

Carrollton-Farmers Branch ISD Bond Oversight Committee Meeting

Turner High School

Wednesday, April 29, 2026 • 6 p.m.

Members Present

Catherine Carlin

Nancy Cline

Noe Franco

Phil Gumbert

Tom Hammons

Billy Bob Messer

Wesley Nute

Jolynne Porter

Jaime Rivas

Kim Brady (Trustee ex-officio)

Paul Gilmore (Trustee ex-officio)

Members Absent

None

CFBISD Staff/Representatives

Corey Blackburn

Chris Moore

Caren Rodriguez

Robin Stout

BJ Welsh

Ivan Cedillo

Sebastian Saucedo

Kimberly San Juan

Lelia Goehring

Charles Ketts

Cassandra Hatfield

Ephesian Brown

Chris Moore called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. and introduced Jaime Rivas.

Rivas reiterated the purpose of the BOC committee and responsibilities as a review since their last meeting occurred in October. He then asked the committee to review minutes for approval. Catherine Carlin made a motion to approve the minutes, with a second from Jolynne Porter. The motion passed.

Discussion

Corey Blackburn reviewed November 2025 board action items and the finance summary. He stated that this summer will be the peak of cash flow.

Blackburn then reviewed the 2023 BOT authorizations including May 2026 projects: Farmers Branch ES Replacement, Salazar/Grimes Learning Center, Pre-K additions, MS renovations and furniture. Furniture has all been ordered and lined up to be delivered.

Carlin asked a question about material testing. Blackburn explained that soil, concrete and steel testing occur to make sure the quality is appropriate for the building. Porter asked for the Grimes/Salazar new building location, with Blackburn providing details.

Blackburn pointed out that Pre-K and middle school additions have been added to the project list. Rivas asked if the project list would be available in the drive, to which Blackburn confirmed.

A review of renovation packages and progress was presented. During an overview of Package 2, which includes a major renovation at Blalack MS, Moore asked Blackburn to provide details regarding the kitchen renovations. Blackburn stated that the renovations require food to be prepared at the former Long MS location, which is then transported to Blalack. The process has been a success. Blackburn then stated that Smith, included in renovation package 4, is undergoing 13 phases and moving along. A look at the new turf at Polk MS, included in renovation package 5 includes Polk, was presented with comments that the field looks good.

Blackburn then informed the group that foundation work at the Carrollton ES replacement site will begin at the end of the week or beginning of next. He then stated that the Farmers Branch ES replacement will be presented to the board for GMP approval at the May board meeting. The committee heard that the Salazar/Grimes replacement building is in the procurement phase. Kim Brady asked if the new Salazar/Grimes will be a similar size of the current location. Blackburn stated the new building will be a lot more efficient. Carlin asked if the old building will stay. Blackburn said it would be gone.

Blackburn then reviewed upcoming committee meetings. The next will be July 29.

Brady asked about progress at the barn. Blackburn answered, stating that the floodmap is being remapped meaning the district will have to redo the flood modeling. He said revised data was provided about a week and a half ago. Lelia Goehring stated consultants are currently doing a contouring model.

Porter asked how often the team does quality checks to make sure the work is done correctly. Blackburn stated that it's a multilayered approach. Four project managers are on staff and walk project sites each week. Construction managers and staff also do quality checks for them. Architects also walk project sites.

Presentation

BJ Welsh and Robin Stout presented an overview of the 2023 bond fiber package. The project went out through RFP and resulted in \$25-26 million in savings. Welsh showed photos of project activity, one of work being done in front of La Villita ES and another of a fiber cut on north and southbound lanes of 35. He stated that district campuses were not affected by the cut due to the strategy and design.

Welsh then presented a KMZ file showing existing and new fiber construction. He stated that the district did not want a single point of failure at our campuses, which is why the district planned the fiber ring.

Nancy Cline asked if all fiber was overhead or buried. Welsh stated the only part that is not buried deep underground is on the Irving side, near Sandy Lake, coming right off of Riverchase. Cline asked if the district responds to call for locates, to which Welsh said yes. Cline asked if the district must fund repair if an individual hits the fiber. Welsh explained that the district will take care of it but circles back to TxDot and the city.

Welsh then focused on the network operations center, which is considered like traffic control. He played a video about the center and presented a quick NOC timeline, detailing the first piece of equipment installation in March 2019 with equipment at end of life in 2027.

Several RFPs have been procured to replace network firewalls, network switches, routers, AV infrastructure, UPS systems for campuses, DR sites, and virtual server platforms, totaling a little over \$11.1 million. Welsh stated that the district built in a healthy contingency due to inflation. He clarified that this would come off of the overage of \$26 million.

Phil Gumbert asked how long UPS systems will keep up and going. Welsh stated that they are designed to keep up a couple hours. Gumbert asked about e-rate funds. Welsh pointed out that the district wants to leverage bond funds because if e-rate funds are leveraged now, bond money may not be available in five years.

Wesley Nute asked about five-year life expectancy. Stout clarified that Welsh communicated with vendors to extend the support. Welsh gave an example of Dell servers that serve as storage for staff. A one-year quote for hardware and software support was \$278,000—which is a third or half the cost of new hardware and software.

Gumbert then asked about power supply. Welsh said the generator can run the NOC for seven days. Cline asked if the committee needed to vote on this item. Welsh stated that they wanted the committee to be aware of this project. No vote is needed.

Feedback

Moore opened the Feedback phase, asking if July 29 is still good for all. Rivas asked if the committee needed more discussion regarding the NOC. Cline stated that the committee supported the NOC project.

Future topics

Rivas asked if there are any future topics for future agendas. Cline stated it might be interesting to see progress at Blalack MS.

Cline said a topic to consider would be to learn about what happens to the properties the district still possesses. Moore stated that the former Central ES served Turner HS and will serve Farmers Branch ES while their new building is under construction. The former Long MS is serving the security team and will soon serve Salazar. Grimes will stay where it is for now.

Porter asked about the future of the Grimes facility. Blackburn stated this has not been settled. He reminded the committee that Grimes students will be served at multiple campuses, including renovated space at Ranchview HS, Tuner HS and couple of rooms at Huie. Moore then added that there are no plans for the former Furneaux ES and McCoy ES facilities.

Porter then asked about the playground equipment at former campus sites. Blackburn stated those items are not in use as playground equipment can be a liability due to no ongoing maintenance.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:57 p.m. to begin the Turner HS construction tour.

Respectfully submitted,

Caren Rodriguez
CFBISD