FORT SMITH PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Board of Education

INFORMATION

TITLE: 2020 School Election Date

DATE: October 23, 2019

RESPONSIBLE ADMINISTRATOR: Doug Brubaker, Ph.D.
Superintendent

VISION 2023 STRATEGY: Parameter 5. "We will practice and promote open, honest communication."

BACKGROUND/CONSIDERATIONS:

Act 545 of 2019 provides for school elections to be scheduled according to the following parameters:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-14-102(a)(1)(A), concerning the dates of an annual school election, is amended to read as follows:

(a)(1)(A) The annual school election shall be held in each school district of the state:
  (i) In even-numbered years, on the date of the:
    (a) Preferential primary election; or
    (b) General election; and
  (ii) In odd numbered years, on the:
    (a) First Tuesday following the first Monday in November; or
    (b) Third Tuesday in May.

http://www.arkleg.state.ar.us/assembly/2019/2019R/Acts/Act545.pdf

At its August 2017 regular meeting, the Board adopted a resolution that states that "beginning in 2018, the District shall hold its annual school elections at the time of the preferential primary election (and the corresponding date in odd-numbered years)." Because 2020 is a presidential election year and the Board's August 2017 resolution has established the preferential primary date as its election date, the 2020 FSPS School Election is scheduled for March 3, 2020. A link to the election calendar follows:

https://www.sos.arkansas.gov/uploads/2020_Election_Calendar_9-27-19.pdf

VISION 2023 STRATEGIES - 1. Career Planning: Develop and implement education and career pathways so that each student graduates with a viable plan and relevant skill set for his or her future. **2. Equity:** Develop and implement a system-wide plan to provide all students with the resources they need to optimize their learning. **3. Instruction:** Design, develop and implement programs to promote rigor, relevance, collaboration, critical- thinking skills and learning environments designed to meet each student's unique needs and aspirations. **4. Learning Environment/Facilities:** Align resources, facilities and technology strategically and equitably across the district to maximize security and enhance the learning environment. **5. Staffing:** Recruit and retain highly-qualified faculty, staff and administration. **6. Technology:** Provide appropriate technology that is consistently available, effectively supported and equitably distributed for group and individual instruction. **7. Wellness:** Develop and train empathetic and nurturing employees to be sensitive to and supportive of the needs of all children and families.