UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF ARKANSAS

SAMANTHA STINSON and JONATHAN STINSON, on behalf of themselves and on behalf of their minor children, A.R.S. and A.W.S.; STEPHEN CALDWELL, on behalf of himself and on behalf of his minor child, W.C.; JOSEPH ARMENDARIZ, on behalf of himself and on behalf his minor children, M.A. and W.A.; TALARA TAYLOR and SHANE TAYLOR, on behalf of themselves and on behalf of their minor children, K.T. and M.T.; CAROL VELLA, on behalf of herself and on behalf of her minor children, E.M.V. and N.M.V.; DANIEL RIX, on behalf of himself and on behalf of his minor children, A.R., J.R., and W.R.; and LEAH BAILEY, on behalf of herself and on behalf her minor children, C.T. and D.T.,

CIVIL ACTION NO. 5:25-cv-05127-TLB

Plaintiffs,

V.

FAYETTEVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1; SPRINGDALE SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 50; BENTONVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 6; and SILOAM SPRINGS SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 21,

Defendants.

DECLARATION OF NICHOLAS J. PRENDERGAST IN SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFFS' COMBINED MEMORANDUM OF LAW IN OPPOSITION TO DEFENDANTS' MOTION TO DISMISS AND THE STATE OF ARKANSAS'S MOTION TO DISMISS AND REPLY IN SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION

- I, Nicholas J. Prendergast, declare as follows pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1746:
- 1. I am an associate at the law firm of Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP, counsel for Plaintiffs in the above-captioned case. I have personal knowledge of the facts set forth herein and, if called upon, could and would competently testify thereto.

- 2. I submit this declaration in support of Plaintiffs' Combined Memorandum of Law in Opposition to Defendants' Motion to Dismiss and the State of Arkansas's Motion to Dismiss and Reply in Support of Plaintiffs' Motion for Preliminary Injunction.
- 3. On July 9, 2025, I downloaded and prepared **Exhibit 1**, attached hereto, and I affirm that it is a true and correct copy of a webpage that includes an interview with Dr. Debbie Jones, dated May 6, 2025. I downloaded Exhibit 1 from the official website for The Underview. *See The State of Education with Dr. Debbie Jones*, The Underview (May 6, 2025), https://www.theunderview.com/episodes/the-underview-dr-debbie-jones-state-bentonville-schools (available online as of July 9, 2025).
- 4. On July 9, 2025, I downloaded and prepared **Exhibit 2**, attached hereto, and I affirm that it is a true and correct copy of a webpage that includes an interview with Arkansas Senator Jim Dotson, dated June 26, 2025. I downloaded a copy of Exhibit 2 from the official website for See EXCLUSIVE: 'Stand Firm' Says Sen. Dotson On Bringing The Ten Million Voices. Commandments Million To Classrooms, Voices (June 26, 2025), https://millionvoices.org/exclusive-stand-firm-says-sen-dotson-on-bringing-the-tencommandments-to-classrooms/ (available online as of July 9, 2025).
- 5. On July 9, 2025, I downloaded and prepared **Exhibit 3**, attached hereto, and I affirm that it is a true and correct copy of a webpage from Million Voices, detailing a fundraising campaign. I downloaded a copy of Exhibit 3 from the official website for Million Voices. *See Help Return the Ten Commandments to Classrooms and Defend our History*, Million Voices, https://millionvoices.org/action-partner-stand-for-ten/ (available online as of July 9, 2025).
- 6. On July 9, 2025, I downloaded and prepared **Exhibit 4**, attached hereto, and I affirm that it is a true and correct copy of a Restore American Schools webpage collecting donations. I

downloaded a copy of Exhibit 4 from the official website for Restore American Schools. *See Help Return the Ten Commandments to Classrooms and Defend our History,* Restore American Schools, https://restoreamericanschools.com/ (available online as of July 9, 2025).

- 7. On July 9, 2025, I downloaded and prepared **Exhibit 5**, attached hereto, and I affirm that it is a true and correct copy of a webpage with Frequently Asked Questions for the organization Million Voices. I downloaded a copy of Exhibit 5 from the official website for Million Voices. See Frequently Asked Questions, Million Voices, https://millionvoices.org/action-partner-faq/, https://millionvoices.org/action-partner-faq/ (available online as of July 9, 2025).
- 8. On July 9, 2025, I downloaded and prepared **Exhibit 6**, attached hereto, and I affirm that it is a true and correct copy of a webpage detailing donation information. I downloaded a copy of Exhibit 6 from the official website for Million Voices. *See Restore a Piece of American History—The Ten Commandments in Every Public School: Sponsorship Opportunities*, Million Voices, https://millionvoices.org/restore-the-ten/ (available online as of July 9, 2025).
- 9. On July 9, 2025, I downloaded and prepared **Exhibit 7**, attached hereto, and I affirm that it is a true and correct copy of a news article, dated July 3, 2025. I downloaded a copy of Exhibit 7 from official The Pine Bluff Commercial news website. *See* I.C. Murrell, *Pine Bluff Clergy Announces Conference to Advance Ten Commandments in Schools*, Pine Bluff Commercial (Jul. 3, 2025), https://www.pbcommercial.com/news/2025/jul/03/pine-bluff-clergy-announces-conference-to-advance/ (available online as of July 9, 2025).
- 10. On July 9, 2025, I downloaded and prepared **Exhibit 8**, attached hereto, and I affirm that it is a true and correct copy of news article, dated July 3, 2025. I downloaded a copy of Exhibit 8 from the official KARK news website. *See* Neale Zeringue, *Pine Bluff Hosting Event to Get 10 Commandments in Arkansas Schools 'ASAP'*, Kark.com (Jul. 3, 2025),

https://www.kark.com/news/local-news/pine-bluff-hosting-event-to-get-10-commandments-in-arkansas-schools-asap/ (available online as of July 9, 2025).

- 11. On July 9, 2025, I downloaded and prepared **Exhibit 9**, attached hereto, and I affirm that it is a true and correct copy of an event webpage for a strategy conference hosted by National Day of Prayer Arkansas. I downloaded a copy of Exhibit 9 from the Humanitix event hosting website. *See Advancing the Ten Commandments in Arkansas Schools: A Strategy Conference for Family, Faith-leaders, Legislators, Educators and Community Leaders*, Humantix https://events.humanitix.com/advancing-the-ten-commandments-in-arkansas-strategy-conference-for-family-faith-legislators-and-community-leaders (available online as of July 9, 2025).
- 12. On July 9, 2025, I downloaded and prepared **Exhibit 10**, attached hereto, and I affirm that it is a true and correct copy of the Fayetteville Public Schools' "Monthly Financial Report," dated April 30, 2025. I downloaded a copy of Exhibit 10 from the official Fayetteville Public Schools website. *See Monthly Financial Report: FY 2025 Period 10* (Apr. 30, 2025), Fayetteville Pub. Schs., https://core-docs.s3.us-east-1.amazonaws.com/documents/asset/uploaded_file/584/FPS/5699806/Consent_Agenda_Month_ly_Financial_Report_- April.pdf (available online as of July 9, 2025).
- 13. On July 9, 2025, I downloaded and prepared **Exhibit 11**, attached hereto, and I affirm that it is a true and correct copy of a Fayetteville Public Schools calendar entry for the "Jr. High Choir All Region Audition." I downloaded a copy of Exhibit 11 from the official Fayetteville Public Schools website. *See Events*, Fayetteville Pub. Schs (Oct. 11, 2025), https://district.fayar.net/events?id=39288134 (available online as of July 9, 2025).

- 14. On July 9, 2025, I downloaded and prepared **Exhibit 12**, attached hereto, and I affirm that it is a true and correct copy of a "live feed" from the Fayetteville Public Schools. I downloaded a copy of Exhibit 12 from the official Fayetteville Public Schools website. Faces of minor children have been blurred in the attached document. *See Live Feed*, Fayetteville Pub. Schs, https://district.fayar.net/live-feed?page_no=3 (available online as of July 9, 2025).
- 15. On July 9, 2025, I downloaded and prepared **Exhibit 13**, attached hereto, and I affirm that it is a true and correct copy of a Facebook post from the Fayetteville Public Schools congratulating their Quiz Bowl Team, dated April 18, 2017. I downloaded a copy of Exhibit 13 from the official Fayetteville Public Schools Facebook page. Faces of minor children have been blurred in the attached document. *See* Fayetteville Pub. Schs., Facebook (Apr. 18, 2017), https://www.facebook.com/100064724229109/posts/10155230252771100/?mibextid=wwXIfr&rdid=fnHFqTJ4tzU7iWXZ# (available online as of July 9, 2025).
- 16. On July 9, 2025, I downloaded and prepared **Exhibit 14**, attached hereto, and I affirm that it is a true and correct copy of a calendar entry for Central Park Elementary's "Senior Walk." I downloaded a copy of Exhibit 14 from the official Central Park Elementary website. *See Events*, Central Park Elementary, Bentonville Pub. Schs. (May 14, 2025), https://www.bentonvillek12.org/o/cpes/events?id=40427769 (available online as of July 9, 2025).
- 17. On July 9, 2025, I downloaded and prepared **Exhibit 15**, attached hereto, and I affirm that it is a true and correct copy of a calendar entry for Bentonville High School's "Orchestra All Region Auditions." I downloaded a copy of Exhibit 15 from the Bentonville High School official website. *See Events*, Bentonville High Sch., Bentonville Pub. Schs. (Oct. 26, 2024), https://www.bentonvillek12.org/o/bhs/events?id=26578279 (available online as of July 9, 2025).

- 18. On July 9, 2025, I downloaded and prepared **Exhibit 16**, attached hereto, and I affirm that it is a true and correct copy of a Facebook post from the Bentonville Schools about Fulbright Junior High School's "Celebration of Mind" event, dated March 14, 2017. I downloaded a copy of Exhibit 16 from the official Bentonville Schools Facebook page. Faces of minor children have been blurred in the attached document. *See* Bentonville Schs., Facebook (Mar. 14, 2017), https://www.facebook.com/100064675004779/posts/10154259498546366/?mibextid=wwXIfr&r did=Rosu5rsP9fGPk1YQ# (available online as of July 9, 2025).
- 19. On July 9, 2025, I downloaded and prepared **Exhibit 17**, attached hereto, and I affirm that it is a true and correct copy of an article about Springdale Public Schools' mock veterinary clinic, dated December 5, 2025. I downloaded a copy of Exhibit 17 from the Springdale Public Schools' official website. Faces of minor children have been blurred in the attached document. *See Har-Ber High students host mock vet*, Springdale Pub. Schs. (Dec. 5, 2023), https://www.sdale.org/article/1365049 (available online as of July 9, 2025).
- 20. On July 9, 2025, I downloaded and prepared **Exhibit 18**, attached hereto, and I affirm that it is a true and correct copy of webpage for Springdale Public Schools' ACT boot camp event dates, dated March 2, 2022. I downloaded a copy of Exhibit 18 from the Springdale Public Schools official website. *See Free ACT Boot Camp Offered at Springdale High School*, Springdale Publ. Schs. (Mar. 2, 2022), https://www.sdale.org/article/673671 (available online as of July 9, 2025).
- 21. On July 9, 2025, I downloaded and prepared **Exhibit 19**, attached hereto, and I affirm that it is a true and correct copy of a Springdale School District's Facebook post about a Senior Walk, dated May 18, 2017. I downloaded a copy of Exhibit 19 from the official Springdale School District Facebook page. Faces of minor children have been blurred in the attached

document. *See* Springdale Pub. Schs., Facebook (Mar. 18. 2017), https://www.facebook.com/100064583568221/posts/10155081242152931/?mibextid=wwXIfr&rdid=d9ptuufIEWVIKEeO# (available online as of July 9, 2025).

- 22. On July 9, 2025, I downloaded and prepared Exhibit 20, attached hereto, and I affirm that it is a true and correct copy of "Welcome Night Invitation Flyer" for Southside Elementary School in the Siloam Public Schools. I downloaded a copy of Exhibit 20 from the Allen Elementary School official website under the events page for May 2025. See Events, Allen Elementary Sch., Siloam Pub. Schs. (May 2025), https://www.siloamschools.com/o/aes/events?start_date=2025-05-01&end_date=2025-05-31 (available online as of July 9, 2025). The flyer is available directly (through the Allen Elementary School website) at https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ukHmjpGJpXki4TwbIx2oc4faVyzrJTia/view (available online as of July 9, 2025).
- 23. On July 9, 2025, I downloaded and prepared **Exhibit 21**, attached hereto, and I affirm that it is a true and correct copy of a webpage providing information regarding a kindergarten graduation in Siloam Springs Public Schools, dated April 15, 2025. I downloaded a copy of Exhibit 21 from the Siloam Springs Public Schools official website. *See* "Kindergarten graduation information," Siloam Springs Pub. Schs. (Apr. 15, 2025), https://www.siloamschools.com/o/nes/article/2151453 (available online as of July 9, 2025).
- 24. On July 9, 2025, I downloaded and prepared **Exhibit 22**, attached hereto, and I affirm that it is a true and correct copy of ticket-sales webpage for a strategy conference hosted by National Day of Prayer Arkansas. I downloaded a copy of Exhibit 22 from the Humanitix event hosting website. *See Advancing the Ten Commandments in Arkansas Schools: A Strategy Conference for Family, Faith-leaders, Legislators, Educators and Community Leaders*, Humantix,

https://events.humanitix.com/advancing-the-ten-commandments-in-arkansas-strategy-conference-for-family-faith-legislators-and-community-leaders/tickets (available online as of July 9, 2025).

25. On July 9, 2025, I downloaded and prepared **Exhibit 23**, attached hereto, and I affirm that it is a true and correct copy of the "Activity Fund Guidelines" from Fayetteville Public Schools. I downloaded a copy of Exhibit 23 from official website for Fayetteville Public Schools. *See Bookeeper (Procedures)*, Fayetteville Pub. Schs., https://district.fayar.net/page/bookkeeper (available online as of July 9, 2025). The document is available directly (through the Bookeeper webpage) at https://5il.co/5uuv (available online as of July 9, 2025).

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on this 9th day of July, 2025.

Nicholas J. Prendergast



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the state of education with Dr. Debbie Jones.

season 2, ep. 22.

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the underview.

00:00 | 51:24





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episode notes.

In this episode of the underview, we sit down with Dr. Debbie Jones, Superintendent of Bentonville Public Schools, to explore the sweeping changes unfolding across Arkansas and the nation that are reshaping public education. Fresh off the end of the Arkansas legislative session, Dr. Jones helps unpack the implications of the newly signed ACCESS Act, the need for focus on behavioral health legislation, and other new education laws touching everything from school choice policies to expanded services for students and families. We also examine the national move to close the U.S. Department of Education, and what potential impacts that could bring to local schools.

Throughout the conversation, Dr. Jones offers a steady voice on how these changes will affect students, families, and teachers. We talk about the growing needs for mental health services, the importance of access to accelerated coursework, new challenges around school choice and extracurricular eligibility, and the broader pressures reshaping public education. In a time of uncertainty, Dr. Jones reminds us that public education remains a cornerstone of community life—and that its future depends on all of us working together.



Dr. Debbie Jones, Superintendent, Bentonville Public Schools.

about Dr. Debbie Jones.

Dr. Debbie Jones is the superintendent of **Bentonville Schools** She has more than 25 years of educator experience having previously served as Assistant Commissioner for Learning Services at the Arkansas Department of Education. Dr. Jones held the position of assistant superintendent for the Bryant School District for seven years following her principalship at Bryant High School. She worked as a teacher, assistant principal, principal and secondary director in Pulaski County Special School District.

Her academic career has led her to the highest credentials attainable for an educator. Dr. Jones received a Bachelor of Science in Education from the University of Arkansas, a Master of Arts in Secondary Administration from the University of Central Arkansas and a Doctorate of Education from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock.

She served on the Northwest Arkansas American Heart Association Board of Directors and publicly took a stand against vaping after seeing too many students, primarily high school students, become addicted. She authored legislative language to ensure superintendents across the state were notified of violent juvenile offenders. Her work represents a tremendous change in policy, allowing school principals the necessary knowledge to better protect students in the public school system.

She is CEO to more than 2,500 employees and 19,000 students who proudly call Bentonville Schools home. Dr. Jones and her husband, DJ, are parents to five children and a new granddaughter.

episode notes & references.

