



Gregory-Portland Independent School District

FACT SHEET

New AV Display @ Ray Akins Wildcat Stadium

Built for Student Success

- G-PISD has had an outstanding audio-visual production program at G-P High School for several years under Teacher David Rains.
- When we were planning Bond 2015, he informed us that he needed help to take this program to the next level. He asked if we could give him the technology that our students would need to run their own LIVE broadcasts.
- The idea was presented to construct a TV studio at the high school, but instead Mr. Rains specifically asked to upgrade the scoreboard at the stadium. Ultimately, research proved it would cost much less to install a video display board rather than build a stand-alone TV studio (by an estimated 30-50% difference in total expenses).
- GPTV students will run entire broadcasts, from start to finish, using the new technology. The experience will provide them with training for future careers in broadcasting/video production.

Funding the Project

- Total cost of the AV display is \$719,000.
- Bond 2015, which passed with **no increase to taxes**, is funding the initial \$300,000.
- Remaining costs are being covered by sponsorship dollars from local businesses who will be advertising on the big screen — those ads are currently being created and produced by GPTV students.
- It was promised to the community in 2015 Bond meetings that the I&S debt service rate of \$0.18 would not change as a result of that election— that promise has been kept.
- The I&S debt service tax rate of \$0.18 (per \$100 valuation) has remained at the same rate since 2013 — long before the 2015 bond election.
- Therefore, taxpayers are not experiencing any increase as a direct result of this project (or Bond 2015).

Future Plans

- Any proceeds from sponsorships above and beyond the expenses of the new display installation will be earmarked for future maintenance and necessary upgrades of the new technology, as well as to support the school district (which ultimately supports G-PISD students and teachers).
- Sponsorships will continue to be available every season, and those interested may contact the G-PISD Business Office at (361) 777-1091 ext. 1009.

Other Recent News

- As a reminder completely unrelated to this project: The 2016 M&O tax rate was restored this year following a one-year, state-mandated decrease.
- Please refer to the information in a recent press release explaining the exact status of current tax rates, as well as a chart with the recent 10-year history of G-PISD tax rates: [CLICK HERE to view](#).
- *If reading this handout in hard copy, you can find the press release on our district website at www.g-pisd.org under "News" → "Press Releases."*