



School Bell TIMES



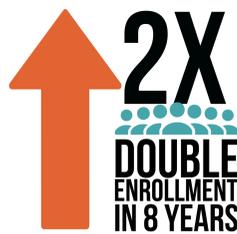
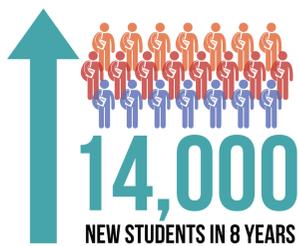
April 2025

East Central ISD Board Calls for Bond Election to Address Rapid Growth

The 2025 ECISD Bond was created with help from a Bond Advisory Committee and community members to plan important district projects. It focuses on:

- Building new schools to keep up with growing student numbers
- Expanding programs and facilities to give students more learning opportunities
- Creating energy-efficient buildings that support learning and future growth

If approved by voters, the bond will fund a new high school on the south side of the district and two new elementary schools—one in the north and one in the south. Learn more inside this issue.



VOTE EARLY
APRIL 22-29, 2025

ELECTION DAY
MAY 3, 2025

LEARN MORE
WWW.ECISD.NET/BOND2025



Dudes at the Door Works Wonders!

"Dudes at the Door" provides strong male role models in the East Central ISD community with the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of our middle school students. Once a month, father figures and mentors are invited to line the sidewalk entrance of our middle schools to greet students as they arrive. In just 30 minutes per month (7:30 AM - 8:00 AM), they help create a positive and encouraging start to their day with a fist bump, high five, or kind words. Together, we are making a difference!

RETURNING REGISTRATION IS OPEN NOW FOR 2025-2026!
ECISD.NET/REGISTRATION

Spring Success

Student & Staff Highlights



Legacy 7th grader Fabian Rodriguez won 1st place at the National APH Abacus Bee, becoming a national champion after representing Texas

Way to go



East Central Theatre has once again earned **Gold Honor Troupe** status



Congrats to Nexida McGary, senior in Practicum of Entrepreneurship Fashion, for placing 3rd in State at the FCCLA Leadership Competition

SUPERSTAR



LET'S GO!



Victoria Mills exemplifies Leading the EC Way!



WATCH VIDEO



ECISD students earned top honors in the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards: Gold Key (Advancing to Nationals): Olivia Henderson - Photography Ruby Cox, Zion Smith - Writing



ECISD proudly hosted the Special Olympics Texas Area 20 Spring Games welcoming athletes, families, and supporters for a weekend of competition and celebration



East Central ISD celebrated 75 years with an anniversary parade and spring festival

Spring Success

Student & Staff Highlights



ECHS Bowling Team wins Region V Championship



Harmonee Freelon competes at the State Swimming Championships



Elise Chavez and Julian Reyes excel at Texas Public Service Teacher Association State Competition



Sabrina Vasquez earned 1st place in Electronic Career Portfolio at the FBLA State Competition



2023-2024 Teacher of the Year recognized on KENS-5



Fatimah Aboueisha, Associate Dean at East Central High School, received the prestigious PAEMST award in Science



Congratulations to the ECHS JV Colorguard for advancing to State



ECHS Choir earned record honors at UIL, with all varsity choirs winning Sweepstakes and non-varsity treble earning a Superior in Sight Reading



2024-2025 Teacher of the Year District TOY: Lindsey Pollok Secondary TOY: Terrie Owen Elementary TOY: Samantha Tupper





Students took part in the Beam Signing Ceremony for Valor Middle School, made possible by the 2022 Bond.

**BOND
2025**



SCAN ME

WHY?

EAST CENTRAL ISD IS ONE OF THE FASTEST GROWING TEXAS DISTRICTS

Elementary Schools

	Capacity	Current	Projected Enrolled Students (Residents +/- Transfers)									
			2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	2031-32	2032-33	2033-34
Harmony	747	732	842	971	1,149	1,368	1,575	1,821	2,038	2,294	2,594	2,930
Highland Forest	713	670	715	769	806	849	875	909	928	928	946	952
Honor	901	636	742	849	963	1,039	1,097	1,162	1,210	1,252	1,303	1,346
Oak Crest	713	672	685	762	887	1,022	1,141	1,277	1,398	1,532	1,686	1,835
Pecan Valley	730	525	551	567	593	636	662	673	658	650	645	636
Salado	756	716	716	716	716	716	716	716	716	716	716	716
Sinclair	756	709	792	841	873	891	896	835	781	739	717	690
Tradition	901	504	587	724	895	1,095	1,320	1,531	1,756	2,010	2,255	2,498
PreK for SA		64	64	64	64	64	64	64	64	64	64	64
Elementary	6,217	5,228	5,694	6,263	6,946	7,680	8,346	8,988	9,549	10,185	10,926	11,667