- ACCESS Act (HB1512):https://arkleg.state.ar.us/Bills/Detail?id=hb1512&ddBienniumSession=2025%2F2025R
- SB451 Behavioral Health Crisis Response <u>Teamshttps://arkleg.state.ar.us/Bills/Detail?</u>
 id=sb451&ddBienniumSession=2025%2F2025R
- HB1017 Paid Maternity Leave for <u>Teachershttps://arkleg.state.ar.us/Bills/Detail?</u>
 id=hb1017&ddBienniumSession=2025%2F2025R
- SB59 Free Breakfast for Public School <u>Studentshttps://arkleg.state.ar.us/Bills/Detail?</u>
 id=sb59&ddBienniumSession=2025%2F2025R
- SB142 Bell to Bell, No Cell Act:https://arkleg.state.ar.us/Bills/Detail?id=sb142&ddBienniumSession=2025%2F2025R
- HB1633 Eligibility for Interscholastic Activities (Homeschool & Transfer Students): https://arkleg.state.ar.us/Bills/Detail?
 id=hb1633&ddBienniumSession=2025%2F2025R
- SB223 (Act 400) Religious Rights at Public Schools <u>Acthttps://arkleg.state.ar.us/Bills/Detail?</u>
 id=sb223&ddBienniumSession=2025%2F2025R
- HB1705 Religious Influence in Social Studies <u>Curriculumhttps://arkleg.state.ar.us/Bills/Detail?</u>
 id=hb1705&ddBienniumSession=2025%2F2025R
- HB1550 (Act 913) Intra-District <u>Transfershttps://arkleg.state.ar.us/Bills/Detail?</u>
 id=hb1550&ddBienniumSession=2025%2F2025R
- Bentonville Public Schools:https://www.bentonvillek12.org/
- Bentonville High School (BHS):https://bhs.bentonvillek12.org/

- Mary Mae Jones Elementary (IB Program) https://marymae.bentonvillek12.org/
- Ruth Barker Middle School (IB Program) https://ruthbarker.bentonvillek12.org/
- Washington Junior High (IB Pathway)https://washington.bentonvillek12.org/
- Sugar Creek Elementary (New Arts Integration Program)https://sugarcreek.bentonvillek12.org/
- Ardis Ann Middle School:https://ardisann.bentonvillek12.org/
- Evening Star Elementary:https://eveningstar.bentonvillek12.org/
- RE Baker Elementary (Staff Childcare Pilot Program)https://rebaker.bentonvillek12.org/
- Dr. Debbie Jones Superintendent of Bentonville Public Schoolshttps://www.bentonvillek12.org/page/district-leadership
- Senator Bart Hester: https://senate.arkansas.gov/senators/bart-hester/
- Senator Jim Dotson:https://senate.arkansas.gov/senators/jim-dotson/
- Secretary Jacob Oliva Arkansas Secretary of Education: https://dese.ade.arkansas.gov/Offices/communications/leadership

episode outline.

- Introduction and Honoring Principal Jack Lloyd (00:00)
- Recognition of Bentonville's Achievements and Superintendent of the Year (00:01)
- Framing Today's Challenges in Education (00:02)
- Impact of the ACCESS Act on Accelerated Learning Opportunities (00:03)
- Behavioral Health Crisis and Senate Bill 451 (00:07)
- Navigating the Emotional and Mental Health Needs in Schools (00:11)
- Paid Maternity Leave and Staff Support (House Bill 1017) (00:16)

- Free Breakfast for Public School Students (Senate Bill 59) (00:18)
- Cell Phone Restrictions (Senate Bill 142) (00:18)
- Public vs. Private School Funding Divide (00:20)
- Religious Influence and History Curriculum Changes (00:23)
- Intra-District Transfer and Act 913 (00:26)
- School Choice and Neighborhood Schools (00:29)
- Eligibility for Interscholastic Activities (House Bill 1633) (00:31)
- The Impact of Closing the Department of Education (00:35)
- Maintaining Hope and Vision for the Future (00:40)
- Closing Thoughts on Community Wholeness (00:44)

episode transcript.

episode preview.

[00:00:02] debbie jones.: Looking ahead at some of the challenges, I want us to continue to work as a community to provide needed resources for mental health, and my focus is on young children because I hope that if we meet those needs early, we don't grow unhealthy adults and just have to build bigger prisons. We have to attend to those needs.

We just have to continue as a community to work together. We all have the same goal and it's really to have kids learn, and in a society that there's so much aggression and anger out there our community's not the place for it.

episode intro.

[00:01:27] mike.: Well, you are listening to the underview, an exploration and the shaping of our place. My name is Mike Rusch and today we're gonna take a moment in our current series, _the story of Northwest Arkansas_, to have a conversation rooted in what's at the heart of the very season, our public memory, our history, keeping what we choose to remember and whose stories we elevate is all shaped by our education system.

It's through education that memory is formed, passed on, and either expanded or erased. The Arkansas legislative session just ended. And while not all details are fully known yet, the implications for public education are already significant. I wanted to take a moment to sit down with someone who could help us understand where things stand and help us make sense of what's unfolding.

Of course, as we know there's no one better to do that with than Dr. Debbie Jones, superintendent of Bentonville Public Schools. Under her leadership, Bentonville has consistently led the state and academic growth, and at a time of rapid change and uncertainty, she remains a steady, trusted voice in our community, grounded in both deep care for students and an unwavering commitment to public education.

The Governor also signed the newly passed ACCESS Act, and these acts are continuing to reshape what public education looks like in Arkansas, and it raises very important questions about the future role of our public institutions. at the national level, we're witnessing massive shifts as well. The federal government is actively moving towards dismantling Department of Education, a change that could dramatically affect funding for important parts of our public educational systems. Alongside these moves are broader executive efforts to redefine government's role in shaping public memory, decisions that influence what history is taught, what stories are preserved, and what kind of national identity is reinforced through our school systems.

Education may be the most important lens through which we understand our region, our history, and our future. I believe it is the space where memory, belonging, opportunity, and community all converge. This conversation with Dr. Jones is a way for us to get our bearings as a community, to listen, to understand, and to help put it all in perspective.

Okay. No one is here to listen to me today.

Let's get into it.

episode interview.

[00:03:32] mike.: Well, I have a privilege today of sharing the table again with Dr. Debbie Jones, the superintendent of Bentonville Public Schools. Dr. Jones, thank you for sharing a table with me. I really appreciate it.

My pleasure.

Before we get started, I do want to just take a moment and express my condolences on the passing of Bentonville High School principal Jack Lloyd. My daughter's a sophomore at Bentonville High School and just had nothing but incredible things to say about Principal Lloyd. And so I know that's a huge loss for the school district. It's a huge loss for our community and an even bigger loss for his family. And so I just wanna start there and just create some space for Principal Lloyd, who was an amazing human being.

[00:04:05] debbie jones.: Amazing man. We miss him every day.

[00:04:07] mike.: I just wanna acknowledge that.

Thank you.

Since we spoke last you've had some accomplishments, which I know you probably don't wanna talk about, but I'm gonna say it anyway.

For the 10th consecutive year of Bentonville Schools has led the state in student performance, academic growth, and you were named as superintendent of the year for the entire state of Arkansas. And so congratulations to you on that.

[00:04:30] debbie jones.: Thank you.

[00:04:30] mike.: I know I. No one else can see your face, but I know you've continued to pass those accolades on to the teachers, the administration, and everybody in the school district. So, what is an award to you is I know, an award to the entire district, and so thank you for the work that you're doing. That's, it's great to see it recognized.

[00:04:46] debbie jones.: Absolutely. It's a team effort.

[00:04:49] mike.: That's probably all I'm gonna get out of that from you, I think at this point.

But well, we finished our last conversation with two questions. I asked you what you feared and your response was that your fears were division. And I asked you what your definition of wholeness was and your response was working together to solve problems for other people. And so maybe in the spirit of picking up where we left off I, I love those two powerful ideas that you've laid out.

And so I would say let's dive into where we're at today in that spirit of trying to solve problems for other people. The Arkansas legislative session has just concluded and there's a massive amount of change that has taken place.

And so I, we can start wherever you'd like. Maybe I'll just kind of put this out and let you kind of determine where we want to go. But I would like, how would you describe really this moment kind of in Arkansas education, especially with the passage of the Access Act, which is a pretty big piece of legislation and pretty big implications.

[00:05:45] debbie jones.: Well, I'm glad you reminded me that's where we left with division and the importance of being a community together. And the legislative session is always, just, I'm still wrapping my head around all of the changes, the laws and of course we have to wait for rules so we don't know the entire impact. That's kind of a disclaimer before I share any of this.

That's fair.

But again, it's the importance of this community and in my job it is critical that I'm attuned every day of the week during the legislative session, what is being proposed? What's getting some ground, looks like passage? And there's a delicate balance in my mind of being present during committee meetings, too much, where, clearly I need to be back in Bentonville doing my job, and so I have a role for myself and I'm there when the most critical bills that impact the school district or the community are at a critical phase. But what many people don't see are the conversations behind the scene.

My legislators in the area are very responsive. It's not that we always agree. But as I send them texts and they respond to me, that's part of working together for the betterment of our community. And I do believe we live in the best place. And I do believe we

face new challenges all the time, and we have to work together to solve those problems. And while this really is a dream to live in northwest Arkansas, we still have challenges that we need to address, and so I'm glad to get the opportunity to do that.

ACCESS Act.

[00:07:38] debbie jones.: If we wanna start with the Access Act and that's the Governor's to Governor's bill. Sure. That's where we start, because that, I really believe that's good news. Such good news and it's aligned with where Bentonville schools has worked very diligently in trying to provide an array of opportunity. It focuses mainly on secondary high school kids. Okay?

And so this provides the opportunity for high school kids to take college concurrent credit. Concurrent is you're getting high school credit and college credit at the same time. Many, Many of our kids participate in concurrent credit. And parents can do that now at no expense. That's right. And so that's a win.

We don't know the details of this yet. But we did really communicate a lot with the Commissioner of Education, the Secretary of Education, and our legislators to try to retain some of the scholarships because we did do the math and if we paid for the concurrent credit that our kids are taking this semester right now. It would be a million dollars for the district.

That's good news in a way because it shows how active our kids are in more rigorous instruction, and we have pushed the envelope to offer them IB, AP concurrent, and Ignite. And that's why you'll hear high school parents say, there are so many opportunities, it's because we're dedicated to doing that.

We have a very large population of students that are high achievers, and so we've been pushing this envelope for really hard, for at least five or six years now, our numbers increase every year. Those that are taking AP tests, those that are participating in concurrent credit and different pathways, and certainly those going into career fields.

Originally they did not have our existing scholarship within the bill. In working with the secretary, he realized that was a mistake and they put scholarship money back into the bill. So hopefully it won't won't be a great expense for the district, nor will it be for the parents. And so that's why we're still waiting on the rules.

But whatever way we go we are determined to support accelerated credit and we hope that students pursue their goals, they're on their way to a really nice career if they need to earn their associates while in high school, we fully support that and more to come, as I get details, I will share information with parents.

[00:10:27] mike.: I would just say I, I would raise my hand as one of those parents who has benefited greatly from that. So to hear that expanding is really good news.

[00:10:34] debbie jones.: Yes, it is. Yes, it is.

Senate Bill 451, behaviorial health.

[00:10:36] mike.: As a part of the Arkansas Access Act you know, there was pretty big focus around the behavioral health crisis and its response and that was in Senate Bill 451. This is one that you worked directly on, and so to help us frame why this matters and why this is important.

[00:10:52] debbie jones.: Okay, so Senate Bill 451, which I have to give Senator Hester the credit for really constructing this and getting this through. He worked hard to assist us. It really comes after a year's long work on the part of my team and other superintendents, we see this growing number of students who certainly, maybe through no fault of their own, they've experienced trauma in their life. They may have been in 14 different school districts in six years. I mean, there are some really sad stories out there. But they also in a few cases, probably in each district you have students that are so aggressive or, harmful. Their behaviors are out of control. They're destructive of equipment, but really the greatest concern is we, and we have the best behavior therapists to work with the, to work with them and train teachers to do their best, but they simply need a higher level of mental health support. They need medical care and families who've been in this situation and have searched for OP opportunities for their kids to get this help. They know they can go to the doctor seeking placement and are told it'll be a year out. That's not a good response when a child is in a crisis.

And so we met with all of our legislators. We had them in school. We talked with the governor, we talked with everyone that would listen and please create more day treatment, behavioral mental health placement options for families in northwest Arkansas, and

that's what this bill was about. Another big part of this bill was for those centers, the day treatment centers that do receive DHS money. Remove exclusionary clauses. Exclusionary clauses like you can't be admitted if your main diagnosis is a behavior disorder. You can't be admitted if your IQ is below a certain level or if you have a sexual history or if you any, the list goes on and on, which defies logic because many times the very kids that need, desperately need that mental health support aren't eligible to attend their programs.

And so the answer of sending them back to school without that support is not the right answer for anyone. It's not the right answer for teachers who are injured. It's not the right answer for kids who are disrupted in their learning. And so that's why we have fought for this so hard, now Hester did get it through the house, it became an act.

And then on Wednesday we learned that the governor vetoed that. We were really disappointed to hear that however secretary Oliva and Senator Hester assured me that DHS will create a program in northwest Arkansas, because I don't know if our community realized that we host the majority of the students in the whole state, they live here in northwest Arkansas.

The services of that magnitude are not available in our area. And so, with DHS will run it. Department of Human Services and the division of elementary and secondary education, and I just have already reached out to the secretary and said, okay, let's go. I'm ready to help, let's build this thing and create these slots for families. And so, I look forward to the, I guess I'm happy to consult in any way that I can to try to help create more services for our families up here.

[00:14:41] mike.: Maybe help frame this a little bit for me, because when we think about educational legislation that's going on, this may not, at least for me, I don't wanna speak for anyone else. Seem to be like at the top of the list. Right?

But this is something very important and I'm, I think I'm trying to understand too, within the schools and what you're seeing directly, this is a critical need.

How are you seeing this need change over time? Is it more occurrences? Is it starting earlier? Maybe frame this for a little bit, maybe the importance of this from a community perspective as well.

[00:15:08] debbie jones.: Absolutely. And if you ask any of the superintendents, or any of the schools, it doesn't matter if it's public, private, charter, we're all seeing this and we're seeing an increase in really the aggressive behaviors in young kids, and I don't know

why, but most by the time they get into or older in the, his historically older kids, they have either learned appropriate behaviors, but we are seeing an increase. And I don't know if it is, COVID related. I won't even pretend to know the answer, but I know that it becomes very disruptive for families and for the school.

And so, my job, number one is to hire the very best teachers we can hire and retain them. I feel like that's my responsibility. If I don't do that, I'm failing at my job. In our behavior classrooms, we replace the staff in there every year because it's a very difficult job. We've even increased for the teacher and the aides that work in that room. The teachers will receive a \$5,000 stipend in addition to their pay. And the aides will receive the equivalent percentage of that. And so that tells you that we're doing everything on our end to try to help make that a successful experience for the staff and for the student. But I'll be honest, we need a higher level of medical assistance and mental health care for many of those, and we just don't have that opportunity for families in our area.

asking too much.

[00:16:48] mike.: In our last conversation I asked you and you were very appropriate in your response, but I asked are we asking the schools of too much? And I won't ask you to respond to that, but it feels like we're in that space where this is something very significant to our community and to obviously the education system and to families. But gosh, it feels like we're asking a whole lot.

[00:17:09] debbie jones.: It's a lot. It's absolutely a lot. We're. We're fortunate we live in this community because I do believe that we can solve our own problems, but I do think that we are going to have to be vulnerable and we're gonna have to be honest and families that need assistance have to feel comfortable in a space where they know they're going to be supported and not be judged for parenting. It's not that many times. Many times it might be a foster child that's had so much trauma in their life that this is just an outlet, the way that they behave, but, and they need mental health support. And so I don't know the answer on solving the problem either. But you know, schools can sometimes best tell what's going on in your community. And we're here to say that we have to address this problem. We need more mental health support for young kids and for families.

And so it might be simple things. It just came in such a timely, last week when Crystal Bridges called and said, Hey, would you facilitate a conversation with Dr. Becky Kennedy? And to be honest, I didn't know who Dr. Becky was, but I called my daughter and

she has a two and a half year old, very active. Little Skipper and a five month old, and she's oh my gosh, mom, Dr. Becky, I love her. And I quickly began getting texts so apparently she's a pretty big deal. And so I started reading her book, "_Good Inside_" and listening to her podcast, and I'll be honest, I was old school parenting raised by a football dad. We were pretty hardcore in my family, and I was a pretty tough parent myself, and when I started reading the first probably five pages, I thought, oh my gosh, I may be the very worst person to facilitate this because it's that soft parenting and it wa it is not. It is so, it's so hopeful for me and so I, I think that we have conversations like this. It booked, I believe the first day that it opened, which shows that there's a big interest in this. Parenting is the hardest job I ever did. It's harder than being a superintendent any day. And so I think that it's a good time to reach out and support our families in the community.

[00:19:38] mike.: Well, thank you for the work that you're doing to , to focus on this and to bring it to our attention and then to engage in it as well too. And so I'm super thankful for that.

[00:19:47] debbie jones.: Well, I'm also trying to relearn so I can be an appropriate Mimi, so

[00:19:52] mike.: Well, and that's a valid reason to as well, so I would affirm that.

HB107, paid maternal leave.

[00:19:56] mike.: Talk to me about house Bill 1017, which is paid maternal leave which is new. How does this work and what's the impact of that going to look like for school district?

[00:20:04] debbie jones.: It's for a school district. We weigh the good and bad, first of all, as a mom with two girls that are 30 and childbearing age, it's the right thing to do. I, I relate. I can understand that, and I will tell you that as a superintendent, I have always been one that says, as parents, as my teachers would say, I'm gonna stay home for a while. Do that. You'll come back. It's a good time to do that. I'm very supportive of that. I support that we will provide 12 weeks of unpaid leave this upcoming year. I also recognize when I look at performance scores that I can tell, we all can tell when. Someone's out on maternity leave or they're gone for a long period of time. And so we have to be as

[00:20:52] mike.: performance scores with the students.

[00:20:54] debbie jones.: Student performance, yes. They miss their teacher when they're gone. And so that really has been the greatest. Concern in trying to provide this in the past. It's not the money but we have to prepare for this and provide the most high quality substitute certified teachers that we can in those roles. And we are approaching that differently, possibly thinking about hiring full-time subs so they're prepared to go into those maternity roles. So the state will reimburse the full sub cost for the 12 weeks of maternity leave.

[00:21:30] mike.: Sounds like good news helps you plan it is. Good news plan and prepare for that.

[00:21:33] debbie jones.: It's the right thing to do.

