

October 14, 2015 Bond Committee Meeting

Minutes:

Welcome and Introductions were made by Assistant Superintendent for Administration Brad Hunt. An overview of the evening was described to the committee.

Superintendent of Schools Dr. Mike Waldrip gave the bond committee its charge and emphasized the importance of their participation on the committee and thanked them in advance for their service.

Assistant Superintendent for Business and Support Services Sid Grant gave a presentation to the committee noting important historical bond information. He also spent time highlighting decisions made by the CISD Board of Trustees during their workshop on October 13, 2015 per the following:

- Create a five-year plan, not longer (demographic predictions/movement)
- Develop comprehensive list of needs for campuses & district then prioritize
- Identify bond dollar capacity
- Make recommendation for the Board
- Pinnacle 2020 and Facility Visioning Committee (FVC) information shared and their part in the process (*It was asked if a list of the options suggested by the FVC could be shared with the group at a future meeting.)

The following **critical issues** were reviewed (incl. in Oct. 13, Bond PowerPoint):

- Holistic long-term recommendations
- Enrollment growth at CHS
- Enrollment growth at Middle Schools
- Elementary growth (southern portion of district as well as throughout)
- Technology infrastructure
- Disassociated administration (located in three separate buildings)

The Bond Committee was asked to keep in mind the same **8 Guiding Principles** CISD that staff used when making their space recommendations (see Oct. 13 Bond ppt.):

1. Maintain the district's vision
2. Utilize space efficiently
3. Ensure programmatic considerations are made for curriculum & instruction
4. Guarantee sustainable student population
5. Minimize overall impact and disruption
6. Minimize operational constraints (including \$\$)
7. Minimize travel time (proximity of facility)
8. Must have community support for plan

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The **goal of the Bond Committee** is to present information to the Board of Trustees at the December 14, 2015 Board meeting. At the discretion of the board, a bond would need to be called by the February 15, 2016 board meeting in order to call a bond election for May 2016. If approved, the bond election would be held on Saturday, May 7, 2016.

Each of the **six recommendations** made by CISD Staff to the Board were reviewed. (see Oct. 13 Bond Ppt.)

1. New Tech High @ Coppell will remain at its existing site.
2. Renovate and add on to existing Coppell Middle School West (CMSW) to house the district's 9th grade students.
3. Build a new CMSW on district-owned land in Cypress Waters.
4. Renovate and add on to Coppell Middle School East (CMSE) to help accommodate growth. (NOTE: The Board requested the Bond Committee explore options for CMS East.)
5. Authorize dollars in the bond election for an elementary growth solution. (TBD at a later date but will likely need to be in place by the 2019/20, or 2020/21 school year)
6. Allow community Bond Committee to analyze and recommend to the Board all other renovation, technology, and administrative student support services solutions.

Bond Committee members were instructed to **sign-up in groups to tour** all CISD facilities and assess needs. During the tours, the campus principals will share their needs list with the committee members.

The **Summary of Recommendations** (incl. in Oct. 13, Bond Ppt.) was reviewed.

Questions were asked about:

- Selecting a name for the new Coppell MS West due to new location (naming will happen later in the process)
- Programs that might be considered for the new middle school or 9th grade center to bridge elementary programs such as IB, DLI, etc.

Logistical considerations for the Bond Election were discussed (incl. the possibility of early/mobile voting at schools) and a map showing the known areas of growth/development were reviewed.

A presentation by Chief Financial Officer, Kelly Penny, was made to the Bond Committee. The current financial state of CISD, Debt Service (I&S) versus Maintenance & Operations (M&O) funds was given. How/why Chapter 41 (Robin Hood) payments continue to be made annually to the state.

Kelly explained that there are two district tax rates: M&O (Maintenance & Operations – payroll comprises 84% of the district's M&O budget. M&O funds are

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subject to Recapture by the state, aka: "Robin Hood") versus I&S (Interest and Sinking fund – debt service)

- Bond Debt is not subject to Recapture (Currently 21.4% of General Fund Budget leaves the district)
- Bond Debt can often free-up M&O dollars for instructional needs depending on whether it has short-term or long-term use

A request was made to see the **past bond election amounts** and what was included. Mr. Grant referenced the list in the Bond binder and will provide a line item list-by-campus at the next Bond Committee meeting.

A question was asked about the affect a Bond Election would have on the current property tax rate. Mrs. Penny explained that we will know more about the rate and its impact for homeowners once the items to be included in the Bond have been determined. She referenced several helpful items included in the Committee's Bond binder:

- CISD Bond History
- Bond elections and project lists
- Current tax rates
- Debt capacity and history of debt

Education of the community was mentioned emphasizing the importance of ensuring the community is aware of every item included in the Bond package and the reasons for consideration.

A question was raised about the timing of two elections in Coppell: the City's sales tax election/November and the CISD's possible Bond election/May). Both are important:

- The school district is working to ensure facilities are in place to address the district's current and future student growth needs...particularly in the far northern and southern sectors of the school district. A homeowner's **property taxes are only affected upon the sale of the bonds.**
- The city election is separate and has nothing to do with school tax rates. For the November election, the community is again being asked to **re-authorize an existing ¼ of one penny sales & use tax** for road maintenance and repairs over the next four years.

Mr. Hunt reviewed the **next steps** for the Bond Committee:

- Sign-up for scheduled site visits
- Return the Needs Lists identified to Mr. Hunt or Mr. Grant after each tour
- CISD staff will create and compile a Master Needs List
- Finalize recommendation to Board in December
- Review all future meeting dates

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A few additional City issues were mentioned: traffic on Denton Tap, lights, safety, etc. Mr. Hunt noted that two City staff members as well as two members of the City Council are serving on the Bond Committee and will be valuable resources for the school district during this process.

Student enrollment numbers were discussed and referenced in the Bond binders.

Mr. Hunt reminded the group to look at the “big picture” when visiting the campuses. They were encouraged to look for items that might be beneficial to each particular campus.

Questions/Comments?

- Is there a website to go to?

Yes, the site already exists where information will be shared including presentations, videos, notes, maps, etc. The district will continue to add

information and resources so the Bond Committee can direct those interested in learning more to the **Bond** tab located on the Home Page of the CISD website.

Next meeting: Thursday, November 12/6:00 – 8:00 p.m./Lee Elementary