**By 2028...
4 elementary schools will be over capacity**



Classrooms are over capacity at Harmony Elementary. Tradition, Honor & Oak Crest are soon to be at capacity.



High Schools

	Capacity	Current	Projected Enrolled Students (Residents +/- Transfers)									
			2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	2031-32	2032-33	2033-34
East Central HS	3,666	3,263	3,468	3,603	3,864	4,198	4,633	5,142	5,666	6,246	6,923	7,676
CAST Lead HS	600	187	214	244	284	324	363	397	426	450	465	475
Other		62	62	62	62	62	62	62	62	62	62	62
High School	4,266	3,512	3,744	3,909	4,210	4,584	5,058	5,601	6,154	6,758	7,450	8,213



**5,000+ students
at High School Complex by 2028**



The hallways at ECHS are crowded during passing periods, and every available space is being used for instruction.

CAST Lead can accommodate up to 600 students, but most attend classes at ECHS.





PROPOSED PROJECTS

NEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (NORTH)



New Elementary School (North) Overview

- **Location:** Northside of the district, off FM 1346
- **Size:** 95,000 Square Feet
- **Capacity:** 910 students
- **Purpose:** Relieve over capacity at Honor and Tradition Elementary Schools (1,000+ students at each campus)
- **Cost:** \$49,730,000

NEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (SOUTH)



New Elementary School (South) Overview

- **Location:** Southside of the district, near Hildebrandt Road
- **Size:** 95,000 Square Feet
- **Capacity:** 910 students
- **Purpose:** Relieve over capacity at Harmony and Oak Crest Elementary Schools (1,000+ students at each campus)
- **Cost:** \$50,550,000

NEW HIGH SCHOOL



New Comprehensive High School Overview

- **Location:** South site off Old Corpus Christi and Donop Road
- **Size:** 322,000 Square Feet
- **Capacity:** 2,200 students (Expandable to 3,200 in Phase II)
- **Purpose:** Relieve over capacity at East Central High School (5,000+ students)
- **Cost:** \$208,870,000

WHAT HAPPENS IF THE BOND FAILS?

PORTABLE BUILDINGS ~~VS~~ PERMANENT BUILDINGS



Used when space is limited or during growth.



BASIC SECURITY FEATURES
Security varies depending on placement and upgrades.



VARIABLE CLIMATE CONTROL
Temperature regulation varies with system and weather.



SEPARATED FROM MAIN BUILDING
Located away from the main facility; requires movement between buildings.

\$3.5 million will be used from the M&O (salaries, programs, maintenance) to pay for portables.



Built for daily, sustained and extended use.



INTEGRATED SECURITY SYSTEMS
Security includes modern safety features.



CONSISTENT INDOOR CLIMATE
Includes insulation and HVAC for stable temperatures.



UNIFIED CAMPUS LAYOUT
Supports easy access and campus community.

MUCH LIKE BUYING A HOME, BONDS ACT AS A LOAN

Most people take out a loan to buy a house, paying upfront and then paying down the debt over time.

Texas schools cannot use regular funding for new buildings. The only way to do this is by asking voters to approve a bond (similar to a loan), and the I&S tax rate helps repay that loan.

The good news is that, as the debt is repaid, the I&S tax rate goes down!



Scan the QR code and watch Superintendent Toscano explain Bond 2025.



