



Little Elm ISD Long-Range Facilities Planning Committee

Post Election Meeting: Monday, June 6, 2022

Little Elm ISD Administration Building

MEETING NOTES

Welcome and Agenda Review– Shay Adams, Assistant Superintendent for Business & Finance Services

Summary of Election Results– Cecelia Jones, Director for Communications

Exercise: Voter Behavior Discussion Phyllis Grissom, Huckabee Architects

Committee reviewed voter turnout data and discussed the reasons why voters may have voted for, against or failed to vote.

Demography Update – Alfred Gaches, Executive Director for Operational Services

- Pre-K enrollment will be higher than expected.
- There are members of the Oak Point community that want to stay small and rural, this may have contributed to the larger than expected # of votes against the bond in that community.
- District leadership must consider teacher student ratio vs number of spaces to teach
- Safety and Security needs to be examined in light of the recent lessons learned from the Uvalde tragedy. Schools may be approaching or nearing capacity which causes crowding and requires the use of more portables which raise safety and security concerns.

Future bond Consideration Shay Adams, Assistant Superintendent for Business & Finance Services

- To reduce the dollar amount of the bond package, we will have to reduce projects.
- Due to inflation and an increase in interest rates buying power has decreased. This will affect the High School Renovation & Addition and the Elementary #7 projects the most.
- Expect to need to call another bond in 2026 to pick up future needs.
- When a bond fails, you get less and it costs you more because you missed the best opportunity

Bonding Capacity Considerations

Shay Adams reviewed three Bonding Capacity scenarios:

1. \$276M
2. \$308M
3. \$355 M

Ms. Adams also noted that cost escalation and rising interest rates will impact the bonding

capacity. The district can issue \$308M without raising taxes as opposed to \$398M that was previously available. Even if the tax rate was raised to .50 cents we can only get to a # less than that until future capacity with increased tax base/value due to growth and continued value increases/overall value. We expect a 23% taxable value increase this year but that increase will not be certified until later this fall.

Ms. Adams led a discussion and highlighted the inefficiencies that would come with a second high school or a ninth grade center.

	2 nd High School	9 th Grade Center
Cost	\$210M	\$102M
Capacity	2500	1200
Cost per sq foot	\$375/ sq ft	\$360/ sq ft
Acreage Required	100-120 acres	30-35 acres

Operations costs for 2 HS's = ~\$6M/yearly (equivalent to hiring 92 teachers and pay increases). Further duplicate programs, administrative and support staff, maintenance, custodial, grounds, and transportation would bring increased costs.

Operations costs for a 9th grade center = \$2.8M/yearly for 46 teachers.

The committee discussed utilizing a 9th grade wing at the existing high school to get the benefits of a ninth grade center without the inefficiency. And also discussed utilizing 3 floors to maximize efficiency and available footprint.

Next meeting

- Safety and Security Presentation
- July 7 at 6pm at the Administration Building