

Dear La Porte Community,

Today is a great day to be a Bulldog! It is hard to believe that we are beyond the halfway point of the Spring Semester. Our students and staff have worked diligently toward success on the state-standardized tests, which begin in April. I am grateful to our staff for continuing so passionately to ensure that our students continue to learn and succeed.

As you may know by now, the Board of Trustees unanimously called for a bond election to take place on May 6. District bonds reflect our communities' goals and values, and these bonds support our vision and mission. The 2023 LP Bond addresses numerous student, staff, and facility needs across the district. It will be divided into three propositions to increase safety and security, address aging buildings and facilities, provide laptops for students and teachers, and expand district learning space.

Did you know that Texas school districts do not receive state funding for renovating or building new schools? We instead rely on voter-approved school bond elections to provide these funds. There have only been two investments in our schools in over 20 years, in 2005 and 2014. In La Porte, we have traditionally called for bonds every nine years, which takes care of the maintenance and operations of the school district for the next nine years.

For many years, La Porte has worked to remain financially solvent and manage a fiscally conservative budget. The overall tax rate is lower today than it was 15 years ago, and it remains one of the lowest in the region. There will be no tax rate increase with the passage of all three Propositions.

Senior citizens with the Over 65 Exemption will not be impacted over their frozen dollar amount. Voters will see ballot language which includes the statement "THIS IS A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE." Legislation passed in the 2019 Texas Legislative Session requires that school districts include this language, even when there is no tax rate increase as a result of the bond.

We are committed to making sure all voters get the information they need to make an informed decision. Visit our 2023 Bond page at [bond.lpsd.org](http://bond.lpsd.org) and follow us on social media to get more information.

Early voting begins on April 24 and ends on May 2. Election Day is May 6. The last day to register to vote is April 7. You can register online by going to [votetexas.gov](http://votetexas.gov).

And please, go vote!

In your service,

Dr. Walter Jackson  
Superintendent of Schools