Board Member Calendar](#)

[Educational Abbreviations and Acronyms](#)

[Foundation Principles of Effective Governance](#)



# Policy Development

- MSBA
- Annual Revisions
- Typically three readings before adoption
- [Smithville Board of Education Policies](#)

# CALENDAR OF MAJOR BOARD ACTIVITIES



- Fiscal year is July 1 to June 30
- Tax rate hearing conducted in September
- Superintendent evaluation and contract considered in January
- Administrator evaluations and contracts considered in February
- Teacher evaluations and contracts considered in March
- Consider calendar for upcoming school year in January or February
- Board election and reorganization in April
  - *Reorganization within 14 days of election*
- Annual budget adopted prior to June 30
  - *Includes salary schedules for upcoming year*

# CALENDAR OF BOARD ACTIVITIES



- Overall usually two to three commitments per month
- Monthly events could include:
  - Monthly Board Meeting
  - Three to four Board Workshops per year
  - Two building walkthroughs (one each semester)
  - MSBA Conferences
  - Holiday Celebration
  - Retirement Celebration
  - Commencement
  - Annual Board Retreat

24-25 Board of Education [Calendar](#)

# 2024-25 GOALS



# ASSESSED VALUATION



- Revenue from property tax is determined by tax rate multiplied by assessed valuation (divided by 100) of all real and personal property in the district
- Assessed valuation for current fiscal year is \$416,835,439
  - *An increase of 3.24% from previous year*
  - *“Reassessment” occurs every odd year*
    - 2024-25 was a non-reassessment year
    - Anticipate that assessed valuation will continue to increase but limited by CPI or 5% cap.
- Property divided among three counties
  - *Clay – 90.7%*
  - *Platte – 9.0%*
  - *Clinton - < 1%*

# SCHOOL DISTRICT TAX LEVIES



- Operating and Debt Service levies must be set, approved by the Board, and forwarded to County Clerks prior to October 1st - BOE Typically conducts Tax Rate Hearing in September.
- Operating, and Debt Service levies are established separately
- Operating and Debt Service levies are approved by the Missouri State Auditor
- Total 24-25 Levy - \$4.7504 (\$3.5341 Operating and \$1.2163 Debt Service)

# OPERATING LEVY



- Revenue from operating levy is used for general district operations
  - *Personnel, materials and supplies, capital improvements, transportation, etc.*
- District revenue from operating levy cannot increase because of reassessment at a percentage greater than the Consumer Price Index (CPI) or 5% cap.
- District has traditionally set the operating levy at the “tax rate ceiling”
- Current year operating levy - \$3.5341
- Current year Total levy - \$4.7504

# DEBT SERVICE LEVY



- Revenue from Debt Service levy used to pay off district bonded debt
  - *Debt incurred from voter-approved bond issues (Obligation to 2043)*
- Debt Service levy is established each year at an amount needed to make payments on existing debt and provide a reserve to ensure future payments
- 2024-25 Debt Service levy - \$1.2163
- 2024-25 Total Levy - \$4.7504



# CAPITAL PROJECTS

<b>Phase I</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>6.25 Million</b> <i>UES and SHS Addition</i>
<b>Phase II</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>6.8 Million</b> <i>Classrooms UES, SMS, SHS, and renovations at PES</i>
<b>Phase III</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>6.8 Million</b> <i>Classrooms SMS/SHS and Activity Upgrades</i> <i>81% approval</i>
<b>Phase IV</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>9.8 Million</b> <i>Classrooms PES/UES, ECSE/Administration Building, and Activity Upgrades</i> <i>75% approval</i>
<b>Phase V</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>8.5 Million</b> <i>District Performing Arts Center, Practice Gym, Additional Parking, Recovations</i> <i>75% approval</i>
<b>Phase VI</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>21.5 Million Lease Purchase</b> <i>Third Elementary</i> <i>56.63% approval</i>  <b>12.5 Million GO Bond</b> <i>Improvements at SHS, SMS, HES, and MES</i> <i>75.43% approval</i>
<b>Phase VII</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>14.1 Million GO Bond</b> <i>District Activity Center, Playground Improvements, 6 Classrooms at Eagle Heights, HVAC Renovations</i> <i>63.28% approval</i>
<b>Phase VIII</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>17.9 Million GO Bond</b> <i>Transportation Facility, Safety and Security Improvements, Main Campus Sidewalk, HVAC Renovations at Horizon and Middle School</i>



# PERSONNEL



- District employs 326 FTE employees
- Includes 212 FTE certified employees
  - *Teachers, counselors, administrators, etc.*
- Includes 117 FTE non-certified employees
  - *Secretaries, custodians, paraprofessionals etc.*
- Student-to-classroom teacher ratio in 2023-24 – 18:1 (Missouri Average 16:1)
- Student-to-administrator ratio in 2023-24 – 158:1 (Missouri Average 148:1)

# PROJECTED FUTURE ENROLLMENT



- **2024-25 – 2,497 (*official enrollment*)**
  - 2025-26 – 2,505 (0.36%)
  - 2026-27 – 2,503 (-0.08%)
  - 2027-28 – 2,501 (-0.08%)
  - 2028-29 – 2,515 (0.56%)
  - 2029-30 – 2,539 (0.95%)
  - 2030-31 – 2,552 (0.19%)
  - 2031-32 – 2,557 (0.40%)



**MARK MAUS**  
SUPERINTENDENT



**DENISE HARWOOD**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF  
GRADES PK-6



**PJ MCGINNIS**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF  
GRADES 7-14



**IAN SAXTON**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF  
OPERATIONS & SAFETY



**ANDREA AMBROSON**  
DIRECTOR OF  
SPECIAL SERVICES



**KIM DAVIS**  
DIRECTOR OF  
HUMAN RESOURCES

# QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

**THANK YOU FOR  
ATTENDING, AND GOOD  
LUCK IN APRIL!!**