

Bond Oversight Committee Meeting April 23, 2024

Nancy Watten Technology Center
455 E. La Villita Blvd.
Irving, TX 75039

Attendees:

- Tom Hammons – Present
- Jaime Rivas – Present
- Phil Gumbert – Not Present
- Jolynne Porter – Present
- Nancy Cline – Present
- Catherine Carlin – Present
- Wesley Nute – Present
- Noe Franco – Present
- Billy Bob Messer – Present
- Cassandra Hatfield – Present (In place of ex-officio CFBISD Trustee Tara Hrbacek)

Welcome & Housekeeping – Chris Moore (CFBISD Operations)

- Introduced BOC Portal and provided overview to content and how to access.
- Focus this evening will be, honoring the intent of Pre-K. Bond is over a year old and want to review in light of current data.
- Catherine Carlin – Revisited the charter of a BOC committee to align expectations within committee. Documentation in minutes important for record for voter confidence.

Bond Program Overview – Corey Blackburn (CFBISD Construction)

- Reviewed 2023 Bond Timeline
- Analysis ongoing for District Master Planning
- Paused on some of our projected design work due to Pre-K impact
- All architects and contractors contracted
- Presented Bond expenditures Spreadsheet

Recent & Upcoming 2023 Bond Authorizations – Corey Blackburn

- Presented upcoming Bond Authorizations for April & May Board

Special Services Update – Corey Blackburn

- Reviewed locations and Ed Spec Standards
- Developed through intense engagement with Special Services, campuses, staff

Pre-K Update & Options – Corey Blackburn & Kim Holcomb (CFBISD Curriculum & Instruction)

- Reviewed Pre-K Utilization – Lower utilization – language and socio-economic
- Pre-K Scope – Adding restrooms to existing classrooms
- *Nancy Cline*: Child Development Academy was a Pre-K center at one time.
- Explained the need for a balanced cohort – 4 classrooms x 6 grade levels = 30 classrooms needed per building for K-5. (Does not include Spec Ed, Pre-K and Special Programs)
- Pre-K Conversation
 - *Billy Bob Messer* - If we create a center what happens to students who do not attend centers?
 - *Corey* – That is operational – this is purely a bond funding allocation.
 - *Sandy Meyer* (CFBISD Curriculum & Instruction) – Addressed that smaller campuses adjacent to centers would be shifted to centers. Center would be primary, overflow would be shifted to campuses.
 - *Jolynne Porter* – Raised transportation concerns
 - *Sandy Meyer* – Serious issue with teacher retention on ES Campuses. If stronger teachers are recognized at the Pre-K level, they are often moved to testing grade levels, which shifts more-challenged teachers into Pre-K. Thirty percent of teachers are new to Pre-K. Centers would reduce this habit, along with centralized support.
 - Survey for parents asking if they would send kids.
 - *Nancy Cline* - Will Pre-K changes force us to close campuses? (Consolidation of campuses is being looked at beyond just a Pre-K influence and will be shared with the board in June.)
 - *Jolynne Porter* – Feels parents will not bus students
 - *Tom Hammons* – Do we have property available? (Corey identified properties available.)
 - *Sandy Meyer* – Centers vs Pre-K. Identified that district has alternated between approaches throughout the history of CFBISD. 71% economically disadvantaged 67% emerging bi-lingual students. The needs of our population have changed from CFBISD of the past. Teachers would not want to lose classroom square footage to gain a restroom in already undersized rooms.
 - *Billy Bob Messer* – Why would we put a center where we have the lowest current usage? Why aren't we putting it in the West where we have paying members? (Northern placement better honors the original intent of the 2023 bond with a Pre-K focus on the campuses within that area. Western placement is being considered as well.)
 - *Billy Bob Messer* – What model attracts teachers? (*Sandy Meyer* – CDA is a different situation without certified teachers. Teachers go to where they have tailored support. Centers offer a more tailored support for Pre-K.)
 - *Noe Franco*: What opportunities exist in the existing campuses if we don't add Pre-K to those levels. (*Lelia Goehring* CFBISD – Opportunity in future bond to increase existing classroom size to support K-5 cohort.)
 - *Jaime Rivas* – How would we staff these campuses? (*Kim Holcomb*– We would have teachers who love to be in these facilities. Staff would transfer.)
 - *Additional questions for consideration:*
 - Would a shiny new center attract the population to the north.
 - Would people in the north send their kids to a center? How would we encourage them to attend?
 - Is a center cheaper than additions at multiple centers?

- *Kim Holcomb* – Emergent Bilingual is 43-44% of population, increase in northern district. Furneaux Elementary is being overflowed with Pre-K. Distribution of Pre-K would open up some space within existing campuses for older child emergent bilingual additions. Pre-K center provides opportunity for explorative play-based learning instead of traditional classroom. Capacity issues have to be dealt with regardless of any of these solutions.

Feedback was sought for the committee's opinion of exploring a possible Pre-K option. The two scenarios were:

- Distributed Pre-K classrooms on existing campuses and introduce one Pre-K Center
- Distributed Pre-K classrooms on existing campuses and introduce two Pre-K Centers

Recommendations were:

- Tom Hammons – Distributed/1 or Distributed/2
- Jaime Rivas – Distributed/2
- Phil Gumbert – Not in attendance
- Jolynne Porter – Distributed/1 or Distributed/2
- Nancy Cline – Does not want to close schools. Wants to see numbers before decisions are made. Where are the kids?
- Catherine Carlin – Distributed/2
- Wesley Nute – Distributed/2
- Noe Franco – Distributed/2
- Billy Bob Messer – Distributed/2

Closing Remarks – Corey Blackburn

Tonight was for determining what Pre-K concept the BOC was comfortable with. The recommendations will be used moving forward as additional information is gathered to make the most-efficient use of bond dollars.

Upcoming BOC meeting schedule was shared.