



Spring Bluff R-XV School

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The *Spring Bluff R-XV School District* is pleased to introduce a program called **e~Funds for Schools (EFS)**. This program offers various options for parents/guardians who choose to make payments online and is extremely user friendly. Not only can you have various school fees and lunch payments electronically withdrawn from your checking account or charged to your credit card, but you also have the flexibility to make a payment at any time through the school's website. The **EFS** service is offered to you by a third-party service provider, and they charge for processing your payment(s), similar to other online banking services. The district does not request or keep records of family checking or credit card account information.

The service provider has a nominal fee for their service. **There is a \$1.50 transaction convenience fee for each electronic checking payment that you make.** The system carries a Non-Sufficient Funds (NSF) charge if the payment is "bad." **For payments made by credit or debit card, there is a convenience fee of \$2.95 per each \$100 increment in the transaction.** When you set up your account, please review your options carefully.

You are in full control of your account and can make a payment at any time that is convenient for you. **No payments will be allowed without your knowledge and authorization through this secure payment system.** By providing your home and/or work email address, an email notification informing you of the student's name, purpose of the payment, and the amount of the item, will be sent to you each time that a payment is to be processed. The **EFS** site is secure and uses industry standard data encryption.

How does e~Funds for Schools work?

- ◆ Families set up and maintain their own logins, passwords, and payment preferences. Your account information is retained in a password-protected file.
- ◆ **EFS** will help to eliminate last minute check writing hassles, improve efficiencies, and help cut costs for both you and the school district.
- ◆ Online payments will help eliminate the worry that your children could lose or forget the money intended for school items or that it might be spent on other non-school related items.
- ◆ Payments from a credit card or checking account may easily be set up.
- ◆ Parents/guardians may establish a recurring payment or may opt to make a one-time payment.
- ◆ The program offers various types of payment to families that include but are not limited to instructional materials, field trip fees, yearbook fees, graduation fees, and of course food service payments. The system may be expanded to include other fees as well.
- ◆ Your payment history for the year is available with a click of the mouse.