[00:21:34] mike.: And for the families as well too.

[00:21:35] debbie jones.: Right.

Senate Bill 59, free breakfast.

[00:21:36] mike.: Senate Bill 59 was free breakfast for public school students.

[00:21:39] debbie jones.: Again, good.

[00:21:40] mike.: Sounds great to me.

[00:21:42] debbie jones.: You don't have to qualify for free or reduced lunch. We will provide breakfast. I think that was very popular during COVID and getting students off on the right foot to eat absolutely the right idea.

Senate Bill 142, no cell phone act.

[00:21:56] mike.: Maybe give us some context too around I think the Senate Bill 142, which is the bell to bell, no cell phone act.

[00:22:02] debbie jones.: I feel we're in a great place for that because of the previous work that the team has done high school this year. They keep their phones stored during instructional time, 90 minutes, and then they can get it out and check in between periods and at lunch. We're awaiting rules, but I do believe they won't be able to do that at all during the school day next year. We do recognize, and the act itself recognizes that students need to have their phone for activities after school so likely we'll have some type of storage or they'll have it in their bags. We're just awaiting some policy guidance on that. Junior high kids could not have their phones out at all. And that's been very positive. I've heard lots of positive feedback from families and from teachers and some actually from some students too. So I absolutely think that's the right thing to do.

[00:23:00] mike.: That's good news. 'cause it sounds like we can assure our students that the world's gonna be okay for a few minutes.

[00:23:05] debbie jones.: You know, one of the most interesting things I heard from a principal and at Ardis Ann, Kevin McAuliffe, and he said. When kids had their phones availability, then they didn't have to problem solve. They could reach out to mom to fix everything. Bring my lunch, do this. We, number one, we want them to learn to be independent. And number two, we want them to be able to learn how to go ask for help. And so there are so many other advantages than not just teachers trying to compete with TikTok.

public vs. private education divide.

[00:23:40] mike.: I think one kind of maybe block of questions, and I know we can go probably a lot of different ways with this, but it feels to me, and I wanna be real clear, it feels, but there is with the educational freedom accounts and we talk, start talking about public and private funding and where dollars are going. It feels like there is maybe a divide emerging. And those are my words. Between what direction? Education's going to go.

And I would love to kind of understand like number one, is that a valid concern? Is that something that we're watching and understanding how that's going to impact our educational systems?

But I think within that, we're starting to see the inclusion of some bills around religious education and religious influence and I'm trying to understand how to navigate through that. But it feels like this divide seems to be kind of emerging within, kind of around some of these topics.

[00:24:33] debbie jones.: That's fair. And I think nationally you see that as well. And it's a lot of that is what I call theater.

And you'll see for example, students, it was Act 400, the Religious Freedom Act. It repeated many things that students already had the ability to do. Students can pray when they're, when they are on their own or when they're in class and they're not in the middle of instruction. They can have their Bible out at all times. They, all of those things were permitted in the first place. And I'm not aware of one student ever getting in trouble for that in Bentonville schools. And it's something that we welcome. Staff could have their Bible on their desk. They can pray in their free time. And so, we believe in the First Amendment right. And we will continue to follow those laws. But you're right in the fact that very much the media message out there is a little bit negative public school. I don't understand that because I do believe that, I believe in choice first of all when we lived in central Arkansas, my children started out in catholic school because that was the best option for my family. My job I think as long as schools understand parents have choices, it makes us better. And I know that in our area we outperform anyone and we are the best choice.

I sincerely believe that when you look at all the opportunity we have those that I'm not whining about vouchers. You won't hear me whine about that because I know that we can compete, but you can't sit back and think that people are going to be assigned to your school and they must go there because that time has long passed. And so just like public businesses, we have to think like business CEOs, how do we compete with everyone? And Bentonville schools and our community happens to be in a beautiful place to be able to do that well. And so I'm thankful for that.

history, Ten Commandments.

[00:26:57] mike.: Thank you. I think that's helpful to start to understand that. I think with some of these bills, yes, I can understand the theater of some of that. But I mean, there's some practical implications here for the influence of how we teach history around what's called, I guess, the founding fathers their moral beliefs in that system. The Ten Commandments coming back in the schools. These are some practical things. And I think, I'm trying to understand, and I would consider myself a person of faith. And

so, but at the same time like how does the school operate within that to make sure that all students feel welcome and included within the spaces so they can focus on education.

[00:27:33] debbie jones.: The focus will remain on education as far as, there are a couple of roles. The one you talked about, the founding fathers, and that will be integrated by the Department of Ed into the state standards we have. And so, on the curriculum that's not something we do as a district and teachers are very accustomed.

And I'll be honest, I think probably if I studied the standards long enough, the founding fathers were already there. I don't know how deep it went into the religious background, but likely did if we look at our textbooks. Teachers are so inclusive of all religions. Our teachers are, I sincerely believe that. They're inclusive of all races, and I expect that will continue. It is our goal that everyone's safe and they feel included in the learning. And I don't think anything that they passed this year will change that one bit.

There is the one bill that Jim Dotson ran to install the Ten Commandments in an apparent place. That's not the word they used in the bill. But it, as long as it, you don't use state money to do that. So I expect it will be much like the American flag. Someone donates that to the school of the appropriate size and then we will follow the law.

Do I think that by installing the, in God we trust and the Ten Commandments that's going to harm us or any kid in any way? I don't think so. I think we'll continue on and we'll keep the focus, and that's learning.

change direction of education?

[00:29:15] mike.: Is there anything that's coming out of this year's legislative session that is really going to change the direction of how we think about education in the state?

[00:29:25] debbie jones.: And I think, I can't speak for the state because every district is so different. I don't think anything's going to significantly change for Bentonville schools. There were many. Many educational bills, but many of them are minor, don't have significant change whatsoever. I do think ACCESS will make it easier for us to give weighted credit to accelerated classes, and that was very time consuming to try to get that for kids and my team worked hard on that, so I think it might improve some of the conditions that's a really good thing.

Act 913.

[00:30:05] debbie jones.: We did have intra district, it's Act 913 passed, and I did speak against this and it's not because I don't believe in parent choice, but I don't believe that one student's rights are more important.

Than the host student. The student bodies rods. And what I mean by that, with intra district, we have done a really good job of not rezoning all the time. And I know that was done many years ago. Frequently it. Under my administration, we have worked really hard to recognize how disruptive that is for families. We've offered parent choice with our downtown schools. But here's the reality on intra district transfer, and this is not just for high schools. This is K 12. So if you're an Evening Star out there, which is the space is pretty limited anyway. And it, the bill does provide for 95% capacity. If you're at 95% capacity, you don't have to accept additional students, but we get to 95% capacity. We fill up with this year's kids, and we will, by August, we will, anyone that moves into the neighborhood that would go to Evening Star will have to be bused elsewhere. It's going to increase. Traffic, it's going to increase transportation cost.

And the truth of the matter is most people love their community school, but when all of the transfer options were opened last year, during the last session, I have seen a large number of kids pop in and out of the district from out of district and. I'll be honest, most of it's sports related. They pop in the district and then they pop back out. We're seeing them come and go and the, and that type of movement, in my opinion, is not good for any student. They don't learn the lessons that sports taught us. I was an athlete, my whole family participated in athletics and the lessons that we learned that we can learn through sports are being taken away by adults and that's a sad thing. And there's a whole nother NIL deal and all this stuff that's ruin the lessons, but teamwork, perseverance, learning how to lose with grace and still get up and go the next day. Those are the lessons I learned playing basketball and I didn't quit on my team. But with the transfer in the district they're open to transfer into other places. Now we still have to get rules and work through that. That's gonna be a complex process, but that did in fact pass.

[00:33:03] mike.: When we think about the school choice within the district maybe like how should parents think about that? I mean, I know we all want to go to maybe it is the neighborhood school or we wanna go to the best school for our kid, or the best opportunity but maybe from a parent's point of view, how can we think about using that well, and at the same time. You're bringing to, to mind some like the complications of that as well too for the district and how do we serve the student The best way in that?

[00:33:27] debbie jones.: And I respect the right that parents have different views and they may make different choices. If I'm the parent and I'm raising and let's just start at elementary young kids, I'm going to my local school. For so many reasons. One, because it's closest to my house. Two, the other kids in my neighborhood, the relationships they're building, those are the same friends that they're seeing every day in school.

So that's a little comfort level for them. And also because all of our schools are high quality schools. If I wanted a different experience, for example, if I knew I have a very accelerated child from early on and they're going to participate in really rigorous learning, I might select the International at Mary May to do IB, and that means I've committed to International Baccalaureate. K 12. I want to go to Mary May, and then it's going to move up to Ruth Barker go to Washington Junior High, and it finishes up at BHS where they have it. Now, it might be that my child is very much into the arts, so I might choose Sugar Creek for arts integration.

We're just starting that program this coming year. It will grow and improve, but with any model school we're starting. We're all in on it. And so they have some options. It really depends on your child, but for, everyone's gonna get an excellent education. If you look at the National Merit finalist. I love to do this. They always say, I went to elementary at TJ, then I went to, and they call out all the schools and every one of those national Merit go to every different school in the district so you can get a great education in your neighborhood school.

[00:35:20] mike.: That's great. I think that's super helpful to think about that. Not in an arbitrary way, but a purposeful way as well too.

House Bill 1633, eligibility for interscholasstic activities.

[00:35:25] mike.: I don't know if this is related to that topic, but House Bill 1633, which is the eligibility for, I think it's called interscholastic activities. Maybe explain how this works itself out in the world that we have, where it amends the eligibility requirements for homeschool to transfer students to participate in athletic activities.

Absolutely.

Yeah. How does this work?

[00:35:47] debbie jones.: A big part of this is really to, kind of get a handle on all the athletic transfers that were happening all over the state, back and forth. And so, this now requires that homeschool and public school students have can register as long as they're registered by June 1, they can participate in AAA activities. In the seventh they have seventh, eighth, ninth, and 10th. Now, it doesn't say 11th and 12th. So you cannot register and leave your school. You were playing softball. You finished your 10th grade year and you're going to transfer out. If you do, then you have to set out that sport for 360 a year, 365 days.

implications of sports transfers.

[00:36:35] mike.: I understand the problems associated with it. I guess my question is or I guess what I'm, it's in my head is like, how do we frame that to understand the implications of what you're doing.

[00:36:43] debbie jones.: I, you know, and I may not be accused of being the most empathetic person. I'm still growing in that every day.

[00:36:50] mike.: My, myself as well too, I've been told.

[00:36:53] debbie jones.: But I really try to look at the motivation. And the effects of that. And I have great empathy for an athlete who has put in the hours because they put in tremendous hours. And I'm not just talking athletes, band members, orchestra, but the hours and the work that they put in, and they think that they're going to start, for example, a quarterback going into their junior year and someone. Pops in the district and they no longer have a starting quarterback position. That's devastating to a family and to a kid many times. And so I have empathy on that end. I feel like a team should, by the 10th grade start gelling together as a team.

It's kind of like you dance with the. The person that brought you to the dance, you know, unfortunately there in the last few years, it's been wide open so much that you see athletes popping into this school outta district all over the places, and they don't really have allegiance to a school ever, and it's disruptive for them. They may not recognize it now. But down the road they will, because honestly, most of these kids are not gonna go to play college ball. And so having a really healthy high school experiences should be the primary focus. But I can't tell parents what to do on that. They will make their own decisions.

[00:38:26] mike.: Well, and I mean, I appreciate your perspective too, and you know, I, I can talk about it all day long, but what does it mean to be rooted in a place and to belong to a place and to be invested in a place? And so to me not that parents are trying to do the opposite of that, but gosh, it really is a beautiful thing to be able to watch people be rooted in a place and in a neighborhood and in a community. And so, and in a team. And in a team, absolutely.

impact of closing of Department of Education.

[00:38:48] mike.: Dr. Jones. I think within the spirit of all of these conversations I can't not ask you to spend a moment to talk about what's happening at the national level and with the kind of impending closing of the Department of Education. And really I want to kind of bring maybe that whole umbrella to you because I think, I don't know that I understand, or maybe our community doesn't understand as well too what does this mean? What is the implications of this? And I feel like as I watch, which is probably not a good idea to watch the news cycle, I feel like. We, you know, in the spirit of working together, right, to solve problems for each other, what do we know and how, what is the potential impact of what this could do to not only the state, but to Bentonville school district?

[00:39:28] debbie jones.: I. I have to do a little disclaimer.

It's like trying to guess what tariffs are gonna be tomorrow.

[00:39:33] mike.: Okay. So point, point made,

[00:39:36] debbie jones.: but I have asked lots of questions and tried to read everything I could on this, and honestly, with the closing of the Department of Ed. I am told that we aren't to expect significant changes. The grants that we use to support special education will be flowed through money that likely the Department of Human Services would flow through to the school that was done before the Department of Ed and I likely will continue. The only interaction that I've had with the Department of Ed at the federal level in my, I've been in education 31 years really has been through the Office of Civil Rights, OCR and in my experience that was just a lot of paperwork, man hours, and I don't see significant loss in that.

So we do have the OCR at state level and they get involved where necessary, and I just think closer to home is probably more successful. At least that's who I work with. I do get questions as there are things in the media about DEI and did you sign that paper? I know that Harvard, Princeton, all the Ivy Leagues are talking about how they're not gonna, that has not been applied to K 12 schools. We have been asked that we follow Title VI which is, it prohibits discrimination based on race, color, or national origin. And guess what? We've always done that. Of course, we are gonna follow Title VI in order to get next month's federal funds. So. To this point, I see little impact on our school district.

[00:41:33] mike.: Within that, I mean, do you and I don't know where the lines necessarily are, so this may be just a question out of ignorance, but are there things that we as a community should be watching or paying attention to or preparing for.

And I, I think maybe it's human nature for us to kind of go to the immediate worst scenario. Yeah. What could happen, meaning like all of that funding goes away and the impact on low income families and on students with disability and to your point, civil rights obviously these become worst case scenario type of things. Or the shutdown of public school systems not to go too far down that road, but. I think maybe an ounce of like, how do we what are the things that you're paying attention to that we could pay attention to, to kind of help us navigate through this and maybe calm things down a little bit if that's what's warranted.

[00:42:20] debbie jones.: Well, I think you have to know the bias of whatever news outlet you're reading or whatever organization, because if they lean one way or another, it's certainly through their perspective. And that's so critical. We try to teach our students don't trust everything you read, get the facts. And so I try to do that and that's by reading as much as I can and then asking lots of questions.

But what I'm watching is I expect that, especially this week's pretty critical when they start looking at the funding cuts and Medicaid and then I have to find out how does that directly impact families and the schools. And that's when I'll know more. I don't have clarification at this time and I know families are all asking this will social security be cut? And I'm not going to panic. I'm going to ask questions and find out true implications for our students.

[00:43:21] mike.: Yeah, I thank you. Because I think if you're not panicking, then I'm not gonna panic either. I'm, I would trust you implicitly that if we're gonna navigate through this well,

[00:43:29] debbie jones.: well, we'll just stick together. I feel like if there's a shortage somewhere, then we will try to figure that out together.

hope.

[00:43:35] mike.: Dr. Jones, thank you. I think one of the things that I think is true about you and we just talked about this, is just that you have a sense of optimism. And I think that's infectious and it's something that we need. And so as we look down the road at education and with all these changes and with all the things going on in the world help. What do you see? What do you see in the future of what we can be hopeful for?

[00:43:57] debbie jones.: Well, I am sometimes to a fault, optimistic, but I'm also very competitive and that's my background and being in athletics and having a dad as a coach and so what I see in public education is a whole new level of operating like businesses do, and not in a negative way, but you have to respond to the market. You have to be responsive and be competitive. We have to prepare kids to go into careers and supply the future markets and we cannot teach from an obsolete place. And I think that our teachers are very aware of that. So as long as we can compete and offer the best product, which I know we do, then we will be fine.

We are not getting distracted by the politics. You don't hear me discuss politics a lot because it's a waste of everyone's time. We still have our mission ahead of us and our mission is to offer the best education and opportunities for students and we do that.

So, and looking ahead at some of the challenges, I do want us to continue to work as a community to provide needed resources for mental health and my focus is on young children because I hope that if we meet those needs early, we don't grow unhealthy adults and just have to build bigger prisons. We have to attend to those needs. We have to really think about early childhood education and even if that's at home, to focus on the things that matter to build healthy, smart kids, and we've offered staff childcare in RE Baker Elementary.

And to see those children and what they can absorb and learn is phenomenal. So we have to really concentrate on building healthy kindergartners. So they're ready to learn and we just have to continue as a community to work together. And I mean that as

teachers, I mean that as parents and both we all have the same goal and it's really to have kids learn, and in a society that there's so much aggression and anger out there our community's not the place for it. And so I think if we work together we can decrease that or eliminate most of that.

fears.

[00:46:33] mike.: Alright, well I'll close with this and your answer may not have changed and that's okay. But what are your fears at this point for the schools?

[00:46:42] debbie jones.: well, I'm always watchful for sudden growth. Construction costs are just phenomenal. A real price for a high school right now is \$120 million and I fear that we grow so fast that we have a challenge with construction. That's truly one of my biggest fears right now. We're prepared for it. We study growth diligently with the company. But if, who knows what could happen tomorrow with our area. So, that's a real concern.

And, you know, we have to keep our eye on the prize, and that is hiring the best teachers. And as housing gets so expensive here, our teachers need to live in our community because the reality is if they live in another area where it's cheaper to live, then eventually their kids start playing sports or whatever in that area. Then they decide that they can work in that other school district, and we don't want that. So, we have to continue to try to find affordable housing options for our staff in our service industry in this area.

