

ECISD Bond Committee Deep Dive

December 6-7, 2021 – Q&A and Takeaways

1. **If the bond passes, when would the first school potentially open?**
 The planning phase would begin after the passage of the bond – this takes approximately one year. Then, depending on the size of the school being built, construction would take up to two years.

2. **Do costs for new schools include furniture, fixtures and equipment?**
 Yes, these costs are included.

3. **Does the district plan to continue to operate using magnet/choice schools?**
 Yes, choice schools will remain. The district will be thoughtful as to where those schools are placed but they are not going away.

4. **Why were the survey results released to the public?**
 The district has been as transparent as possible throughout this entire process – survey work included.

5. **What were some of the items that were supported in the survey? What were some of the items that people were against?**

ASSESSMENT OF POTENTIAL PROJECTS

		Strongly Favor	Strongly Oppose	Total Favor	Total Oppose
Q15	(Ver Y: The average age of schools in Ector County ISD is 51 years old, which is nearly a decade older than the national average.) The bonds could allow for maintenance and repair of school buildings such as replacing old carpet and hardware, and upgrading electrical, plumbing and heating and cooling systems to keep schools in good condition as they age.	36%	21%	68%	29%
Q22	The bonds could allow for improvements to technology infrastructure like increasing network speed and reliability to support today's 21st Century classrooms.	33%	22%	64%	32%
Q17	District buses transport over 8,000 students to school each day, and while the district has added new seatbelt equipped buses, there are still many needing to be replaced. These bonds could allow for the purchase of new buses to accommodate growth, ensure student safety, and replace those at the end of their life span.	33%	23%	63%	32%
Q13	Over one-quarter of ECISD schools are either almost over capacity or already over capacity, and without new schools or expansions overcrowding will continue to get worse. The bond could allow for new schools and expansions to help alleviate overcrowding.	35%	24%	62%	34%
Q18	81% of district students participate in fine arts programs and some facilities are undersized or outdated. The bonds could allow for improvements to fine arts classrooms and performance spaces as well as replacing worn out middle school uniforms and musical instruments.	32%	23%	60%	36%

ASSESSMENT OF POTENTIAL PROJECTS

		Strongly Favor	Strongly Oppose	Total Favor	Total Oppose
Q12	ECISD has experienced student enrollment growth over the last five years and expects to add over 1,000 more students in the next five years. The bond will allow for new schools and expansions needed to accommodate growth.	33%	25%	59%	36%
Q19	The bonds could allow for construction of a state-of-the-art Career and Technology Center to offer a better learning experience, enhanced course offerings, and allow more students to participate in these programs which prepare them for college and careers.	32%	25%	59%	37%
Q14	One of the propositions could allow for construction of two to three more elementary schools, one or two more middle schools, and various construction projects at the high school level to relieve schools over capacity and accommodate growth.	30%	26%	58%	37%
Q16	The bonds could allow for rebuilding some of the district's oldest schools in need of significant repair. So, instead of investing tens of millions of dollars into old buildings with shorter life spans the bond could allow for new buildings with longer life spans.	29%	25%	58%	37%
Q20	Ratliff Stadium Complex is nearly 40 years old and has never had any major renovations. This bond could allow for structural and safety improvements to include renovations to the bathrooms and locker rooms, and maintenance to the stadium and sidewalks.	19%	31%	47%	48%
Q21	This bond could allow for changing the fencing at the high school baseball and softball fields to provide more adequate playing space and make them more comparable to fields at neighboring districts, as well as adding cover and lighting to the spectator seating.	15%	34%	44%	52%

		Strongly Favor	Strongly Oppose	Total Favor	Total Oppose
Q25	If passed, this bond will NOT increase tax rates for senior citizens, since their property tax rates are frozen.	43%	26%	60%	35%
Q27	While bond funds will be allocated to schools based on need, all Ector County ISD students will benefit from this bond.	30%	28%	55%	39%
Q23	A diverse citizen steering committee of community leaders, district employees and parents helped to study and prioritize the district's needs, and this bond proposal will include their recommendations.	24%	27%	54%	38%
Q28	School districts do not receive funding from the state for building or renovating schools. These funds must come from voter approved bonds, and the district has not passed a bond in nearly a decade. This will address a number of long-awaited needs.	26%	31%	52%	43%
Q26	Improvements in this bond could make Ector County schools more comparable to other schools in the region.	26%	28%	51%	41%
Q24	Because of rising construction costs, this bond will save taxpayers money because it is less expensive to make these improvements now than to wait and do them a few years from now.	25%	33%	50%	45%
Q29	This bond will be used for improvements to school buildings and equipment only. None of the bond can be used to increase teacher pay.	19%	37%	41%	53%
Q30	Voters approved a bond for \$129 million nine years ago that is still being paid off, and this bond will increase local debt that will take at least another 25 years to pay off.	12%	48%	29%	65%

6. What is the average age of our schools?

61 years old

7. If the bond passes and we build new schools, how will we staff them with teachers, administrators, etc.?

Staffing is actually done based on the number of students a district has. New schools would not necessarily mean having to hire new teachers. Teachers would simply be moved from one campus to another depending on the amount of students at each facility.

