



**COMMISSION FOR ARKANSAS PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMIC
FACILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION**

MEETING AGENDA

**Arkansas Department of Education Auditorium
April 3, 2014
9:00 a.m.**

Agenda Summary

1. Summary Meeting Minutes – November 5, 2013

Recommendation – That the Commission approve the meeting minutes for the November 5, 2013, Commission meeting.

2. Academic Facilities Partnership Program

Presenter – Murray Britton, Senior Project Administrator, DPSAFT

a. Funding Status

The Division has undertaken a review of available funds in the Educational Facilities Partnership Fund. With Commission review and approval, these funds may be used to provide state financial participation for approved 2013-2015 Academic Facilities Partnership Program projects.

2a1. Educational Facilities Partnership Fund Through March 12, 2014

2a2. Available Funding for Unfunded Year One and Year Two of 2013-2015 Academic Facilities Partnership Program Funding Cycle (*Millions*)

Status Report – No Commission action required.

2. Academic Facilities Partnership Program - continued

b. 2013-2015 Partnership Program Projects – Year One (Unfunded) and Year Two Funding Approval

During its April 12, 2013, meeting the Commission approved Year One and Year Two projects for the 2013-2015 project funding cycle and funded \$130.7 million of the Year One projects. After receiving \$20 million in General Improvement Funds, the Commission funded additional Year One projects to a level of \$158.1 million, on August 29, 2013. With the completion of the 2014 General Assembly Fiscal Session, funding is available to fund the remaining Year One and all Year Two projects of the 2013-2015 project funding cycle. The state financial participation required to fund the 78 projects is \$54,541,329.59.

Recommendation – That the Commission provide \$54,541,329.59 state financial participation for 2013-2015 Partnership Program Year One unfunded projects and Year Two projects listed in Tab 2c.

c. 2015-2017 Partnership Program Project Applications

School districts submitted 2014 Master Plans by February 3, 2014, and submitted Partnership Program project applications for the 2015-2017 project funding cycle by March 3, 2014. Districts submitted a total of 261 project applications, about a 30% reduction from the 381 project applications received for 2013-2015.

Status Report – No Commission action required.

3. Facilities Distress Coordination

Presenter – Terry Granderson, Assistant Director, DPSAFT

a. Indicators of Facilities Distress

The Division issued Commissioner’s Memo COM 14-037 on January 2, 2014, that contained the Division’s process to monitor indicators of academic facilities distress. The process is similar to the Arkansas Department of Education’s fiscal distress process, and is intended to support school districts so they can maintain compliance with planning, construction, and maintenance requirements in statute and rule.

3a1. Commissioner’s Memo COM-14-037 – Academic Facilities Distress Early Intervention for 2013-2014

3a2. Indicators of Facilities Distress Status

b. Millage Elections, September 2013-February 2014

School districts held millage elections in September 2013 and February 2014. Per Ark. Code Ann. 6-21-811 (f)(1)(A) the Division provided written notices to the districts with failed millage elections for a conference to discuss facility needs in the district.

Status Report – No Commission action required.

4. Act 1288 Survey

Mike Simmons, Senior Transportation Manager, DPSAFT

Update on status of Act 1288 of 2013 that requires school districts to report school bus transportation data to the Division by July 1, 2014, to assist the General Assembly in determining whether to establish a maximum student transportation time. The Division issued Commissioner's Memo COM-14-040 on January 15, 2014, with instructions and information for districts to complete the survey.

Status report. No Commission action required.