[00:47:58] mike.: Well, and maybe we can have a conversation once McAuley Place starts to open.

[00:48:02] debbie jones.: We're so excited. We've broken ground.

wholeness.

[00:48:04] mike.: That's beautiful. Give us a word. What does community wholeness look like for you in this space, in this season that we're in this world?

[00:48:10] debbie jones.: Collaboration. Every, everyone working together, that's key.

[00:48:15] mike.: Well, Dr. Jones, I'm incredibly humbled that you would sit and share a table. Thank you for all the work that you're doing. And gosh, it just sounds like a crazy time, but you handle it with poise and with excellence and so I'm thankful yeah, that you're there at the helm of that watching it for us. And so thank you for the work you're doing and everybody in the district. It's incredible work and I can walk away from this conversation hopeful for sure. And so thank you for what you do every day. It's really appreciated.

[00:48:41] debbie jones.: Thank you. Thank you.

episode outro.

[00:48:44] mike.: Well, thank you to Dr. Jones for truly being a calm and steady voice in the middle of all of this. I'm grateful for her honesty and her leadership and for the way she continues to center the needs of students and families and educators even as the ground continues to shift beneath our public schools.

To Dr. Jones and to every teacher and counselor and bus driver and nurse and administrator and support staff in the district.

Thank you. Thank you for showing up every day and in the middle of policy changes and political tensions to deliver excellence.

You're not just teaching lessons, you're shaping lives in communities and our shared future.

It's hard to navigate education policy at the state and federal levels at the moment. There's been a flurry of new legislation, executive orders, rumors and proposed reforms, some of it helpful, much of it confusing and all of it deeply consequential. It can be difficult to know what's good and what's not, what's political and what's practical, but when we sit down and view these changes through the eyes of a trusted leader, someone grounded in the day-to-day realities of students and teachers, we begin to feel the real weight of what's being decided. And that weight isn't meant to rest solely on the shoulders of Dr. Jones or a team or the school board. It belongs to all of us.

Public education is not just another system among many. It is the foundation. It's the common ground, where we learn who we are, how to live alongside one another, and what it means to build a better world. I believe that if we want the best possible future for

our communities and for our country and for our kids, we have to invest in the generation who will carry it forward.

And that starts with listening and with understanding, and with committing ourselves to support, not just observe our schools. I also look forward to the work ahead where Senator Bart Hester and Senator Jim Dotson, who have both been part of moving important pieces forward how they will continue the work that Dr. Jones sees is critical for the long-term health and success of our public schools, especially in areas like behavioral health, mental health services, and access to opportunity for all students.

We'll return next week with the next chapter of the story of Northwest Arkansas and continue with the work of our reckoning, with our own stories and our own history, and the working towards a shared understanding, our communal theology of place that we can use as a common foundation for how we view our home.

Thank you for listening, and thank you for being the most important part of what our community is becoming.

This is the underview, an exploration and the shaping of our place.

Season 02 • Arkansas • Education • Debbie Jones • Bentonville Public Schools • Bentonville Schools • Department of Education • Bentonville • Mental Health • Behavioral Health • Government

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the cries from the cotton field with Larry Foley.

the trail of tears with John McLarty.



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EXCLUSIVE: 'Stand Firm' Says Sen. Dotson On Bringing The Ten Commandments To Classrooms

Jun 26, 2025



dlewis33 from Getty Images Signature / Image Provided by Arkansas Senate

Million Voices spoke exclusively with Arkansas Sen. Jim Dotson in June as the state ramps up to deliver the Ten Commandments back to classrooms.

The Ten Commandments were part of American education up until roughly 50 years ago, a fact that many on the fundamentalist left don't want you to know. For longer than America has existed, the children who walked these lands were educated on the importance of these fundamental lessons for life, regardless of their religious upbringing.

In the creation of our nation, the Founding Fathers quoted, referenced, and wrote about the Bible more than any other single text, proving that Christian faith was part of our patriotic foundation. (RELATED: EXCLUSIVE: Sen. King Explains How Texas Is Bringing Biblical Values Of Our Founding Fathers Back To Schools LEGALLY)

We spoke exclusively with Sen. Dotson about how these core lessons in American patriotism are returning to classrooms and public spaces throughout his state, and how you can get involved in helping bring them to yours too!

What do you think the long-term impacts of the Ten Commandments bill will be for the people of Arkansas. "Long-term, I hope that this legislation allows us to return to the history a traditions of the U.S. I hope it allows our children to see and understand the Ten Commandments, and how they influenced the founding of our nation and the laws of society." How about the youngest generations specifically? "I hope they begin to read and learn and take the lessons within the Ten Commandments, and apply them to their life."

Last week, Million Voices spoke at length with Texas Sen. Phil King about his state's mission to bring the Ten Commandments back to classrooms. He described how this is only possibly thanks to the overturning of a short-held Supreme Court ruling, colloquially known as the "Lemon Test," which allowed bad case law to proliferate and remove religious freedoms from America's public square. (MORE NEWS: Ten Commandments Bill Arrives In Pennsylvania)

"The overturning of the 'Lemon Test' allows us to teach our children the actual history and tradition of America. That's all we're trying to do, is return to these foundations our nation was buil upon," Sen. Dotson noted. "I think this is a great first step in education for our young people to understand where this nation comes from."

How To Get Involved

Volunteer groups, organizations, churches and more will need to get involved in bringing posters of the Ten Commandments back to Arkansas classrooms. "There are so many organization working right now to implement this law as far as a project to help volunteer and pay for the displays in schools. All of these displays are donated, they are not paid for by tax-payer dollars, it's all voluntary contributions of the framed copies or copies of the posters themselves," Sen. Dotson explained. (RELATED: Trump Shares Moving Private Text From Ambassador Huckabee Amid Iranian Attacks Against Israel)

"Many of these organizations will be contributing posters, and since they haven't existed for the last 40-50 years, there will be many attempts to come up with designs and posters that fit the parameters of the law, and as those are released over the next month – through organizations like yours – people can begin to go and contribute to that effort, and even sponsor their own local public buildings and schools."

"We're trying to get as many people to participate as volunteers in their local communities, as it is only by having people locally involved can we make sure these places get the posters up, and to stay up on the walls," he added.

Advice For Other States Looking To Enact Similar Legislation

1142

"Make sure you have a thick skin," he joked when asked about how other states should prepare and get involved in this mission. "But make sure you have a strong, solid foundation on why you are getting involved in this. Be ready to take any criticism or heat that comes from it. And then: stand firm because there are more that are in favor of something like this than are opposed, but those opposed often have the loudest voices."

Dotson, like so many other lawmakers from states like Louisiana, Texas, and Pennsylvania, is helping "any and all states who want Ten Commandments legislation, who want 'In God We Trust' legislation," he continued. "We're here to help and we want to be the example. We're here to help answer any questions, address any concerns, or even just share what we've learne along the way." (RELATED: 'Separation Of Church And State Is A Lie': Legal Precedent Collapses Bringing Religious Freedom To US)

Dotson's dedication to this mission is unlike most of the lawmakers I have to talk to within my work. He's measured, kind, generous, and clearly listens to the wants and needs of his constituents so he can pick the battles he knows he can win for the people who gave him their vote.

Get Involved With Getting The Ten Commandments In US Schools!

We're helping to restore the Ten Commandments to America's public schools — starting with Texas and Arkansas! We can't do this without your help. Together, we can restore timeless values and build a stronger moral foundation for generations to come.

That's why we need your continued support. Your gift is the difference maker. It empowers a national movement to reclaim our moral foundations and restore faith-based values where they once stood proudly.

We need more than donors — we need bold voices.

- . Share this campaign.
- · Tell your church
- Mobilize your community.
- · Raise your voice and your banner of faith.

This is how a national awakening begins.

Help us return a foundational piece of America's moral and civic heritage to public schools in every state. For just \$30 per school, you can help display the Ten Commandments—a timeless symbol of justice, responsibility, and truth—across an entire campus.

Learn more about this **mission by clicking here**.

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Help Return the Ten Commandments to Classrooms and Defend Our History



01:21

Our latest initiative is underway—and we need your help. We're placing Ten Commandments posters in classrooms across America, starting with Arkansas and Texas. As an Action Partner, you're part of a nationwide movement committed to restoring Judeo-Christian values in our schools. Now, take the next step to stand with us in action:

- 1146
- ➤ Adopt a school for \$30—Help deliver Ten Commandments posters to school districts in Arkansas and Texas.
- ➤ Unable to donate right now? We'll add you to a waiting list and contact you when sponsorship funding is available.
- ➤ Live outside the region? You can still sponsor a school with a \$30 contribution.

Already an Action Partner? Thank you—this is your chance to act locally.

New to the movement? Now's the perfect time to join us.

Together, we can bring truth, hope, and moral clarity back to our classrooms—one school at a time.

Sponsor a School

Why This Matters

- ➤ The Ten Commandments were once a cornerstone of American education—taught in schools and featured in the New England

 Primer, America's first widely used schoolbook for over 150 years.
- ➤ They offer a universal moral foundation—honesty, respect, and responsibility—that restores America's founding ideals amid today's moral confusion.

1147

➤ We have a unique legal opportunity now—recent Supreme Court decisions (like the end of the outdated *Lemon Test*) have opened

▶ It makes a visible, local impact—placing a poster in a school is a tangible way to stand for truth in your community.

What is an Action Partner?

Action Partners are part of a national grassroots network of believers who respond to critical moments—like restoring the Ten Commandments to classrooms. This movement is about more than one project. It's about showing up where God is moving—through prayer, action, and connection.

In the current effort, Action Partners are:

- ➤ Delivering posters to school districts they sponsor in Texas and Arkansas
- > Praying for protection, boldness, and nationwide momentum
- ➤ Sharing the mission and encouraging others to join

the door to restore and defend our history and traditions.

➤ Contacting lawmakers to support similar legislation in their own states

With leadership teams in over 30 states and Action Partners in all 50, you're never alone—we're here to support what God is calling *you* to do.

7/9/25, 12:47 AM

Join the Movement



THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

I am the Lord thy God

Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

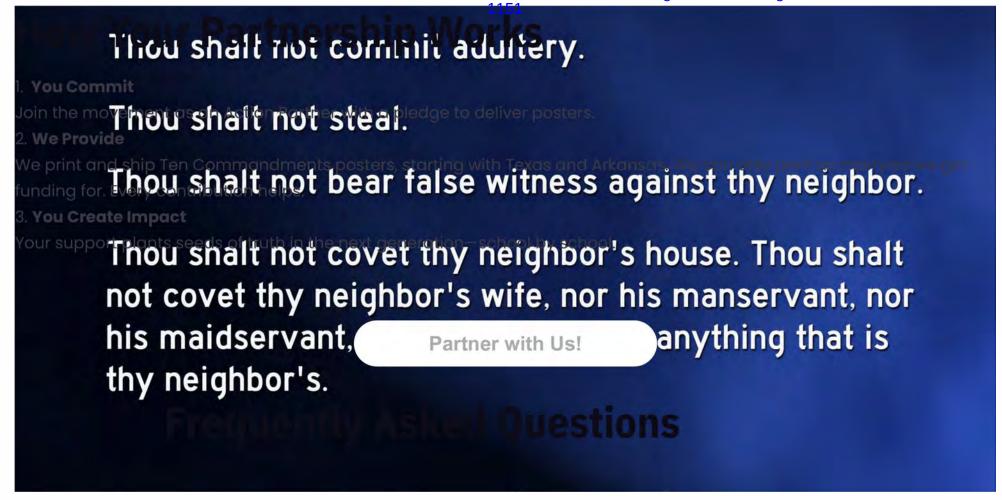
Thou shalt not make to thyself any graven images.

Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain.

Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.

Honor thy father and thy mother, that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

Thou shalt not kill.



Have a question? View our Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) for the Ten Commandments and see if we can help.

Get Informed Today

1152

Dig Deeper: Insights That Inspire Action

MV DEVOTIONAL SERIES

RECLAIMING OUR NATION'S
VALUES: BRINGING
THE TEN COMMANDMENTS
BACK TO EDUCATION









EXCLUSIVE: Sen. King Explains How

Open Article

Texas Is Bringing Biblical Values Of Our Founding Fathers Back To Schools **LEGALLY**



View Page



EXCLUSIVE: 'Stand Firm' Says
Sen. Dotson On Bringing The
Ten Commandments To
Classrooms

Open Article

Join Us in Building a Better Future

This is your chance to take meaningful action. Become an Action Partner today and help us bring truth, justice, and integrity back into our nation's schools. The tide is turning. The legal door is open—and the cultural moment is ripe. For \$30, you can sponsor a school and make a lasting impact.

Return the Ten. Restore Our History. Join the Movement.

Become an Action Partner

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Together for Faith, History, and Freedom.

Help Return the Ten Commandments to Classrooms and Defend Our History

- ➤ Choose a school for \$30—Help deliver Ten Commandments posters to schools in Arkansas and Texas.
- ➤ Unable to donate right now? We'll add you to a waiting list and contact you when sponsorship funding is available.
- ▶ Live outside the region? You can still sponsor a school with a \$30 contribution.

Together, we can bring truth, hope, and moral clarity back to our classrooms—one school at a time.

CHOOSE MY SCHOOLS

DONATE FOR SCHOOLS

EXHIBIT 4

Donate For a School to Receive and Display Ten Commandments Posters in Every Classroom

Not in the region? You can still make an impact—your gift will go toward sponsoring a school in need.

While any size donation will help finance the production and distribution of Ten Commandmentsposters, below are some suggested amounts to sponsor one or more schools:

30 CLASSROOMS - \$30.00

60 CLASSROOMS - \$60.00

150 CLASSROOMS - \$150.00

300 CLASSROOMS - \$300.00

33 SCHOOLS - \$1,000.00

EVERY \$30 BRINGS THE TEN COMMANDMENTSTO AN ENTIRE SCHOOL. EVERY GIFT HELPS PRESERVE AMERICA'S HERITAGE.

Next

Why This Matters

- ➤ The Ten Commandments were once a cornerstone of American education—taught in schools and featured in the *New England Primer*, America's first widely used schoolbook for over 150 years.
- ➤ They offer a universal moral foundation—honesty, respect, and responsibility—that restores America's founding ideals amid today's moral confusion.
- ➤ We have a unique legal opportunity now—recent Supreme Court decisions (like the end of the outdated *Lemon Test*) have opened the door to restore and defend our history and traditions.
- ➤ It makes a visible, local impact—placing a poster in a school is a tangible way to stand for truth in your community.

SUPPORT THE MISSION.
ADOPT A SCHOOL TODAY!

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

I am the Lord thy God

Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

Thou shalt not make to thyself any graven images.

Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain.

Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.

Honor thy father and thy mother, that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

Thou shalt not kill.

Thou shalt not commit adultery.

Thou shalt not steal.

Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.

Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's house. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his cattle, nor anything that is thy neighbor's.

Join Us To Restore American Schools

Deliver Posters to **Schools**

Donate

Your generous gift helps fund the printing and delivery of posters, expand our reach, and support this bold effort across the country.

Share the vision

Help us spread the word. Share this mission with pastors, friends, educators, and local leaders. Every voice counts.

Join the movement by helping distribute Ten Commandments posters to public schools in

7/9/25, 12:48 AM

Frequently Asked Questions

May I mail the poster bundle instead of delivering it by hand?

No, you must deliver your bundle to the District Administration Office directly. If you are in Texas, you will likely be asked to fill out an "in kind" donation form. Additional information about this is on your instruction sheet provided in your package.

Do I need permission from the school district before delivering the posters?

What if a school refuses to accept the posters?

Who should I ask for at the School District Administration Office?

Are private or charter schools included?

Why do I need to complete a confirmation survey?

Am I the person who has to hang the posters in the classrooms?

Should I take a photo of the posters or delivery site?

Who do I contact if I have an issue during delivery?

Is there a deadline for completing deliveries?

Can I deliver the posters with a friend?

What if staff question the legality of the posters?

Are we allowed to go back and check to see if the posters were hung?

JOIN US TO DEFEND OUR VALUES



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Frequently Asked Questions

How do schools legally display the Ten Commandments?

Recent Supreme Court rulings allow for the display of the Ten Commandments in public spaces, including schools.

Where does my contribution go?

Every dollar funds the printing and delivery of Ten Commandments posters to schools. A \$30 donation sponsors one school, with larger contributions expanding our impact across more communities.

What do the posters look like?

The posters are beautifully designed to showcase the Ten Commandments in a respectful, accessible format that aligns with educational and community values.

How many schools are you aiming to reach?

Our goal is to place the Ten Commandments in over 100,000 schools. With your support as an Action Partner, we'll make this vision a reality, beginning with over 11,000 schools in Texas and Arkansas.

May I mail the poster bundle instead of delivering it by hand?

No, you must deliver your bundle to the District Administration Office directly. If you are in Texas, you will likely be asked to fill out an "in kind" donation form. Additional information about this is on your instruction sheet provided in your package.

Do I need permission from the school district before delivering the posters?

You do not need permission from the school Administration Office, but you are welcome to call for the hours the office is open prior to delivery.

What if a school refuses to accept the posters?

Remind them that the posters are to abide by the new state law. Provide them with a copy of the law that was provided in your package.

Who should I ask for at the School District Administration Office?

When delivering posters to the District Administration Office, ask for the Superintendent and if he or she is not available, provide it to the office manager or assistant.

Are private or charter schools included?

The law in Texas and Arkansas stipulated public schools are required to display the poster if donated. This would include charter schools, however, this does not apply to private schools.