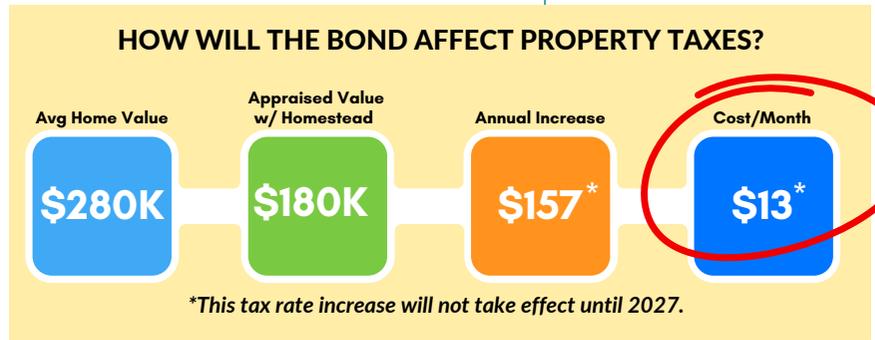
COST TO TAXPAYERS

We understand—no one likes paying more in taxes. However, in Texas, public schools are primarily funded through property taxes, and that system is not changing in the near future.

So the question is, how much will my taxes increase?

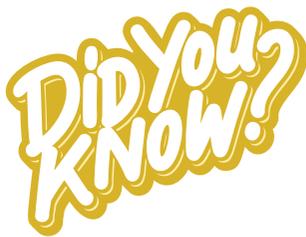
For a home valued at \$280,000 with a Homestead Exemption, the estimated maximum increase would be \$157 annually, or about \$13 per month.

The proposed tax rate would not take effect until 2027 and represents the maximum rate increase: \$0.08 per \$100 of property valuation.



NO TAX INCREASE FOR THE FOLLOWING

- Homeowners with the "Over 65 Homestead Exemption" will not face a tax increase from the proposed bond unless major home improvements are made.
- Disabled Veterans who qualify 100% will NOT see a tax increase as a result of the proposed bond program.
- If you currently pay no school taxes due to tax compression and the homestead exemption, the proposed bond will not result in a tax increase for you.



East Central ISD has the

LOWEST TAX RATE IN BEXAR COUNTY

OUR SCHOOL TAX RATE HAS GONE DOWN

2017 - 2018 TAX RATE

\$1.34

2024 - 2025 TAX RATE

\$.88

Cost of Property Tax on \$200,000 value 24/25 with \$100,000 homestead exemption

SCHOOL DISTRICT	M&O	I&S	TOTAL	Yearly Tax on \$200,000 PV** but with \$100,000 exemption = \$100,000	Monthly Tax cost on \$100,000 PV* with homestead exemption
East Central ISD	\$ 0.666900	\$ 0.216000	\$ 0.882900	\$ 882.90	\$ 73.58
Alamo Heights ISD	\$ 0.751200	\$ 0.215000	\$ 0.966200	\$ 966.20	\$ 80.52
Edgewood ISD	\$ 0.771550	\$ 0.215600	\$ 0.987150	\$ 987.15	\$ 82.26
North East ISD	\$ 0.700700	\$ 0.300000	\$ 1.000700	\$ 1,000.70	\$ 83.39
Northside ISD	\$ 0.669400	\$ 0.335500	\$ 1.004900	\$ 1,004.90	\$ 83.74
Judson ISD	\$ 0.669200	\$ 0.365400	\$ 1.034600	\$ 1,034.60	\$ 86.22
Somerset ISD	\$ 0.755200	\$ 0.320300	\$ 1.075500	\$ 1,075.50	\$ 89.63
Southside ISD	\$ 0.761500	\$ 0.328800	\$ 1.090300	\$ 1,090.30	\$ 90.86
Southwest ISD	\$ 0.721700	\$ 0.438100	\$ 1.159800	\$ 1,159.80	\$ 96.65
South San ISD	\$ 0.696900	\$ 0.499000	\$ 1.195900	\$ 1,195.90	\$ 99.66
San Antonio ISD	\$ 0.755300	\$ 0.400000	\$ 1.155300	\$ 1,155.30	\$ 96.28
Harlandale ISD	\$ 0.757500	\$ 0.500000	\$ 1.257500	\$ 1,257.50	\$ 104.79

I&S AND M&O IN THE TEXAS PUBLIC SCHOOL TAX SYSTEM

I&S

INTEREST & SINKING

Funds voter-approved school bonds for facilities

M&O

MAINTENANCE & OPERATIONS

Pays for day-to-day school expenses

I&S funds cannot be used for M&O purposes, and vice versa, as required by Texas law.

tax calculator

How much do I currently pay in school taxes? How much will my school taxes increase in 2027?

SCAN ME



DID YOU KNOW?



