

10 FACTS

every voter
should know

1. On Nov. 8, voters will be asked to approve a bond referendum.

85% of the bond is for student seat space addressing the enrollment growth in the district.

2. MISD is a good steward of the community's investment.

- Since 2009 through our bond defeasance program, the district has saved over \$56 million in interest and principal of previous bonds.
- The district has one of the strongest financial standings and ratings in the State and is in the top 10% of Moody's rating for districts in Texas.
- One of only nine districts in the State to have earned transparency stars in three categories and one of only two in Montgomery County
- Lowest debt per student ratio compared to peers

3. Growth is happening now.

Since last school year, the district has added 16 new bus routes and over 600 new students.

4. Zero tax impact.

Due to smart fiscal management and old debt being paid off, the \$232 million bond referendum can be accomplished without a tax rate increase.

5. Ballot language is deceptive.

The 86th Legislative session (2019) requires this mandatory language, "THIS IS A TAX INCREASE," on all school bonds.

MISD's bond referendum will not increase the property tax rate, despite the ballot language, for homeowners or businesses or residents 65 and older with a homestead exemption.

6. The future is bright.

The district's student enrollment is projected to increase and average almost 5% yearly growth for the next 10 years.

- Currently 32 actively building subdivisions in MISD; 18 future subdivisions.
- 9,800 lots platted for development; 22,000 future lots.

7. Why a bond now with inflation and interest rates going up?

The growth is happening now.

- MISD will receive the best rates available through the State's Permanent School Fund (PSF). The need for a bond to address growth is now, and MISD is guaranteed to receive the highest bond rating (AAA), delivering the best interest rates possible.
- Like refinancing a home mortgage when interest rates are lower than when a mortgage is secured, school districts can refund bonds similarly without lengthening the payoff time frame.

8. No change to the tax rate. The ISD rate will continue to go down.

With the new tax base created by residential and commercial growth, no tax rate increase is needed nor projected for the future growth in MISD. The projections are based on conservative growth at 5% year 1, 3% years 2-5, and flat after that. The average property value growth for the past two decades exceeds 10% per year.

9. Passage of the bond referendum would increase opportunities for students.

The district would be able to maintain smaller class sizes and program space availability with building additions.

10. Turf on the softball and baseball fields

Stay competitive with other 5A schools.

Benefits include:

- No canceled games or practices due to wet conditions
- No painting, dirt work, watering, mowing or fertilizers
- No chemicals and field prep
- Other sports and extracurriculars can use the fields
- Flexibility of use between programs and youth teams
- Reduced maintenance costs

MAGNOLIA ISD

BOND

2022



What's on the ballot?

A request for voter approval to address building needs across the district :

- three new schools (elementary #9, intermediate #3, junior high #3) to address the enrollment growth,
- ag barn and NJROTC renovations, and CTE program expansion to accommodate enrollment growth,
- technology upgrades,
- safety and security upgrades and capital projects, and
- artificial turf at both high school baseball and softball fields to remain competitive.

Why call for a bond now?

The 2022 bond is driven by heavy student enrollment growth, straining district campus capacities. As it takes many months (to years) to build facilities, it's essential to be on the front end of the growth to avoid overcrowded classrooms and an abundance of portable buildings, which is not an ideal learning environment.

Funds would address capacity at the elementary schools, the intermediate and junior highs:

- Williams Elementary is at 100% capacity with two portable buildings,
- Smith Elementary is at 80% capacity,
- Magnolia Parkway Elementary is at 86% capacity,
- Bear Branch and Magnolia Intermediates are currently at 85% capacity, and
- Bear Branch and Magnolia Junior Highs are at 90% capacity.

Did you know?

- The district is expected to have 17,200 students by 2026-27 and enrollment of more than 22,000 students in 10 years.
- MISD receives \$150,000 from the state for safety & security each year. MISD dedicates \$1.5 million of the budget to safety & security.
- Bonds are the most fiscally responsible funding mechanism for financing new facilities. Similar to a personal mortgage, bonds are amortized for reasonable time frames at low interest rates.
- MISD maintains 2.4 million square feet of space with an operating budget of appx. \$6.2 mil, of which utility costs comprise approximately \$3.5 mil. After recurring expenses, there is approximately \$1.5 mil for yearly capital projects.
- The Woodlands is comprised of 22,000 acres. MISD currently has over 14,000 acres under development.

Voting Information

The deadline to register to vote is October 11, 2022.

Early Voting

October 24 - November 4, 2022

Election Day

November 8, 2022

**EVERY
VOTE
COUNTS**