Why do I need to complete a confirmation survey?

This allows us to know what deliveries were successfully made to the district and provide assistance if needed.

Am I the person who has to hang the posters in the classrooms?

No. You are not to hang the posters or to deliver the poster to the school(s). Instead, you are delivering the posters to the District Administration Office. It is the responsibility of the school superintendent and district to provide the posters to the corresponding school principal and then teachers.

Should I take a photo of the posters or delivery site?

We would love to have a picture of you delivering the posters to the District Administration Office. Please include this in your confirmation survey.

Who do I contact if I have an issue during delivery?

You can email for additional assistance at info@restoreamericanschools.com

Is there a deadline for completing deliveries?

Arkansas – August 5th, Texas – September 1st

Can I deliver the posters with a friend?

You are welcome to take someone with you when making the delivery, but please ensure you and your friend have read the instructions before making the delivery.

What if staff question the legality of the posters?

Case 5:25-cv-05127-TLB Document 58-Action Failled FAG / ONA) 225 voice Page 72 of 183 Page ID #:

You will receive a copy of the law in the bundle you were sent. Please provide that to them and ask that it be given to the superintendent.

You do not need to engage further. If they refuse to accept the posters, simply take them home and email us at

info@restoreamericanschools.com.

7/9/25, 12:48 AM

Are we allowed to go back and check to see if the posters were hung?

We encourage you to check back in with your local school(s) once school begins to see if the posters are displayed.

Take a Stand for the Ten Commandments

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Restore a Piece of American History — The Ten Commandments in Every Public School

Religious Freedom is Being Restored, But the Battle Isn't Over

Thanks to major Supreme Court victories, we've opened new opportunities to restore faith and religious heritage across America. But this is only the beginning. Powerful, well-funded groups are fighting to prevent the return of the Ten Commandments, "In God We Trust," and other historic messages to public spaces—including schools.

We're helping to restore the Ten Commandments to America's public schools — starting with Texas and Arkansas! We can't do this without your help.

Together, we can restore timeless values and build a stronger moral foundation for generations to come.

The Ten Commandments have long been regarded as a universal moral code — influencing not only Judeo-Christian faith traditions, but also Western legal systems, including the United States. Their values — honoring parents, respecting property, upholding truth — align with the ethical standards society expects of all citizens.

"The Ten Commandments form the basis of our civil laws."

— U.S. Supreme Court, Van Orden v. Perry (2005)

That's why we need your continued support. Your gift is the difference maker. It empowers a national movement to reclaim our moral foundations and restore faith-based values where they once stood proudly.

Donate Today



Your Opportunity:

10 Commandments—a timeless symbol of justice, responsibility, and truth—across an entire campus.

The Vision:

- Nationwide Schools to Reach: Over 100,000 public schools (elementary, middle, and high)
- Estimated Posters per School: 30
- Cost to Sponsor One School: \$30
- Total National Goal: Scaled by region and campaign phase

Why It Matters:

- The 10 Commandments were once prominently posted in public schools across the U.S.
- They serve as a moral anchor for students of every background.
- Restoring them reaffirms shared values: truth, accountability, and integrity.
- Sponsoring a school makes an immediate, visible impact in a local community.

Make a Change



The Battle Ahead: What We're Up Against

Efforts to restore the 10 Commandments will face fierce legal resistance from groups such as the ACLU, Freedom From Religion Foundation, and Americans United for Separation of Church and State. These organizations are:

- Challenging displays as violations of the First Amendment and the separation of church and state.
- Claiming coercion of students through religious messaging in public education.
- Asserting legal precedent to stop any display lacking a secular purpose.
- Using lawsuits to block placement of messages like "In God We Trust" on public property.

Many of these groups are backed by millions of dollars and dedicated legal teams. Their aim is to erase religious heritage from the public square—including our schools. Your support is critical to standing firm and expanding our impact.

How it Works:

- You give. We print and deliver.
- Posters of the 10 Commandments are given directly to public schools across the nation.

- Distribution prioritizes legal readiness, geographic diversity, and areas of need.

Join Us:

You can help restore what once was standard—visible reminders of truth and moral clarity in every school. This is more than a poster; it's a statement of enduring values.

Sponsor a School Today.

One school. One message. One powerful legacy.

School Sponsorship Opportunities:

Donation Amount	What It Covers
\$30	One school (~30 classrooms)
\$60	Two schools
\$150	Five schools
\$300	Ten schools — ~300 classrooms reached
\$1,000	~33 schools — regional impact

Every \$30 brings the 10 Commandments to an entire school. Every gift helps preserve America's faith-based heritage.

Use Your Voice

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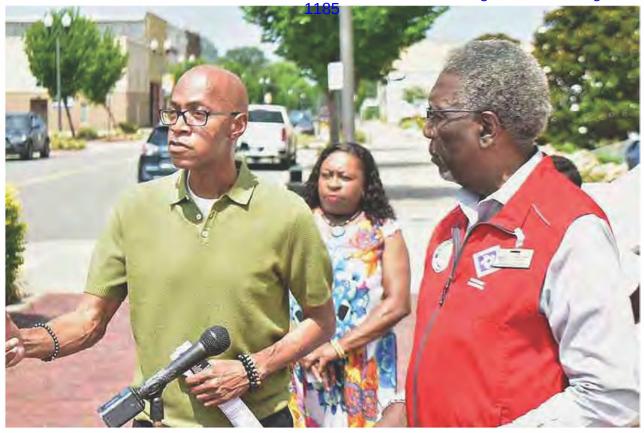
Pine Bluff clergy announces conference to advance Ten Commandments in schools

July 3, 2025 by I.C. Murrell









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Local pastors are taking a lead role in making sure the Ten Commandments are posted in Arkansas K-12 and college classrooms.

Speaking outside the Jefferson County Courthouse on Thursday, the Rev. Jesse Turner, Pastors on Patrol leader and executive director of the Pine Bluff Interested Citizens for Voter Registration, announced a July 28 strategy session and conference to advance the Biblical laws will be held at the Donald W. Reynolds Community Services Center, 211 W. Third Ave. The leaders behind the conference will connect with the National Day of Prayer and others with the goal of advancing the work with what organizers call "proven tactics."

The movement comes almost three months after Act 573 of this year's state Legislature required the posting of the Commandments, which are listed in Exodus 20:3-17, in all classrooms. The law also requires administrative officials of state agencies to display the Commandments. The poster is to be displayed in a durable poster or framed copy of at least 16 inches by 20 inches.

"What we are doing here today in putting these things up in the schools, I believe this is the way for us to reach students regarding things they have problems with," Turner said, with fellow Pastor on Patrol Alexander Watkins showcasing the poster. "We're already in the schools in Pine Bluff and Watson Chapel, and we're getting ready to go into White Hall. When we look at these Ten Commandments, we look at them as a means to discuss things with these kids, for the schools require ESSA, ESL and PBIS."

The acronyms stand for Every Student Succeeds Act, English as a second language and positive behavioral intervention and support. Turner said the PBIS strategies are located in the Commandments.

The principles behind each of those systems are found in the Commandments, Turner said.

"We can give positive examples as ministers and pastors, and that's what we want to do," he added. "We want kids to see something to help them have better behavior."

Act 573 also calls for an 11-inch-by-14-inch display of the national motto: "In God We Trust."

Toni Rose, a director of legislative and member support with the National Association of Christian Lawmakers in Conway, said the organization will roll out a website to make the distribution of posters affordable.

"The Good Book tells us, if the foundations be destroyed, what will the righteous do?" Rose said. "We've heard that all our lives. But now we're witnessing up close and firsthand what's happened with our foundations being destroyed."

The new law, which goes into effect Aug. 5, has already received backing from state Attorney General Tim Griffin, who on June 17 filed a motion to intervene in a June 11 federal lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of Act 573, the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette reported. The Arkansas Civil Liberties Union Foundation, acting on behalf of seven families, named the Fayetteville, Springdale, Bentonville and Siloam Springs school districts in northwest Arkansas in the lawsuit. The plaintiffs say the new act, which is to take effect Aug. 5, violates the establishment and free exercise clauses of the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

"'We the People' is incomplete. 'We the People' is not fully expressing God's workers," the Rev. Arthur Hunt Jr., Arkansas director of the National Day of Prayer, said. "We the People of God ... that's our custodianship. And now from Arkansas across America, the Ten Commandments that's been prayed for years to get into the heart of young people, classrooms and educators, that day has happened."

The first day of classes in the Pine Bluff School District is July 28. The first day in the Watson Chapel School District is Aug. 11 and, in the White Hall School District, Aug. 13.

Turner and other members of the local clergy point to the Commandments for the recent success of Pine Bluff and Watson Chapel districts containing bullying and other acts of disruption.

"We have empirical data that shows in Watson Chapel the pastors on campus have reduced negative behavior by 33 percent," Turner said, pointing to an anti-bullying campaign. "And, recently, we found out the 34th Avenue Elementary School (in the PBSD) have reduced negative (office) referrals by 70-plus percent."

The July 28 conference will be open from 11 a.m.-2 p.m., according to the website. Registration is open at https://arkansas10.today; and is also available by calling Turner at (870) 730-1131 or visiting him at his office at the Reynolds Center, Suite 109. Tickets range from \$60-\$75, before processing fees, according to the website.

Organizers say they have a goal of registration from all 75 Arkansas counties during the first 10 days in July.

"Let's stop putting water on a fire that God has started," Hunt said. "This has gone through legislation, and now from Pine Bluff, Arkansas, it is ignited with fervency."

This version CORRECTS the first day of classes in the White Hall School District.







Softball complex to show fireworks

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Westgate Christian University Ravens at Arkansas Pine Bluff Golden Lions Football

Simmons Bank Field

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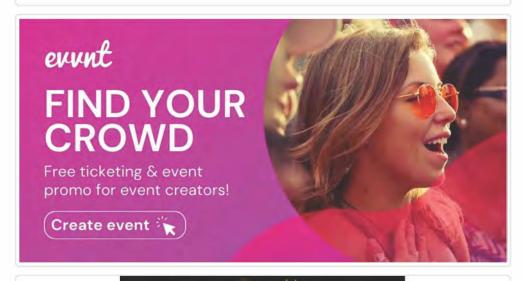




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Case 5:25-cv-05127-TLBPine BOOCUMING Note: 10 Eillade Quinlage / 25 kens Bago de 7 A SA FLAGA Regeld #: 1199

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LOCAL NEWS

Pine Bluff hosting event to get 10 Commandments in Arkansas schools 'ASAP'

by: Neale Zeringue Posted: Jul 3, 2025 / 06:00 PM CDT Updated: Jul 3, 2025 / 06:08 PM CDT



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PINE BLUFF, Ark. – The 10 Commandments are soon supposed to be displayed by law in Arkansas classrooms and libraries unless a federal lawsuit can prevent it.

Thursday, a group led by pastors pledged that Pine Bluff would be the first to implement the law. They are also asking the whole state to join them in the city for a strategy session and conference at the end of the month to quickly and effectively implement the law.

Arkansas attorney general files motion to intervene in 10 Commandments lawsuit

The mixing of Church and state in Arkansas drew praise from Pastors on Patrol, including Reverend Jesse C. Turner.

"We want kids to be able to see something that will help them have better behavior," Turner said.



EXHIBIT 8

Case 5:25-cv-05127-TLBPine Bloodusting net/4580-bet 10 Eillada Qu7/409/125 kans Bagno 488 ASIA 183 Regeld #: 1200

News • AR Storm Team • Pig Trail Nation • Watch Now • For You For Life AR Pros • Arkansas Style Community •



A flyer handout at the event stated, "We must organize and advance the work to have these postings done in the schools as soon as possible."

The American Civil Liberties Union is fighting the law <u>in federal court</u>. Wednesday, the ACLU of Arkansas posted on social media: "Our freedom to live without government-sanctioned religion is central to the First Amendment," and "Separation of church and state isn't a suggestion. It's the law."

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WEATHER 3 DAY FORECAST

Current 74°	Tonight 73°	Tomorrow 90°		
Mostly Cloudy	Scattered Showers	Isolated Thunderstorms		
′	Precin: 20%	Precin: 30%		

Lawsuit filed to halt Arkansas law putting 10 Commandments in classrooms >

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Reverends with Pastors on Patrol (POP) in Pine Bluff say in recent years they have seen double-digit percentage reductions in bad behavior at campuses they have worked with. They added the same positive behavior strategies and emotional education they teach come from the scripture.

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Current Estimated Jackpot

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"This is a movement from God. This is the word of God that we are carrying forward, and it's not just one group, but it is many groups," Turner said.

Federal judge hears Arkansas Ten Commandments monument case >

POP, the National Association of Christian Lawmakers, and other groups are inviting leaders from all 75 counties to a strategy session and conference inside the Pine Bluff Reynolds Center on July 28, just a week before the law goes into effect. Registration is open for the event from July 1 to July 10. Register online here.

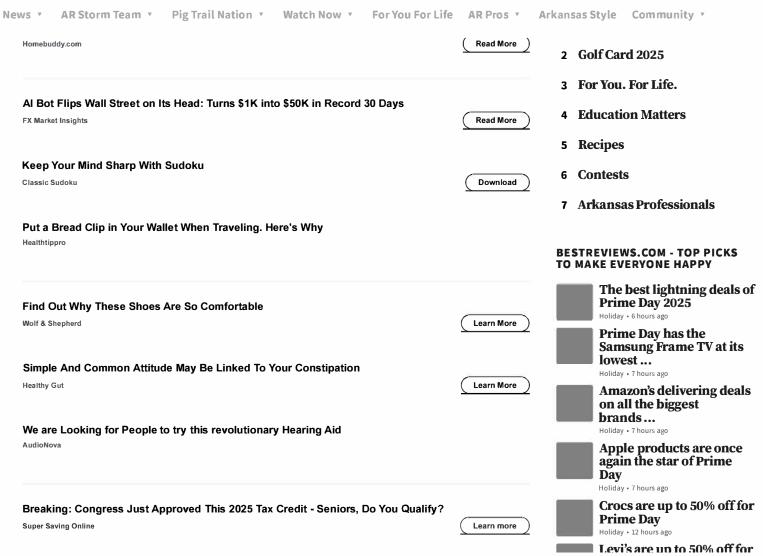
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US?

Somewhat concerned

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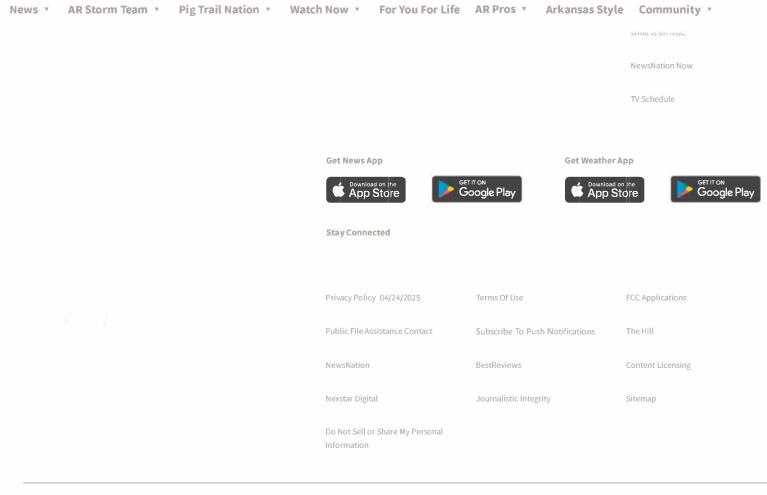
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"LET'S STOP PUTTING WATER ON A FIRE GOD HAS STARTED"
THE TEN COMMANDMENTS MUST HANG IN THE CLASSROOMS OF OUR STATE.
GOD HAS SPOKEN AND SO HAS THE LAW...



Let's Get the Ten in Arkansas

Who's In..

- > Faith-based Leaders
- Parents
- Corporations
- Educators
- Legislators
- All Keepers of the Faith

Get Involved"... July 1—July 10th www.arkansas10.today

Advancing the Ten Commandments in Arkansas Schools: A Strategy Conference for Family, Faith-leaders, Legislators, Educators and Community Leaders





Mon, Jul 28, 11am - 2pm CDT Add to calendar



Donald W. Reynolds Community Services Center

Pine Bluff AR, United States



National Day of Prayer Arkansas Contact host

Event description

"We've not been successful keeping guns out of our schools, but somehow we've seen a measure of success keeping God out of our schools... that day has ended."

https://events.humanitix.com/advancing-the-ten-commandments-in-arkansas-strategy-conference-for-family-faith-legislators-and-community-leaders/tickets

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which Governor Sarah Huckabee Sanders signed into law

Up now are the people who know this is good, and we must organize and advance the work to have these postings done in the schools as soon as possible

On Monday, July 28, 2025, a strategy session and conference will convene in Pine Bluff Arkansas, where the leadership team connects with the National Day of Prayer and others to advance the work with proven tactics.

Under the leadership of Rev. Jesse Turner with Pastors on Patrol (POP™) Mentoring Movement, legislators and faith-based and community leaders in Pine Bluff and Jefferson County, along with National Day of Prayer leaders, this all invite is for representation from all 75 Arkansas Counties to attend and get informed and equipped to move this in the most assertive and timely process.

Prayers will be prayed strategically for 75 counties. Leaders will pray for their cities, parents, children, the school board leaders, superintendents, elected officials, and all the participants who are advancing this assignment.

Prayers will be prayed for the legislators, the Governor, the media, and key agencies that desire to see this advance in a most timely way.

