

Little Elm ISD **BOND** **2022** BOND COMMITTEE UPDATES

Bond Committee Meeting #4
March 4, 2025
Little Elm ISD Administration Building

Bond 2022 Program Update

Presenter: Mike Lamb, Superintendent

In Attendance:

- Michael Meador, Executive Director for Operations
- Jesse Wyse, Chief Financial Officer
- Cecelia Jones, Director for Communications

Discussion Overview: Where We Are and Next Steps

Enrollment & Rezoning

- Superintendent Lamb reviewed declining enrollment trends since his arrival two years ago. While many districts are facing similar declines, some are closing schools—something LEISD has not had to do.
- Rezoning was implemented to distribute students more evenly, maintaining the four-classroom model (approximately 550 students per campus). Oak Point will have a larger enrollment due to the Dual Language program.

LEHS Campus Updates

- The original plan for a storm shelter in the new classroom wing has shifted to a gym, resulting in cost savings.
- The high school floor plan now relocates the tennis courts across the street, opening space behind the school. The new tennis center will include eight courts and a driving range, benefitting both golf and tennis programs.
- The new site plan includes a parking lot and a potential location for an auditorium. The gym layout has also been adjusted for better spacing.
- CTE flex labs were initially unclear in function, but if the district expands CTE programs, more space than originally planned will be needed.
- Fine Arts expansion needs have evolved based on staff discussions—band, choir, art, and theater all require additional space.

Budget Updates

- **Current Allocations:**
 - Interior & exterior: \$15.7M
 - Playground: \$1.5M
 - Orchestra: \$600K
- **Elementary 7 – Lakewood Village Elementary:**
 - Originally budgeted at \$40M but designed without room for future growth.
 - Adjustments to the footprint, increased costs by \$10M.
 - Given Oak Point’s size and area growth, we needed a bigger footprint. It was originally designed to be a small elementary.
- **Reallocations:**
 - Safety & Security: \$10M → \$9M
 - Technology: \$10M → \$7M
- **Interest Earned:**
 - The bond has accrued \$24.8M in interest, though some funds are needed for concrete issues.
- **Revised Budget:** \$314M
- Inflation and delays have impacted costs, requiring adjustments:
 - Library expansion: Originally \$4M, now \$2M
 - Auditorium renovation: Reduced scope for affordability
 - CTE addition removed entirely
 - \$10M allocated to Phase 1 of LEHS improvements

Future Considerations

- The district aims to expand CTE and Fine Arts beyond original plans, including additional space for Color Guard and Dance.
- Superintendent Lamb reviewed a list of high-demand jobs, noting gaps in district offerings for:
 - Electricians
 - Construction Trades
 - Auto Tech
- Aging-out families and rising housing prices are influencing student enrollment. The district is closely monitoring campus numbers to keep enrollment above 450 per school.
- If an eighth elementary campus isn’t justified at this time, the district must determine how to allocate the remaining \$40M in bond funds, which is insufficient to fully fund a new school.