8. When was the Ector Middle School swimming pool renovated?

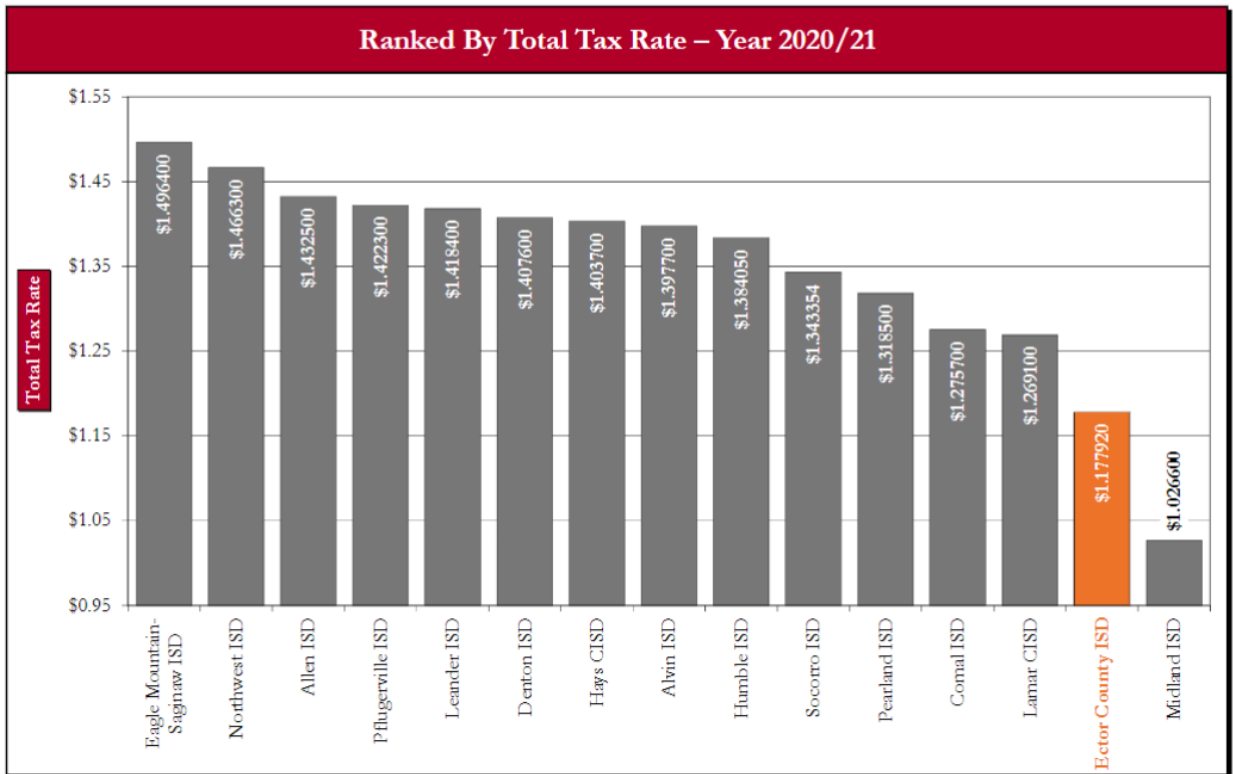
The Ector pool renovation was complete in May 2021.

9. When was the Permian High School swimming pool renovated?

The Permian pool renovation was complete in April 2021.

10. Where does ECISD fall in the tax bracket compared to other school districts its size across the state?

The table below shows the tax rate of ECISD compared to its peer districts. Peer districts are those that are comparable in size/student population/demographics.