Here is the list of all counties in Arkansas.

#	County Name	#	County Name	#	County Name
1	Arkansas	26	Garland	51	Newton
2	Ashley	27	Grant	52	Ouachita
3	Baxter	28	Greene	53	Perry
4	Benton	29	Hempstead	54	Phillips
5	Boone	30	Hot Spring	55	Pike
6	Bradley	31	Howard	56	Poinsett
7	Calhoun	32	Independence	57	Polk
8	Carroll	33	Izard	58	Pope
9	Chicot	34	Jackson	59	Prairie

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11	Clay	36	#: 1210 Johnson	61	Randolph
12	Cleburne	37	Lafayette	62	Saint Francis
13	Cleveland	38	Lawrence	63	Saline
14	Columbia	39	Lee	64	Scott
15	Conway	40	Lincoln	65	Searcy
16	Craighead	41	Little River	66	Sebastian
17	Crawford	42	Logan	67	Sevier
18	Crittenden	43	Lonoke	68	Sharp
19	Cross	44	Madison	69	Stone
20	Dallas	45	Marion	70	Union
21	Desha	46	Miller	71	Van Buren
22	Drew	47	Mississippi	72	Washington
23	Faulkner	48	Monroe	73	White
24	Franklin	49	Montgomery	74	Woodruff
25	Fulton	50	Nevada	75	Yell

HOW TO ATTEND AND WHAT TO EXPECT

Registration is here and opens on July 1, 2025

There are three levels of registration. Select the one that is best for you and/or your team.

Click on Tickets and get ready for lives to be better in the ARK.

For more information contact Pastors on Patrol Jesse C. Turner 870.730.1131 or National Day of Prayer Arkansas Director Arthur L. Hunt Jr. 870.623.8179

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Location

Donald W. Reynolds Community Services Center 211 W 3rd Ave, Pine Bluff, AR 71601, USA

Get directions



Refund policy

No refund policy specified.

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Fund Balances

Legal Balance	\$14,724,551.22
Total Fund Balance	\$ 216,768,750.43
Child Nutrition	\$ 606,154.52
Activity	\$ 5,275,123.26
Federal	\$ 326,742.96
Debt Service	\$ (8,846,203.17)
Sinking Bond Fund	\$ 67,696,645.00
2024 Bond	\$ 105,518,403.59
Building	\$22,621,129.88
Operating	\$ 73,023,312.36
Teacher Salary Fund	\$ (49,452,557.97)



Other Information

Fund	Investment	Institution	Yield	Avg Balance
Building	Money Market	Centennial	3.67%	\$130,496,597.67

Administrators' Salaries (year to date)	Administrators' Benefits (year to date)
\$7,638,057.09	\$2,024,085.12



FY25 Teacher Salary, Operating, & Debt Service

Revenue	FV25 Groger	July 2024	August 2824	September 2024	October 2024	November 2024	December 2024	January 2025	February 2025	March 2025	April 2025	Year to Date	% Budget to Actual
Seguning Balance		\$ 25,711 781 50	\$ 26,313,471.62	\$ 20,630,286 61	\$ 15,401 202 77	\$ 18,037,461.47	S 42,518,473 94	\$ 42,586 364 83	\$ 35,741,577.23	\$ 28,351 769 42	5 20,240,370.48		
Lpcal Tax Funds	5 193,670,750.08	\$ 3,597 239 63	\$ 2,522,880.78	\$ 2,958 290 42	\$ 12,139,655.65	\$ 35,804 173 91	\$ 5.760 433 89	\$ 5,700 186 02	\$ 575 220 93	5 347 931 63	5 4,109,378.29	\$ 74.314 391.21	55%
State Foundation	5 19,129,360.00	\$ 1,177,447.00	\$ 1,177 447.00	\$ 1,175 670.00	\$ 2,175,670.00	\$ 1,175.670.00	\$ 1,175,670.00	\$ 1,175 670.00	\$ 1,177 462.00	\$ 1,177,482,00	\$ 1,137,482.00	\$ 11,770 690.00	83%
Teacher Minimum Salary and Raise	5 2,078,159.00	\$ 50	\$ 2,073,159.00									\$ 2,075, 159.00	100%
Professional Development (2223)	\$ 312,473.00	3		\$ 379.442.00								3 373.442.00	100%
Alternative Ed (2275)	5 1,337,170.00				\$ 1.069,736.00							\$ 4,069,736.00	20%
BL1 (2276)	\$ 350,000 NB					1	\$ 374,052.00					\$ 374 052 00	1075
ESA 1225112852 a	5 1,994,904.00		\$ 181,355.00	\$ 181,355,00	\$ 181.355.00	\$ 181.355.00	\$ 259,133,25	\$ 181.355.00	\$ 181 355,00	\$ 181 355,00	\$ 181,355.00	\$ 1,709 973.25	26%
Other State	\$ 2.500,000.00	\$ [163 608 35]	\$ 537,247.00	\$ 322 512.84	\$ 26,000.62	\$ 165 939.62	\$ 596,056.18	\$ 220 042 44	\$ 672,768.76	\$ 61 260 00	\$ 342,457,93	3 2,845,677.04	114%
Growth/Decline Enrollment (127) 228	5 922,262.00		1000				5 449 821.00			\$ 476.327.00		\$ #26148.00	100%
Sped Catastrophic (2265)	\$ 500,600.40											S	00%
Adult Ed (2754) 2207 (2203)	\$ 550,000.00				5 17,471.76	\$ 42,125.33	\$ 96 967.45	\$ 1189.64	\$ 52 070 92	\$ 79 001.17	\$ 42,770.10	\$ 331 586 37	68%
Other Local	5 17.3-380.40	\$ 33,083,13	\$ 2,407.73	\$ 3 455.61	\$ 7.85773	\$ 5,054.25	\$ 2,562.73	\$ 19.991.21	5 266 24	\$ 10 472 31	5 1,918.25	\$ 87.069.19	39%
Debt Payment Subsidies	5 1,600,000,00	\$ (52.574.71)	\$ 52 574.71		\$ 465,402,03	\$ 23,412.90	\$ 750,966.75		\$ 52 099,94			\$ 1,291 381 67	315:
Total Revenue	\$ 140,384,594.03	\$ 4,386.586.76	\$ 6.530.071.22	\$ 5.021.725.87	\$ 15.154,146.84	\$ 37,399,721.01	5 10,466,663.25	\$ 7,299,434.31	\$ 2.711,253.79	\$ 2,333.829.11	\$ 5,854,361.57	\$ 97,178.30573	69%
Beginning Balance	\$ 25,712,781.50											X	



Total Operating

\$166,096,375.53

FY25 Teacher Salary, Operating, & Debt Service

Expenditures		FY25 Budget	Inly 5054	August 2024	September 2024	Ortober 2024	November 2024	December 2024	January 2025	February 2025	March 2025	April 2025	Year to Date	% Budget to Actual
Certified salaries	5	65,660,299.10	\$ 457,315.34	5 5,445,073 79	\$ 5,329,177.64	5 5.423,875 49	\$ 5,453,117.14	5 5,464,984.19	\$ 5.551 789 03	5 5,471,372.90	\$ 5,413,551.04	5 5,411,701.41	\$ 49.452,557.97	73%
Classified salaries	5	13,711,047.93	\$ 897,437.33	5 1,520,603 95	5 1,571 216.74	5 1,626,886.76	5 1,704 606.28	5 1,636,582.42	5 1,634 842.72	5 1,613,475,02	5 1,528,964.30	5 1,618,445.99	5 15,453,961.57	82%
Benefits Certified/Classified	á	22,368 205.37	5 354 723.21	\$ 1,816,371.46	\$ 1815,049 95	\$ 1,872,866.36	5 1,886,700.91	\$ 1,882,387.81	\$ 1,901 732.11	\$ 1,888,695.80	\$ 1,899,066.53	\$ 1,866,879.98	\$ 17,176,474 14	77%
Total Salaries & Benefits	\$	106,755,046,40	5 1.710.075.58	5 8.781.049.20	5 87154-4.33	5 8.923,628 63	5 9 046 424.33	5 8.983,354.42	5 9.088 353 92	5 8.973,543.72	5 8,961 581 87	5 8,897,027:38	5 82.082.093.65	77%
Guilding Maintenance & Insurance	Ş	2,630,909.00	5 190,643.43	5 1,076,235.16	5 304,728.93	5 177,400.23	5 137.129.90	5 146,885.77	5 194,094.53	5 88,874.79	5 169.162.93	5 173.876.89	5 2.659,035 58	100%
Utilities	3	3,000,000.00	3 271,004.80	5 173,708 42	5 173,059 64	5 337,244 62	5 181, 66853	5 1.70.350.03	5 301,204 54	5 214.989.19	5 253,247 00	5 320,096.87	5 2,397,693.94	60%
Safety (Orginal Budget without Grants)	\$	700,000.00	5 -	\$ 97,933.12	5 75,953.92	\$ 85,203.65	5 32.933.02	\$ 203,723.89	5 293,476.23	5 79,130 13	\$ 156,305,34	.5 (135,604.41)	5 882.084.95	126%
Operations	5	1,100,000.00	\$ 327 341 05	5 35,349.36	\$ 36,942,45	\$ 45,090.99	\$ 74616.43	5 51.150.84	\$ 83,118.92	\$ 106,141.66	\$ 134 608.55	\$ 61,737.56	\$ 956.897.84	57%
Transportation	1 3	2,500,000.00	3 174.007.28	5 211,015 41	5 163,857 87	5 192,129.51	5 153,190 25	5 167,343.60	5 105,658.62	5 150,905.82	5 173 433.78	\$ 576,264.04	5 2,078,056.38	90%
School Punking & Curriculum	5	7,886,358,24	5 412.852.93	\$ 920,036.07	\$ 647,688.76	\$ 298.880.57	5 814 342 24	\$ 565.554,77	\$ 357 581 25	\$ 441.852.69	\$ 504.818.75	5 660,398.99	\$ 5.624 017 02	76%
Technology	1 5	1,400,009.00	5 798 971 27	5 232,951.36	5 130,103.79	5 14,871.94	5 27,569.96	5 4,706.04	5 6,870.47	5 10.977.60	5 92,065.82	5 29,783.51	\$ 1,346,871.72	96%
Debt Payments	8	17 621206 27	1	5 615,978.09		5 2,543,460.00	5 2,449,813.88	5 1,600.00	5 3.816,042.87	5 24 610.00	5	5 796,600.00	5 10,138,084.54	56%
Total Other Expenditures	5	36,150,284,51	5 2,174.820.76	5 3.353.207.03	\$ 1,535,365,38	5 3.594,261,51	5 3.871,224.21	5 1.311.317.94	5 5.159,387.99	5 2,127,531,88	5 1.483.842.18	\$ 2,473,253.45	5 26,083,942.33	723-
Total Expenditures	8	102/33330.91	5 3.884,896,64	\$ 12,135,256.23	5 10,250,809.71	5 12,517,890.14	\$ 12,917,708.54	5 10,295,272 36	9 14,247,721 91	5 10,101,075 60	5 10.445,224.05	\$ 11,370,180.83	\$ 108,166,036.01	76%
Footling Land Salares	31.5	23.183.044.62	\$ 26,213,471,62	520.640.346.61	5 1 5 40 t 202 77	5 18.037 451.47	5 47.513.474.94	5 42,589,864,53	5.35.741.577.33	5 28.351 755.42	520,240 378,44	\$14 724.551.72		



FY25 Building Fund

	FY25 Budget	July 2024	August 2024	September 2024	October 2024	November 2024	December 2024	January 2025	February 2025	March 2025	April 2025	FY25 Year to Date
Beginning Balance	\$42,709,198.16											
Revenue												
Interest	\$ 5,000,000.00	\$373,491.33	\$509,314.66	\$491,572.25	\$439,902.04	5425,772.41	5437,956.33	\$408,327.04	\$364,509.32	\$402,761.45	\$386,927.90	54,240,536.7
Deposits	5	\$0.00	\$0.00				\$30,000.00		a transfer and a			\$30,000.00
Total Revenue	5 5,000,000.00	\$373,491.33	5509,514.66	\$491,572.25	\$439,902.04	5425.772.41	5467,958.33	\$408,327.04	\$364,509.32	\$402,761.45	\$386,927.90	\$4,270 536 7
Expenditures	FY2S Budget	July 2024	August 2024	September 2024	October 2024	November 2024	December 2024	January 2025	February 2025	March 2025	April 2025	
Bailding Fund		\$107,944.99	\$174,590.91	\$189,227.89	\$394,489.90	5386,130.36	\$379,055.49	\$582,996.00	\$478,499.46	\$585 519.83	5720,443.57	\$3,948,898.50
2020 Bond Remlaning	\$ 590,146.18	-5219,449.61	\$14,855.24	\$279,446.45	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$35,064.31	50.00	\$298,789.62	50.00		\$409,706.5
Total Expenditures		-\$111,504.62	\$189,446 15	\$468,674.54	\$394,489.90	\$386,130.36	\$415,120.30	\$582 996.00	\$777,289.08	\$535.519.83	\$720.443.67	54,358,605.0



Building Fund Project/Material Approval

Vendor	Description	Amount
Presidio Network Solutions	FHS Networking eRate	\$814,612.19
GymMasters	Recoating 9 Basketball Courts	\$27,050.00



2024 Bond Issue

Overall Budget - \$115,000,000 (Individual Eudgets to be set upon board approval of projects)

Project	Project to date Expenditures	Remaining
Woodland	\$2,891,271.57	
FHS Parking	\$988,041.25	
JLC Transition	\$1,168,123.72	
Ramay	\$4,834,209.87	
Contingency		
Totals.	\$9,481,596,41	\$105,518,403,59



FY25 Federal Funds

Total Federal Fund Beginning Galance	5 954,788.75	July 2024	August 2024	September 2024	October 2024	November 2024	December 2024	January 2025	February 2025	March 2025	April 2025	Year to Date	Pa Budget to Actual
Revenue		Feverse Activals	-1			A							
Title (6501)	5 1,834,460.64	5 (228,125.67		5 624,646.37	\$ 9,242.29	5 154,012.35	\$ 240,722.61		\$ 180,187.19		\$ 417,964.49	5 1,348,449 33	73 51%
Title II (6756)	\$ 392,575.42	\$ (25.884 #2)		\$ 119.231.26	\$ 904.92	\$ 33,361.10	\$ 71,094.67		\$ 32,141.47		\$ 67,164.24	\$ 298,01304	34 52%
Title VIB (6702)	5 2,477,150.06	\$ (257.076.174		\$ 297,078.17	\$ 413,700 29	5 224,697.90	\$ 388,762 65		\$ 239,503.22		\$ 443,051.08	5 1,709,715.1=	59 02%
Adult Ed (6690.6606,6610)	\$ 155,504.27	\$ (7,025 \$2)				5 20,056.64		\$ 10,46925				\$ 27,500 57	17.68%
Medicaid (6750)	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 6,592.98	\$ 862.70	\$ 7,362.92	\$ 1,532.08	\$ 4.413.28	\$ 21,759.78	\$ 4,383.30	\$ 12,946 68	\$ 21,813.87	\$ 16,302.64	5 98,002.23	65.33%
Other Federal funds	\$ 2,186,880.97	\$ (59,436.15)	\$ 12,900.00	\$ 37.896.66	\$ 420,426.07	\$ 32,823.45	\$ 100,991.29	\$ 41,902.72	\$ 327,551.96	\$ 5,959.27	\$ 409,143.48	\$ 1,401.156.75	54.07%
Total Revenue	5 7,156,571.36	\$ (\$27,150.15)	\$ 13,762 70	5 1.136,21588	\$ \$45,805.65	\$ 469,564.72	\$ 623,361.40	\$ 56,755.27	\$ 792,332.52	\$ 28,773.14	\$ 1,353,625.93	\$ 4,832,837.06	68.23%
Expenditures	FY25 Budget	July 2024	August 2024	September 2024	October 2024	November 2024	December 2024	January 2025	February 2025	March 2025	April 2025	Year to Date	% Budget to Actual
Certified Salaries	5 1,723,101.44	5 52:275.96	\$ 167,035.68	\$ 254,868.66	\$ 149,041.15	\$ 149,041.15	\$ 161,586.15	\$ 132.05479	\$ 148,929.64	5 148,979.65	\$ 148,979.5€	\$ 1,512,703.39	B8%
Classified Salaries	5 3,113,759.62	\$ 20,690.10	\$ 241,312.03	5 278,798.08	\$ 238,301.28	5 228,314.81	\$ 241,707.94	\$ 236,818.48	\$ 245.506.65	\$ 244,506.44	\$ 242.546.32	5 2,218,502.73	71%
Bewefits	5 1,127,134,83	\$ 13,475.61	\$ 110,277 65	\$ 144,295 38	\$ 106,454.30	5 104,602.87	\$ 110,598.35	\$ 103,485.61	\$ 109,791 52	\$ 109,575.90	\$ 109,162 68	\$ 1,026,719 90	77%
Total Salary and Benefits	5 €,163,995.89	\$ 21,545.52	s 318/625.36	\$ 677,962.12	\$ 493,796.73	5 481,959.85	\$ 513,892 44	5 472,368.88	\$ 504,227.81	\$ 503,061.99	\$ 500,638.96	\$ 3,249,94766	53%
Total Other Expenditures	\$ 1,947,364.22	\$ 30,750.55	\$ 59.417.05	S 135,480.11	\$ 74,375.27	5 117,761.59	\$ 63.444.43	5 139,133.40	\$ 68,424.01	5 140,754 22	\$ 507,189.33	5 1,396,773.04	72%
Total All Expenditures	5 6,111,360.11	5 162.135.63	5 578,842.41	5 813,442.23	\$ 568.173.00	5 599,720.52	\$ 577.336.87	5 611,502 28	\$ 572,651.82		\$ 1,007,377.59	5 5,510,882.85	68%
Ending Budget Balance	\$ (0.00)											\$ 326,742.96	