TEXAS PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICTS DO NOT RECEIVE ANY FUNDING TO BUILD NEW SCHOOLS AND FACILITIES

The ability for ISDs to create new schools and facilities has to come from an approved bond election as required by Texas State Law.



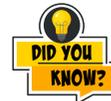
MORE HOMES DON'T INCREASE THE STUDENT ALLOTMENT.

Yes, that's true. In Texas, school funding is based on a per-student allotment set by the state, not the number of homes built.



RISING PROPERTY VALUES DO NOT MEAN MORE MONEY FOR SCHOOLS

Many taxpayers may not be aware that rising property values don't directly benefit East Central ISD—state funding decreases as taxable values increase under Texas law.



ECISD IS ONE OF THE FASTEST GROWING DISTRICTS IN TEXAS

Our enrollment for 2023 was 11,176. We are expected to reach 25,617 by 2033.

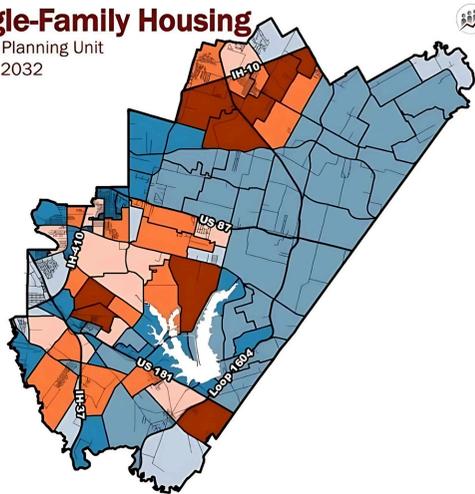
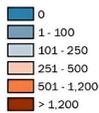
Heat Map of Growth

New Single-Family Housing

Occupancies by Planning Unit
Jan. 2023–Oct. 2032



Where are the new housing developments? The color scale represents each development within an area, with red indicating the number of houses. Most growth is happening to the south.



ECISD STRETCHES EVERY DOLLAR & IS FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE

Proven Track Record:

Since 1970: Clean audits every year
Since 2021: "A-Superior Achievement under FIRST accountability.

Most Recent Independent Validation:

2023-24: Scored a perfect 100

Strong Credit = Strong Stability

Bond Rating: Aa2 (Moody's), one of the highest for a Texas institution.



EAST CENTRAL ISD

All ECISD finances are public record. Check out our "Money Matters" website for more.



IS THERE A QUESTION WE MISSED? CHECK OUT OUR FAQ!

SCAN ME

SCAN ME

WATCH SUPERINTENDENT TOSCANO'S PRESENTATION

BALLOT LANGUAGE

House Bill 3 (2019) mandates the phrase "THIS IS A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE" on ballots, even if the tax rate remains unchanged.

Homeowners who are 65+, 100% Disabled Veterans, or below the exemption level will not see a tax increase, despite the ballot wording.

LEARN MORE

WWW.ECISD.NET/BOND2025



BOND 2025

VOTE EARLY

APRIL 22-29, 2025

ELECTION DAY

MAY 3, 2025

East Central Independent School District
6634 New Sulphur Springs Rd
San Antonio, TX 78263-7861
(210) 634-6100

NON-PROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
San Antonio, TX

VOTE AT ANY VOTING LOCATION IN BEXAR COUNTY

FOUR CONVENIENT LOCATIONS IN ECISD

EAST CENTRAL ISD (BOARDROOM)	6634 NEW SULPHUR SPRINGS RD.
SCHAEFER BRANCH LIBRARY	6322 US HWY 87 E.
OLD CONVERSE CITY HALL	407 S. SEGUIN RD.
ELMENDORF CITY HALL	8304 FM 327



LEARN MORE
WWW.ECISD.NET/BOND2025

THE HOURS OF EARLY VOTING WILL BE (las horas de votacion adelantada son):

- Tuesday, April 22 thru Friday, April 25 _____ 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM
(*martes, 22 de abril a viernes, 25 de abril*)
- Saturday, April 26) _____ 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM
(*sabado, 26 de abril*)
- Sunday, April 27 _____ 12:00 PM to 6:00 PM
(*domingo, 27 de abril*)
- Monday, April 28 thru Tuesday, April 29 _____ 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM
(*lunes, 28 de abril a martes, 29 de abril*)