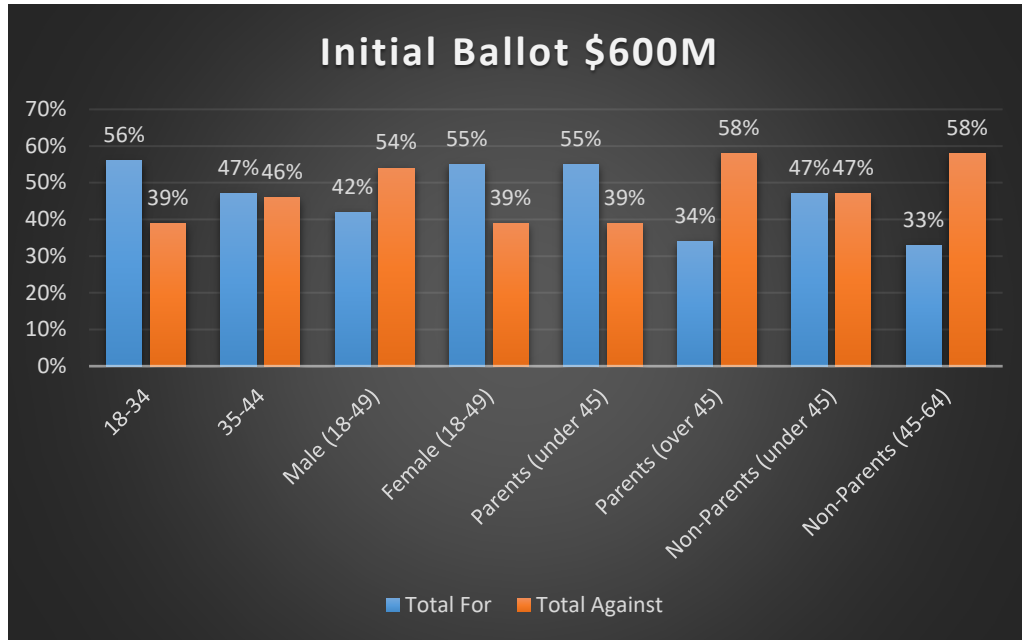


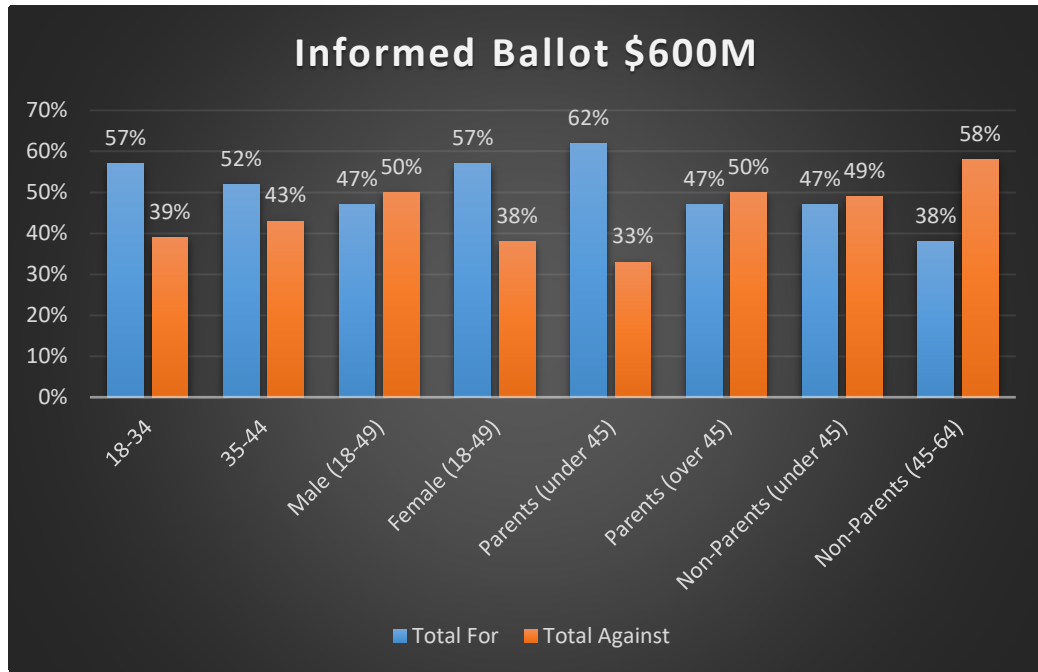
11. What is the correct sized bond package to ask the community for?

The Bond Committee will decide on a bond package recommendation at the final meeting on December 16th to present to the ECISD Board of Trustees. The Trustees will have the ultimate decision on the bond package.

12. Concerning the survey, what was the difference in support for/against the bond once individuals participating in the survey were “informed.”

Please see tables below of initial vs informed ballots:














13. From the verbatim survey results what were the main reasons people were opposed to the bond?

Tax increases, ISD Mismanagemnt/Criticisms, and some believed there was no need for a bond.

14. What is the total cost of facility repair and work items identified as Priority 1 and Priority 2 from the Facility Assessment Review?

\$175,203,786

15. How much does a new elementary, middle and high school cost to build?

OPTIONS	COST	STUDENT CAPACITY	ACREAGE
New Elementary School(s)	 \$43M	 850 students per campus	 10-15 acres
New Middle School(s)	 \$73M	 1,200 students per campus	 20-25 acres
New / 3 rd Comprehensive High School	 \$183M	 2,500 students (core capacity designed for 3,000)	 65+ acres

16. How much was the ask (dollar amount) of the 2017 bond that failed?

The ask in this bond proposal was \$291,172,291. 62% of voters voted against this bond and 38% voted for it. There were a total of 7,186 ballots cast.

17. How much was the ask (dollar amount) of the last bond that passed?

On November 7, 2012, Ector County voters approved a \$129,750,000 school bond by a very strong 63%-37% margin. Three new elementary schools were built. Additions to PHS and OHS were also included.

Deep Dive Takeaways

- The district needs a long term bond cycle plan.
- The district needs to be proactive, not reactive.
- Unfiltered information is key to the success of the district.
- Tax Ratification Election 2018 – Promises Made, Promises Kept!
- Customer service from the district is a must.
- There is an absolute need in this district to relieve overcrowding.