FY25 Child Nutrition Funds

	FF25 Budget	July FVZ4	August FY24	September FY24	October FY24	November F/24	December Fr24	January F/25	February FY25	March FV25	April FV25	Fiscal Vear to Date	to Acoust
Total Child Nutrition Beginning Balance	5 1,363,367.93				1	1 - 4							
Revenue													
Lotal	\$1,615,000.00	\$1,788.52	\$112,064.36	\$146,118.20	\$158.860 61	\$151,994.28	\$115,190.97	\$115,121.72	\$104,823.49	\$132,225.76	\$127,664.35	\$1 166 643.26	72.25%
State	\$3,385,000.00	538.195 82	\$0.00	5189,126.53	\$364,347.24	\$401,410.44	\$313,419 77	\$263,956.18	\$309,175.12	5243 212.50		\$2 122 637.40	
Total Revenue	\$5,000,000.00	539 984 34	\$112.064.36	5335,238 73	5523.207 85	\$553,40 4.72	5428 E10 74	\$380,067.90	5413,998.51	\$375,439.06	\$127,664.35	\$3 289,680 56	65.79%
Expenditures	FY25 Budget												
Expenditures					-								
Salary	\$2,000,000.00	524,349.79	\$179,132.15	\$180,777.72	\$174,744 20	\$175,127.68	\$176.213.25	\$173,445.42	\$173,987.55	\$172.970.93	\$172,672 63	\$1.603,421.33	50.17%
Beneits	\$570,000.00	\$5,793.08	\$48,730 64	\$49,627.84	\$48,893.18	\$46,742.71	549,304.29	\$45,280 55	\$46,125,07	547,905.62	\$47,756,66	SA43,219 64	77 76%
Total Salary and Benefits	\$2,570,000.00	530,142 87	\$227 922.79	\$230.405 S6	\$223,637.38	\$223,870.40	\$225.517.54	\$221,725.97	S722 112 62	\$220,876.55	\$220,429 29	\$2,046,640.97	79_ 549
Non9alary Cost:					160 04		1 1						
Food	\$2,250,000.00	\$44,525 33	\$158 699 65	5139,463.82	\$210,611.15	\$253,018.74	\$178,563.07	\$156,884.58	\$245,271.90	\$197,053.80	\$140,916.34	\$1,535,108.38	72 67%
Equipment, Futures, & General Supplies	\$425,000.00	52,908 26	\$42,343.39	513,244.10	\$217,213 05	523,842.31	514.651.20	\$10,904 92	\$11 895.63	\$15,409.C1	31273285	\$365,144.72	85 92%
Total other expenditures	\$2,675,000100	\$97.733.59	\$201,043.04	5152,707.92	\$427.824.20	\$276.861.05	5193 214.27	\$177,589.50	\$157,167.53	\$712.462.81	\$153,649.19	\$2 000 253.10	74.73%
Total All Excenditures	55,245,000.09	577,87E.4E	\$428,965.83	\$383.133 48	\$651,461.58	\$500,73145	5419,73181	\$399,315.47	\$379,280.15	\$433,339,36	\$374,078.48	\$4,046,894,07	77.16%
Ending fund Balance	\$1,118,367,93											5 606,154.52	

State Deposit of 5275 796 50 Recieved of May 1 2025



FY25 Activity Funds

	FY25 Budget	July 2024	August 2024	September 2024	October 2024	November 2024	December 2024	January 2025	February 2025	March 2025	April 2025	Total
Geginning Balanca	\$ 6,869,242.61											
Revenue												
Revenue	\$ 3,000,000.00	5 155,350.56	\$ 333747.78	5 129,530.12	3 474.554.03	\$ 155'049.77	\$ 368,181.44	\$ 274,139.60	\$ 204,533.38	\$ 210,133.51	\$ 484,721.11	\$ 3,097,011.30
	5 -											
Expenditures	FY25 Budget											
Expenditures	\$ 3.000,000.00	\$ 235,003.07	5 713.653.4E	5 520,355.58	S 313,38°01	\$ 288,714.63	\$ 255,803.56	\$ 622,886.36	\$ 329,526.19	\$ 465,224.27	235646.05	\$ 4,691,130.65
Ending fund Balance	5 6,369,242.61											\$5,275,123.26



February Expenditures over \$50,000

Vendor Name	Amount	Description
Rush Truck Centers	\$154,520.00	Bus from Feb 2024 Order
Rush Truck Centers	\$157,575.00	Bus from Feb 2024 Order



Case 5:25-cv-05127-TLB Document 58=1ents | Failed v07/09/225noolsPage 124 of 183 PageID #: 1226

Curriculum Employment Registration Grade Viewer Parent/Student Resources Staff Resources



Curriculum

Employment

Registration

Grade Viewer

Parent/Student Resources

Staff Resources

MENU

MENU

SCHOOLS

SCHOOLS 🔽

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FAYETTEVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS // EVENTS

Events



2025 🗸



Upcoming events

By month

Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec

OCT Jr. High Choir All-Region Auditions

Har-Ber High School, 300 Jones Rd, Springdale, AR 72762, USA ALL DAY

Fine Arts Events



EXHIBIT 11



Find Us

Fayetteville Public Schools
1000 West Bulldog Blvd.
Fayetteville, Arkansas 72701
479-444-3000
479-444-3004
fpsdeptofcomm@fayar.net



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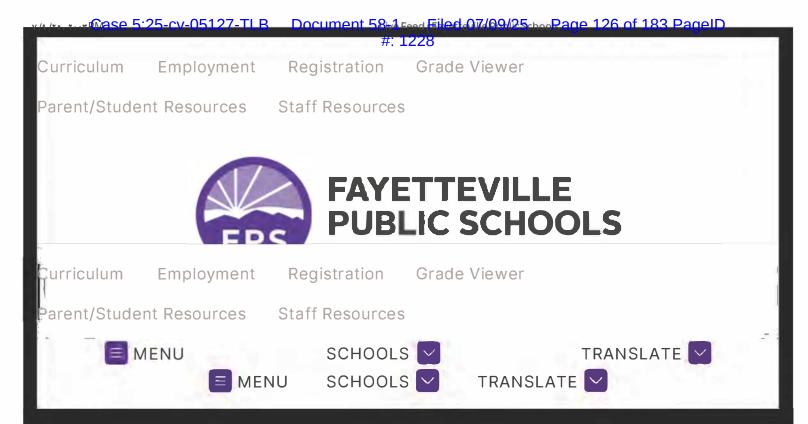








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FAYETTEVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS // LIVE FEED



★January is School Board Appreciation Month!★ Ivone Hudson currently serves on our FPS School Board and has served on the school board since 2024 representing at-large position 1. Thank you, Ivone, for your dedication, leadership, and commitment to putting students first.

Your hard work shapes the future of education in our community! #SchoolBoardAppreciation

5 MONTHS AGO, FPS COMMUNICATIONS DEPT







★January is School Board Appreciation Month!
★ Katrina Osborne curl
on our FPS School Board and has served on the school board since 20



representing Zone 4. Thank you, Katrina, for your dedication, leadership, and commitment to putting students first. Your hard work shapes the future of education in our community! #SchoolBoardAppreciation 5 MONTHS AGO, FPS COMMUNICATIONS DEPT









January is School Board Appreciation Month! Keaton Smith currently serves on our FPS School Board and has served on the school board since 2018 representing At-Large, Position 2. Thank you, Keaton, for your dedication, leadership, and commitment to putting students first. Your

hard work shapes the future of education in our community! #SchoolBoardAppreciation

5 MONTHS AGO, FPS COMMUNICATIONS DEPT







Ask the Fayetteville Public Schools chatbot!



January is School Board Appreciation Month! Justin Eichmann currently serves on our FPS School Board and has served on the school board since 2010 representing Zone 3. Thank you, Justin, for your dedication, leadership, and commitment to putting students first. Your hard work

shapes the future of education in our community! #SchoolBoardAppreciation 5 MONTHS AGO, FPS COMMUNICATIONS DEPT









★January is School Board Appreciation Month!★ Tracey Pomeroy currently serves as our FPS School Board Secretary/Treasurer and has served on the school board since 2020 representing Zone 2. Thank you, Tracey, for your dedication, leadership, and commitment to putting

students first. Your hard work shapes the future of education in our community! #SchoolBoardAppreciation

6 MONTHS AGO, FPS COMMUNICATIONS DEPT









★January is School Board Appreciation Month!★ Tim Hudson currently serves as our FPS School Board Vice President and has served on the school board since 2004 representing Zone 5. Thank you, Tim, for your dedication, leadership, and commitment to putting students first. Your

hard work shapes the future of eddcskatthioenFainyetoteuvrilcleoPmubmlicuSncithyololschat #SchoolBoardAppreciation

6 MONTHS AGO, FPS COMMUNICATIONS DEPT









January is School Board Appreciation Month! Nika Waitsman currently serves as our FPS School Board President and has served on the school board since 2015. Thank you, Nika, for your dedication, leadership, and commitment to putting students first. Your hard work shapes the future

of education in our community! #SchoolBoardAppreciation 6 MONTHS AGO, FPS COMMUNICATIONS DEPT









Congratulations to Jessica Bowser, a sixth grader at Holt Middle School, for winning the Walmart Martin Luther King Jr. Essay Contest for the entire Fayetteville School District! Jessica's powerful essay on Dr. King's legacy earned her recognition and an invitation to Walmart

headquarters. We're so proud of you. Jessica—way to represent! #MLKEssayContest #ProudMoment #FayettevillePublicSchools

6 MONTHS AGO, FPS COMMUNICATIONS DEPT





















Here are the winners in our 2024 Funniest Holiday Sweater Contest: Grand Prize: Shawn Flannigan, ALLPS Becky Shofner, Butterfield Trail Honorable Mention: Elizabeth Powers, Leverett Ben Crozier, McNair Maria Hall, Owl Creek

7 MONTHS AGO, FPS COMMUNICATIONS DEPT

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Washington Elementary 4th graders met with Fayetteville High School robotics students and got an up-close look at how real robots are designed and brought to life. This hands-on experience sparked curiosity and built excitement as the 4th graders begin their robot-

focused nonfiction reading unit. Fraction #STEMInspiration #LearningThroughExperience #FutureEngineers

7 MONTHS AGO, FPS COMMUNICATIONS DEPT

















Fayetteville Public SchoosklsthweeFlacyoetmteevidlleGPouvbelicrnSochroSolasrca Sanders, Secretary of Education Dr. Jacob Oliva, and Dr. Jonathan Haight, the author of "The Anxious Generation," to John L Colbert Middle School on Thursday The group visited the school to observe the school's

Outdoor Explorers choice program and to discuss smartphone and smart device policies in a roundtable discussion. The visit highlighted the benefits of hands-on learning, outdoor activities, and restricting smartphone and device use in the classroom, which have improved student focus, engagement, and social interaction.

The visit was also covered by "Good Morning America 3", and a feature on the visit aired today.

7 MONTHS AGO, FPS COMMUNICATIONS DEPT























Members of the Fayetteville legislative delegation joined the Fayetteville Board of Education, Superintendent Dr. John Mulford, and his executive leadership team for a productive breakfast meeting at the district administration building. The purpose was to discuss the upcoming

legislative session. #FayettevillePublicSchools #ARLegislativeSession #EducationMatters #Collaboration
Ask the Fayetteville Public Schools chatbots























This week, the Be Pro Be Proud Truck rolled into Fayetteville High School giving our students a hands-on look at in-demand careers in trades like welding, plumbing, and machining. Led by the Associated Industries of Arkansas Foundation, this initiative connects young talent with

rewarding, skilled careers that keep our world running. With over 23% of skilled professionals nearing retire Amske nthte. FAamyeettreivcialle's P wubolirck Sfochrocoels not generation ready to step in—and Be Pro Be Proud is here to help. Our students loved exploring the simulators and discovering exciting career options! #BeProBeProud #FayettevilleHighSchool #FutureSkilledWorkers #HandsOnLearning

8 MONTHS AGO, FPS COMMUNICATIONS DEPT





















Last weekend, Fayetteville High School hosted the VEX V5 Robotics
Competition, where 38 high school and 15 middle school teams from
across the region competed in intense 2v2 robot battles! Organized by
DogByte Robotics, the event showcased creativity, teamwork, and
problem-solving as students worked with mentors to design and build innovative
robots. Seven of our highschool teams made it to elimination rounds and one
Askthe Fayetteville Public Schools chatbots
made it to semifinals. Three district middle school teams made it to elimination
rounds with one making it to semifinals. Middle School Team 7187R, the "High
Steaks" team, qualified for the State Championship in March. A special thanks to the
over 150 dedicated volunteers that kept the competition running smoothly.
Congratulations to all teams, and thank you to everyone who made this event
possible! ** #VEXRobotics #FayettevilleHighSchool #STEM #FutureEngineers
#Robotics









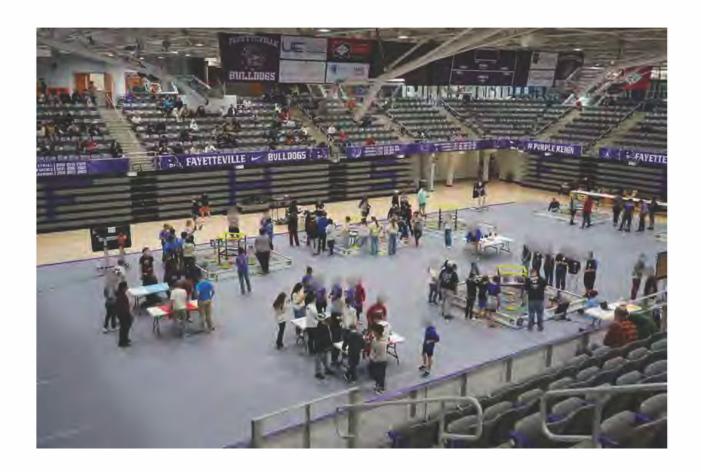














Fayetteville High School hosted a Career Expo today, where students connected with community professionals to explore a wide range of career paths. The event gave students a chance to discover careers that match their strengths, while also seeing how subjects like English, math, and teamwork translate into real-world skills. With the guidance of local

experts, our students gained firsthAasnkd t hien sFiagyhetttsev iinllteo P uwbhliac tS clihfoeo las look like. It's all about empowering them to dream big and plan their next steps! #FayettevilleHighSchool #FutureLeaders #CareerExploration #StudentSuccess

8MONTHS AGO, FPS COMMUNICATIONS DEPT





















Fayetteville Public Schools' Gifted Education program hosted an inspiring "We Are the World" Sustainability Conference at the Fayetteville Public Library! Over 20 community experts shared insights on diverse

sustainability topics, sparking curiosity and awareness in our students. It was an unforgettable day of learning, inspiration, and community connections. Huge thanks to all the presenters, Apsekrtfhoer mFaeyertst, evailnled Peuvbleicry Sochnoeo Isw conscible! Together, we're building a brighter, more sustainable future.

8 MONTHS AGO, FPS COMMUNICATIONS DEPT























A big thank you to the Nelms Dyslexia Center for hosting our most recent "Java with John" community informational event! The Nelms Dyslexia Center is a educational non-profit organization that provides dyslexia training for teachers and provides dyslexia assessments and intensive

dyslexia therapy for students. Fayetteville Public Schools is proud to partner with the Nelms Dyslexia Center to provide essential support and resources for students with dyslexia. Thank you to everyone whosek tshteo Fpapyeetdte vbiylle a Pnudblitco S tchheoo Flsa Commerce for hosting! Missed this one? Mark your calendars for the next "Java with John" on December 5 at Arsaga's Mill District, starting bright and early at 7:00 a.m.!





















Fayetteville Public Schools students had an un-bee-lievable time at theUniversity of Arkansas Insect Festival! From giant beetles to colorful butterflies, students explored a buzzing world of insects and arthropods, learning about the beauty and importance of these fascinating creatures. With hands-on exhibits and expert entomologists ready to answerevery curious question, the sfke tshteiv Faaly mettaevdilele I Peuabrlnici nSgch coorelse ages! #InsectFestival #FayettevillePublic Schools #HandsOnLearning

8 MONTHSAGO, FPS COMMUNICATIONS DEPT





















Arkansas Supreme Court in action! Students had the incredible opportunity to witness a live oral argument on a real-life court case. Not only did they get to experience the judicial process up close, but they also engaged in a Q&A session with the justices, learning firsthand about the inner workings of our legal system. #ArkAasnk sthaes FSauypetrtevmillee CPoubulrict SackhoeoalsIW cl #FutureLeaders #LawInAction #FHS

8 MONTHS AGO, FPS COMMUNICATIONS DEPT

















Fifth graders from sJko thhen FLa.y eCttoevlbilleer Pt uObluict dSochooro IAs dch action-packed day at Gulley Park H2Oarks! They: Collected aquatic macroinvertebrates to learn about water quality Identified tiny stream creatures with expert guides Embarked on a scavenger hunt to explore erosion and the importance of clean water Assessed fish habitats and discovered the secrets of the underwater food web Hands-on learning and outdoor fun at its best!

















