

**September 25, 2024, Board Meeting
Trustee Agenda Item Questions & Answers**

AGENDA ITEM: C-19

Q: Can I get the justification in terms of student outcomes for the investments, the theory of action?

A: From our RSS Consulting group for the basis of utilizing an equity lens:

We can use the Student Opportunity and Neighborhood Opportunity indicators to identify a project list that achieves the following outcomes:

- Significantly improves the facility experience of students across the district.
- Reduces inequities in facility outcomes for schools serving a very high proportion of student priority groups as well as schools in neighborhoods with low resources.

Q: The list is presented by region, what about the non-boundary schools/specialty schools, how were they considered. Can you remind me what the plans for Fulton are?

A: Schools were considered on facility condition assessment and the equity factors. Boundary/non-boundary info was applied later upon request, which is to say there was no direct consideration apart from facility condition and equity ranking. Fulton is currently housed in portables adjacent to the Patiño campus for program use.

Q: How are the deferred maintenance and small capital projects going to be prioritized?

A: Greatest Need, typically by age and or to complement routine maintenance activity. Small Capital Projects are to complete RRM, Deferred Maintenance Scopes of work as well as address site needs based on accessibility, safety security, and projects like play structures, gym floor replacement sand and or added key upgrades like Conditioned Air in Kitchens and Coaches Offices.

Q: Same with any realized savings due to securing other sources of funding or a lower bid amount than expected?

A: Dollars go to bottom line to address other bond funded projects that are at risk of not getting completed due to cost escalation, and/or new emerging board priorities.

Q: What is the plan for board identified priorities such as portable replacement and ADA accessibility? Are these in the small capital projects item?

A: Depending on the project they may be included in both, however all projects will be tracked by a project schedule based on greatest need and board priority.

Q: What is the reasoning behind not using the equity tool to determine investments after the district invested in the tool?

A: We have implemented the tool to identify the majority of the projects, with the exception of the carryover projects, district wide initiatives, and specific regional projects in areas of high need.

Q: Aren't today's muni bond rates closer to 3.7%?

A: Municipal bond interest rates are in fact sub-4% in the current environment. It would be great if they hold at this level over the life of accessing Measure H (currently projected to be accessed in several series over 8 years). Regarding the current higher rate assumptions being utilized, that is a conservative measure we used to construct the bond program to give us some flexibility in case rates rise over the course of issuing these bonds.

If rates remain low and bonds are issued at these low rates, bond proceeds could either be accessed sooner than expected (e.g. over 5 years vs the projected 8 years), tax rates could be lower than projected, or the term of the tax could ultimately be shorter. Some other districts who had assumed that the current low-rate environment (from a few years ago) would remain over the life of their bond program have since had to increase their tax rates above voter promises. We have never been in this situation going back to Measure Q in 2010 due to being conservative.

Q: How much would each region contribute to the bond payment vs. how much each region is receiving from the bond proceeds?

A: As to the share of property taxes by region, our demographer only has a breakout of the Fresno Unified School District property tax share by City since that is the only information made available by the County. The City of Clovis' share is at 2.1%, City of Fresno at 84.5% and unincorporated County at 13.4%.