

EMERGENCY DECLARATION

WHEREAS, the [School District Governing Board Name] is tasked with the duty of providing a safe and high-quality public education system.

WHEREAS, In-person educational opportunities are necessary for many students within our school district.

WHEREAS, On March 11, 2020, Governor Asa Hutchinson issued an Executive Order declaring a statewide emergency to prevent the spread of COVID-19 as authorized by Ark. Code Ann. § 12-75-114. *See* Executive Order 20-03 (“EO 20-03”).

WHEREAS, In the Executive Order, Governor Hutchinson stated, “It is essential that our schools and educational institutions remain operational in the most practicable manner possible without jeopardizing public safety.”

WHEREAS, In Paragraph 3 of EO 20-03, Governor Hutchinson instructed the Arkansas Department of Education, in consultation with the Arkansas Department of Health to provide guidance to local school districts and take all measures necessary to ensure the continuation of education in the State during this emergency.

WHEREAS, the Arkansas Department of Health has recommended that schools must purchase PPE and COVID-19 Response Products to ensure the safe continuation of education in the State. These items include but are not limited to Hand Sanitizer, Lysol, Masks, Gloves, Sanitizing Wipes, Fogging Equipment and Chemicals, Gowns, and Face Shields.

NOW THEREFORE, let it be resolved that the Fort Smith Public Schools declares an emergency and waives the bidding requirement for the purchase of PPE and COVID-19 Response Products pursuant to Ark. Code Ann § 6-21-305. This declaration of emergency and waiver of bidding requirements shall be effective beginning June 1, 2020 and shall terminate June 30, 2021.

Board President

Date

Superintendent

Date