1 2 <u>3</u> 4 21 Dump to Page





Find Us

Fayetteville Public Schools 1000 West Bulldog Blvd. Fayetteville, Arkansas 72701 479-444-3000 479-444-3004 fpsdeptofcomm@fayar.net

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Fayetteville Public Schools is with Elizabeth Rusher. April 18, 2017

Teams from Holt Middle School, McNair Middle School, and The Owl Creek School battled yesterday in a Quiz Bowl competition. The teams practice with each other in preparation for the upcoming district Quiz Bowl competition.



036 2 shares

District Homepage Enrollment



District Homepage Enrollment



SCHOOLS V





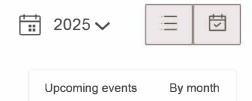
SCHOOLS V

TRANSLATE V

CENTRAL PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL // EVENTS

Events





Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec

MAY Senior Walk

Past CPE Students will come back for one last walk in our halls. Parade type walk inside $\overset{8:00}{\text{8:30 AM}} \overset{\text{AM}}{\text{the}}$ school. Route to be provided later. Reception in the library (for seniors) to follow

CPES Halls & Reception in the library to follow, CPES-CPES-Master Calendar

Find Us

Central Park Elementary School 1400 SW Liberty Avenue Bentonville, AR 72713 Phone: 479-696-3200

Fax: 479-271-1148

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Summer School



District Homepage Request A Tour Enrollment Graduation

Summer School

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BENTONVILLEHIGH SCHOOL // **EVENTS**

Events



2024 🗸



Upcoming events

By month

Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec

OCT Orchestra All Region Auditions

Will use 1st Floor South including Band Orchestra, Choir, Gym Lobby, Commons, AAC $^{6:00}_{8:00}\,{\rm PM}{\rm Lobby},$ and 1st floor North including Commons and All Classrooms

BHS-2-2-Conference Room 2002 (4)

Find Us

Bentonville High School 1801 SE J Street Bentonville, AR 72712

Phone: 479-254-5100

Fax: 479-271-1184

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Curriculum Job Openings Staff Links See | Say



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EXPLORE SCHOOLS 🔽 TRANSLATE 💟



INFORMATION

DISTRICT

PARENTS & STUDE

SPRINGDALE PUBLIC SCHOOLS // NEWS

// HAR-BER STUDENTS HOST MOCK VET CLINIC



HAR-BER STUDENTS HOST MOCK VET CLINIC Springdale Public Schools

Springdale Schools Teach Them All, All Means All. December 5, 2023

Har-Ber High School students hosted mock veterinary clinics Nov. 28 for about 100 Hellstern Middle School careers class students.

"I thought it was really cool, because we got to listen to the heartbeat and see how to remove stitches and stuff," said Taylor Williams, a I-lellstern sixth grader.

The middle school students learned about some of the basics of pet care through the mock clinics, such as giving vaccinations, stitching small wounds and taking vital signs, said Patti Priest, Har-Ber veterinary science teacher.

Real dogs provided by teachers and stuffed animals donated by Coodwill served as the clinic "patients," she said.

"The stuffed animals have 'broke' legs and 'need stitches',' so we're doing things that we don't want to do with the real dogs," Priest said, adding the students took the vital signs of the real dogs and listened to each dog's heartbeat with a stethoscope.

"It's very educational," said Jayden Queen, a Hellstern sixth-grader.

"You get to learn how to help animals when they experience any stress."

Queen noted he wanted to be a veterinarian the first week of careers class this school year, said Kelley Waters, Hellstern careers class teacher.

"I want to help animals in need that need it the most," Queen said.

The clinics were operated by Har-Ber veterinary science students who are currently working in local animal care positions, Priest said.



Senior Emmerson Sloan worked with the Hellstern students at the mock clinics and is employed as a veterinary assistant at Lunsford Veterinary Care Center in Tontitown.

She said Har-Ber veterinary science classes helped her create some of the pathways toward a career in animal care.

"I currently am in the internship $p^{\dagger}r\dot{o}q^{\dagger}$ m here, so it allows me to leave school and go to work," Sloan said.

Lunsford is a mixed practice clinic, giving the 17-year-old a lot of practice and experience with a variety of animals, she said, adding she wants to be a large animal veterinarian.

"I've learned that that's what I want to do," Sloan said. "I love especially working with the larger ones, because I feel like you can get a better connection and they understand you and you understand them."

She said she participated in the mock clinics because she wanted to help the middle schoolers understand the different career options they have.

"I think it's really important to be able to show kids what they can do for their future—especially since they do have a passion for animals," Sloan said.



Five groups of Hellstern students participated in mock clinics throughout the school day, Waters said, adding what the careers class

v/५/४०. ४:४२२ இष्प्रिक्ट 5:25-cv-05127-TLB Documpants banks Host Miles Nost Miles Nost

"We talk about teamwork, we talk about communication, we talk about listening skills, we talk about punctuality," Waters said. "We talk a lot about skills that are essential to be successful in the career field."

The Hellstern students have likewise spent time in teacher Jonathan Roberts Har-Ber agriculture class and have explored trade and industry career paths at Don-Tyson-School-of-Innovation, she said.

"We are grateful for the teachers who are willing to partner with us to open the eyes of young students and the world around them," she said. "Our hope is for students to understand the different curriculum they can explore during their high school years to better help them decide on a future that fits their aptitudes and interests."

Students may not realize they can attend classes at DTSOI that are not offered at their high school, Waters said.

Students may also be unaware of training and certifications that are available for them through veterinary science classes, Priest said.

Veterinary science students can earn dog grooming and Fear Free Pets animal handling certifications at no cost, she said. The certifications would be as much as \$300 otherwise and are often required for animal care positions.

"We want the time they spend at Springdale Schools to have real value for students' futures," Priest said. "It feels like I'm doing something important."





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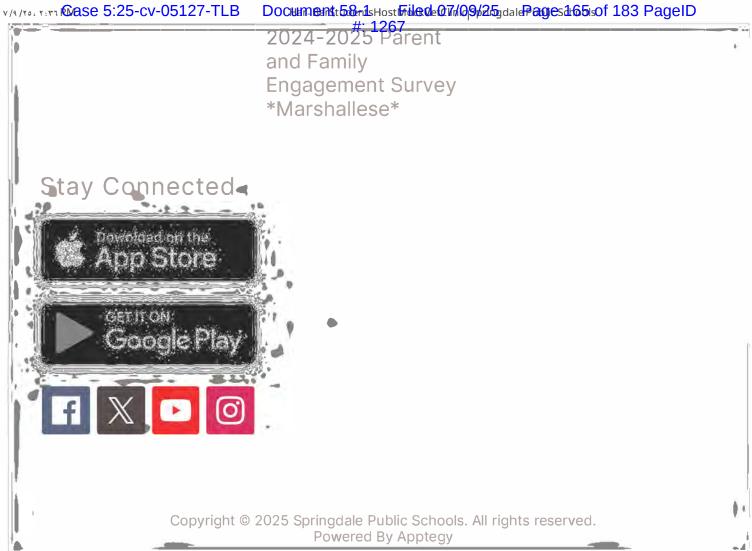
Springdale Public Schools 804 West Johnson Avenue Springdale, AR 72765 (479) 750-8800 (479) 750-8812 jcleveland@sdale.org



Website Feedback Sur vey

2024-2025 Parent and Family Engagement Survey 2024-2025 Parent and Family Engagement Survey *Spanish*





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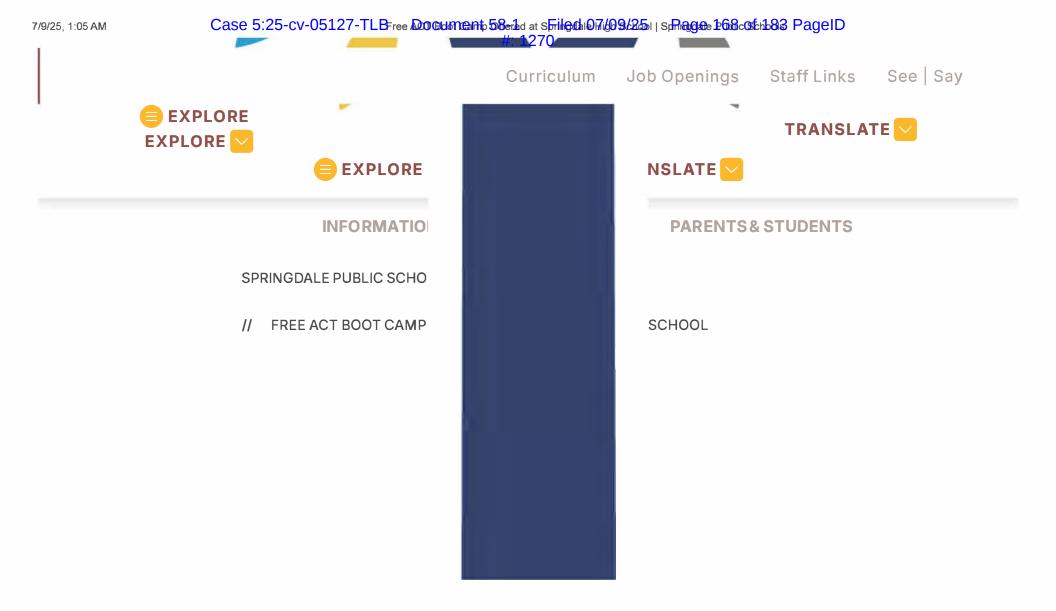
Job Openings

Staff Links

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Springdale Public Schools

Teach Them All, All Means All.



FREE ACT BOOT CAMP OFFERED AT SPRINGDALE HIGH SCHOOL

Springdale Public Schools March 2, 2022

Springdale High School is hosting a free ACT Boot Camp or three consecutive Saturdays from March 5-19 to help students prepare for the ACT!

Sessions will be offered from 8-10 a.m. and from 10 a.m. the sessions will be offered from 8-10 a.m. and from 10 a.m.

Featured sessions include:

- March 5 from 8-10 a.m.: Math Testing Strategies
- March 5 from 10 a.m. to Noon: Science Testing Strategies
- March 12 from 8-10 a.m.: English Testing Strategies
- March 12 from 10 a.m. to Noon: Reading Testing Strategies
- March 19 rom 8 a.m. to Noon: Full-Length Practice Test

The boot camp is **open to all Springdale Public Schools students** who are eligible to take the ACT.

Interested ACT Boot Camp participants may email trenneker@sdale.org for additional information.

<u>Did you know? High school students may now take the ACT multiple times! Click Here to learn more.</u>



Find Us

Springdale Public Schools 804 West Johnson Avenue Springdale, AR 72765 (479) 750-8800 (479) 750-8812 jcleveland@sdale.org



Website Feedback Survey

2024-2025 Parent and Family Engagement Survey

2024-2025 Parent and Family Engagement Survey *Spanish*



Stay Connected













2024-2025 Parent and # 1273
Family Engagement
Survey *Marshallese*

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Join us at <u>Southside Elementary for</u> brief info meeting and a tour of your new 3rd grade school.

Students are not require to attend but are welcome.

This information will be shared in Spanish and English.

We look forward to partnering with you next school year!



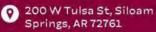
Acompáñenos en Southside a una breve reunión informativa y un recorrido por su nueva escuela de 3er grado. No es obligatorio que los estudiantes asistan, ya que ya habrán recorrido el edificio.

Esta información se compartirá en Español e Inglés.

¡Esperamos hacer equipo con usted el próximo año escolar!

THURSDAY MAY 15 @ 5:30 PM







JUEVES 15 DE MAYO @ 5:30 PM



200 W Tulsa St, Siloam Springs, AR 72761



EXHIBIT 20

MENU

SCHOOLS V

NORTHSIDE ELEMENTARY // NEWS

// KINDERGARTEN GRADUATION INFORMATION I



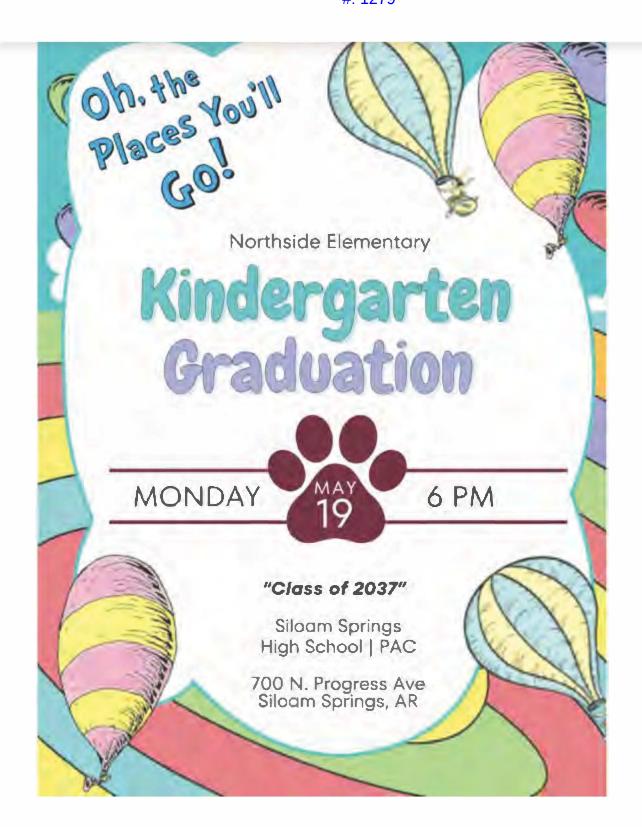
Siloam Springs School District

April 15, 2025

"Oh, the places you'll go!" - Dr. Seuss

Join us as we celebrate our amazing kindergarteners and all the y'e accomplished this year! It will be an evening full of smiles, memories, and a few happy tears; it's a milestone you won't want to miss. Come cheer on our little graduates as they take the stage and get ready for their next big adventure—1st grade! We ca't wait to celebrate with you.







Find Us

Siloam Springs Northside Elementary 501 West Elgin Siloam Springs, AR 72761 (479) 524-4126

Fax: (479) 524-4561

Siloam Springs School District

Northside Elementary

Allen Elementary

Southside Elementary

Intermediate School

Middle School

High School

Main Street Academy









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Advancing the Ten Commandments in Arkansas Schools: A Strategy Conference for Family, Faithleaders, Legislators, Educators and Community Leaders

Mon, Jul 28, 11am - 2pm CDT · Event info

I'm All In: This registration covers your attendance, your lunch and the Arkansas Ten Media Kit which has 10 Posters for School Placements \$75.00 + Sales tax + \$5.36 fee - 0 +

We Are All In: Group of 5 or more: At \$60 per person this registration covers your attendance, your lunch and the Arkansas Ten Media Kit which has 10 Posters for School Placements

\$60.00 + Sales tax + \$4.55 fee - 0 +

Donations

Support the Arkansas Ten Commandment Initiative

Choose an amount ①

Donate

Pay another way

EXHIBIT 22

By using Google Pay, I agree to the Terms of Service

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ACTIVITY FUNDS GUIDELINES

There are two main types of activity funds used by the Fayetteville Public School District. The first type is a campus activity fund, which is used for such things as donations, picture money, and revenue from approved fundraisers.

The second type of funds is agency funds, which are held in trust by the school for the benefit of a specific group or for a specific grant. Decisions on the use of these funds are the concern of the specific groups, to whom the funds belong, as long as the decisions regarding the use of funds do not conflict with Board policy and/or legal regulations or restrictions.

Expenditures

All expenditures are subject to district purchasing procedures. No expenditures should be made using undeposited cash.

Approved Uses of Funds

Here are some examples of permitted expenditures:

- The cost of field trips.
- Incidentals used in seasonal programs.
- Cost of school assemblies, special programs, class events, student dances.
- Expenses for the sponsor and chaperones for an approved event.
- The cost of contest entry fees.
- Awards for student achievement.
- School supplies.
- Funds to waive fees for at risk children.
- Items to beautify the school, classrooms, playgrounds, or other school property.
- Enhancements to education.

Stipends/Payment to District Personnel

No activity funds may be used to increase or supplement the District's salary schedule without the approval. Proper paperwork should be forwarded to the Director of Finance prior to assignment of extra work.

Gifts

Activity funds may not be used to purchase gifts for students or employees. A gift is a gratuitous offering for personal benefit that does not serve a legitimate educational interest.

Collection of Money

All money collected must be recorded using district provided deposit books or tickets.

Personal Check Cashing

Employees' personal checks may not be cashed or substituted for cash collections.

Contracts/Leases/Exclusive Agreements

Employees may not enter into a contract, lease, or exclusive agreement without approval from the Superintendent or his/her designee.

Fixed Assets

Student organizations should not own fixed assets. If such assets are to be purchased they are considered donated to the district and are to be listed on the District's asset inventory.

Funds Belonging to Outside Organizations

Funds belonging to outside groups, such at PTA's/PTO's, booster clubs, etc. are not activity funds and should not be handled by school personnel as a part of their official duties. Only officers or the designated treasurer of the organization themselves should handle such funds.

Fundraising

See specific policies and procedures for fundraising.

FIELD TRIP TRANSPORTATION CHARGES

Field trips are budgeted by a set amount of money per student and are budgeted for each school. This money may not be used for anything else, is not transferable to other budgets lines, and may not be overspent.

When scheduling a field trip with the Transportation Department, the **budget unit must be** written on the Field Trip Request form. This budget unit is the same as your regular budget unit with an account code of 63999. A typical elementary school's number would look like this: 2000 1120 031 000 00 63999.

Field trip charges will be posted to your budget once a month. If you need to spend more than the budgeted amount, you may designate another budget unit, such as your activity account.

The following page has some examples of typical trip costs.