



Re: Tarkington ISD Board of Trustees Announces Bond Election

February 25, 2025

The Tarkington Independent School District (TISD) Board of Trustees has voted to call for a bond election with two propositions, **Proposition A** totaling \$50 million and **Proposition B** totaling \$45 million, scheduled for **Saturday, May 3, 2025**. The bond aims to fund critical infrastructure improvements across the District, including maintenance and renovations at all TISD campuses, the acquisition of land, and construction of a new elementary school.

The proposed projects included in the bond, as recommended by the Future Forward Committee (comprised of local citizens, parents, civic and business leaders, and school staff) in May of 2024 are based on thorough facility assessments, demographic studies, enrollment projections, and district financial audits. Additionally, the Board selected projects that received support from a majority of those participating in the survey.

Voters may choose to approve only Proposition A, only Proposition B, or both Proposition A and B.

Proposition A projects include:

- **Early Childhood School Renovations:** (TECS built in 1957; 67 yrs old) Improvements to Early Childhood School education spaces.
 - Roof leak repairs
 - Interior painting
 - Flooring upgrades
 - Energy efficient LED lighting and controls
 - New ceiling tiles
 - Plumbing upgrades
 - Restroom upgrades
 - Gym upgrades
 - HVAC upgrades (scope TBD)
 - Replace interior signage to meet ADA requirements
 - Upgrades to door hardware to meet ADA requirements
 - Repairs of any unknown issues

- **Elementary School Renovations** (Current building built in 1971; 53 yrs old)
 - Functional capacity of 775 students
 - Major interior renovations:
 - New lighting
 - New ceiling tile and grid
 - New flooring
 - Repainting all interiors
 - Secure entrance
 - Repairs

- **Middle School Additions & Renovations:** (Current building built in 1974; 50 yrs old)
Expanding and upgrading facilities to meet current educational needs.
 - Roof leak repairs
 - Cafeteria and kitchen renovation (increase core space)
 - New vestibule to meet ADA and security requirements
 - New main entrance canopy
 - Science lab renovations
 - Flooring upgrades throughout to address moisture issues
 - Covered walkways
 - Energy efficient LED Lighting
 - Telescoping bleachers in gym
 - New ceiling tiles
 - Replacement of interior signage to meet ADA requirements
 - HVAC upgrades (scope TBD)
 - Repairs of any unknown issues
 - Interior repainting

- **High School Renovations, CTE Addition & AG Renovations:** (THS built in 2003)
Enhancements to the High School, including new spaces for Career and Technical Education (CTE).
 - Career and Technical Education wing addition
 - Additional classrooms
 - Ag shop addition and renovation
 - Additional fencing/gates for Ag Shop
 - Science labs renovations (fume hoods, flooring)
 - Energy efficient LED lighting and controls per energy code
 - Roof leak repair
 - Replace interior signage to meet ADA requirements
 - HVAC upgrades

- **Band Hall, Auditorium Expansion & Renovations:** Upgrading the following to better support the District and its' Fine Arts programs.
 - HS Band Hall renovations, upgrades and expansion:
 - Increased rehearsal space
 - Practice rooms
 - Additional storage space for instruments and equipment
 - MS Band Hall renovations and upgrades:

- Soundproofing
 - New carpet
 - MS Auditorium renovations and upgrades:
 - Upgrades to sound system
 - Upgrades to lighting
 - Stage repairs
- **District Renovations & Additions:**
 - Buses
 - Purchase of land
 - Wastewater Management Plant (1974)
- **Safety & Security Enhancements:** Upgrades across all campuses to ensure student and staff safety.
 - Upgrades to security vestibules
 - Tarkington Elementary School
 - Tarkington Early Childhood School
 - Tarkington Middle School
 - Tarkington High School
 - Entry access hardware upgrades

Proposition B projects include:

- **New Elementary School:** Construction to accommodate the District's growing student population.
 - Construction, acquisition, and equipment of new elementary school
 - 900 student capacity
 - Approximately 110,000 SF

Tax Impact

The projected tax rate impact for the upcoming bond election is:

- **Proposition A only** (\$50 million): +6.96 cents for a total tax rate of \$0.9998
- **Proposition B only** (\$45 million): +6.27 cents for a total tax rate of \$0.9929
- **Propositions A & B** (\$95 million*): +13.23 cents for a total tax rate of \$1.0625
 - 2025: \$40 million
 - 2027: \$30 million
 - 2029: \$25 million

****The bonds will be sold as needed for the projects and as the District's values increase. Exact amounts and time of sales are subject to change.***

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- The following table shows how the potential tax increase will impact your tax bill, depending on the value of your homestead if **both Proposition A and B are passed**.
*Use the appropriate taxable value if you are not eligible for the homestead exemption.
- This shows the estimate of how much your tax bill would increase and what the impact would be monthly for those who escrow their taxes.
- For example: A homestead assessed at \$250,000 (taxable value of \$150,000 after exemption) will have a tax difference of \$16.54 per month, or \$198.45 per year, in 2025 vs. 2024.

Homestead Assessed Value	Homestead Taxable Value	Proposed Tax Rate	2025 vs 2024 Annual Tax Diff	2025 vs 2024 Monthly Tax Diff
\$100,000	\$0	\$1.0625	\$0.00	\$0.00
\$150,000	\$50,000	\$1.0625	\$66.15	\$5.51
\$200,000	\$100,000	\$1.0625	\$132.30	\$11.03
\$250,000	\$150,000	\$1.0625	\$198.45	\$16.54
\$300,000	\$200,000	\$1.0625	\$264.60	\$22.05
\$350,000	\$250,000	\$1.0625	\$330.75	\$27.56
\$400,000	\$300,000	\$1.0625	\$396.90	\$33.08
\$450,000	\$350,000	\$1.0625	\$463.05	\$38.59
\$500,000	\$400,000	\$1.0625	\$529.20	\$44.10
\$550,000	\$450,000	\$1.0625	\$595.35	\$49.61
\$600,000	\$500,000	\$1.0625	\$661.50	\$55.13
\$650,000	\$550,000	\$1.0625	\$727.65	\$60.64

Importantly, there will be **no increase over the taxpayer's frozen dollar amount on the homesteads of taxpayers aged 65 years and older** who have applied for and received the "Age 65 or Older Exemption." Additionally, due to the recently increased homestead exemption, homesteads with an appraised value of \$100,000 or less will not pay any school taxes to Tarkington ISD.

Key Dates to Remember:

- **Election Day:** Saturday, May 3, 2025
- **Early Voting:** Tuesday, April 22 – Tuesday, April 29, 2025
- **Voter Registration Deadline:** Thursday, April 3, 2025

Voters may choose to approve only Proposition A, only Proposition B, or both Proposition A and B. Voters must be 18 years of age by Election Day to participate in the bond election. For more details about the bond election, the proposed projects, or to ask questions, please visit the Tarkington ISD website at www.tarkingtonisd.net.

Media Contact:

Stephanie Young

TISD Communications Director

This press release was prepared by Tarkington ISD for distribution to local media and community stakeholders.