

**Bond Advisory Committee (BAC)**

Meeting Summary

December 4, 2018

**Committee Members:**

Present:	Hillary Calavitta	Erik Eff	Kim McMath
	Ray Clayton	Virgil Flathouse	Tom Shea
	Mike Dansby	Greg Greeson	Wendy Smiley
	Dina Dreifuerst		

Not Present: Matthew Wernli

**EISD Staff:**

Chris Scott, Executive Director of Business Services  
Jeremy Trimble, Chief Operations Officer  
Brian Bolek, Director of Maintenance & Operations  
Eric Wright, Director of Technology Services  
Chris Miller, Assistant Director of Technology Services  
Carl Hooker, Director of Innovative & Digital Learning  
Cindy Weeks, Accounting Manager

**Proceedings:**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Virgil Flathouse, BAC Chair.

Jeremy Trimble provided a brief overview of the two tax rates: Interest & Sinking (I&S) and Maintenance & Operations (M&O); the four broad Topics in the proposed 2019 School Bond; and the 3 Categories used to prioritize needs. He also highlighted the Board’s review process and the January BAC meeting goals. All proposed Projects add up to \$102 million, but the I&S rate can support an ~\$85 million Bond. Discussion re: using tech tools like shared documents to expedite the final BAC meeting in January.

**Overview of Proposed Student Programs & Support Bond Projects:**

Jeremy Trimble introduced the Topic and provided an overview of each proposed project.

**Arts: Fine Arts**

The 2015 Bond paid for new uniforms and some instruments & equipment, but more is needed. This project would replace end-of-life (EOL) instruments at all campuses, mainly for middle & high schools; and also purchase specialized equipment like art tables, risers, and musical stands. Kerry Taylor, District Fine Arts Director, shared details about the performing and visual arts programs at every grade level, from elementary dance & art classes, to band, orchestra, choir, photography, and art history at WHS. Every elementary student, 60% of middle school students, and 35% of high school students take Fine Arts classes. The BAC split evenly on assigning this Project to **Categories 1 and 2** (one vote for Category 3).

### **Arts: Performing Arts**

This Project addresses other Performing Arts needs. The elementary & WRMS stage curtains are at end of life (EOL) & need to be replaced (Fire Marshal could inspect & fail faulty items); HCMS' curtains were replaced last year with M&O funds. Most of the elementary & MS sound systems were donated by campus booster clubs and are at EOL; the plan is to use Bond funds to replace all with standardized equipment instead of relying on donations. The BAC recommended moving the stage curtains to Safety & Security, and assigned the remaining items to **Category 2**.

### **Arts: PAC – Production Lighting**

This Project includes several small projects at the PAC. Specialized “wash lights” are nearing EOL – this Project would replace some equipment & start a staggered schedule for periodic replacement of all items. Most of our wireless microphones use a frequency reassigned to cellular companies, so need to be replaced. Upgrades to the aisle lighting would incorporate modern code requirements such as step lights. Discussion of District revenue from PAC rentals. The BAC split evenly on assigning this Project to **Categories 1 and 2** (one vote for Category 3).

### **Arts: PAC – Production Technology**

More small projects at the PAC, including replacement of lights, dimmers and lighting racks, many more than 20 years old. The audio console is 10 years old, runs on an obsolete Windows OS, and is essential to PAC events. The Instant Replay system used for varsity football games is housed in the PAC and operated by TEC students. The BAC assigned this Project to **Category 2**.

### **Athletics**

Uniforms & equipment for the middle & high schools have traditionally been paid for with M&O funds on a 4-year cycle. The BAC requested more information about the number of students participating in athletics & annual M&O expenditures, and assigned this Project to **Category 1**.

### **Furniture, Fixtures & Equipment (Replace/Update)**

This Project would complete the furniture replacement started with M&O & 2015 Bond funds; Phase 1 installed flexible “21<sup>st</sup> Century” furniture in 120 of ~500 classrooms. The new furniture’s lifespan is 20-25 years. District Lead Librarian Carolyn Foote shared how teachers are learning to use the new furniture to change their teaching methods & align with District educational goals such as collaboration and flexibility. The entire process would take 4-5 years. The BAC discussed possibly funding this Project over more than one Bond cycle, and assigned it to **Category 2**.

### **Libraries**

The majority of the District’s libraries are more than 20-30 years old, and need to be updated with flexible floor plans and more space for large & small group meetings. The libraries are heavily utilized, with more than 200,000 items checked out last year, significant e-book usage,

and daily gatherings in every space. This Project would maximize existing footprints, replacing static structures like “story steps” with flexible furniture & fixtures, and repurposing storage & work rooms for student use. The BAC assigned it to **Category 2**.

#### **Technology – Implement District Applications and Document Management Systems**

This Project would implement process improvements identified during a 2016 analysis, including a Document Management System (DMS) with employee & parent portals, service request tracking, and digitizing paper records; and Project Management tools to track project resources & timelines. Scope includes a 5-year license that would have to be renewed in a future Bond, or paid for out of M&O. Discussion re: concerns about inadequate funding for such a large undertaking. The BAC assigned this Project to **Category 1**.

#### **Technology – District Infrastructure Upgrades**

This Project would update District servers and external fiber cable hubs. The DOC was originally populated with existing servers from the former NOC, and some are approaching end-of-life. Some data systems are now offloaded to ~50 virtual servers, with 20 physical servers still in use. For the aerial fiber connections to individual campuses, the current cables are still in good condition & functionality, but many fiberglass “splice cans” have been damaged by wildlife and should be replaced with steel versions. Additional fiber needs to be run between the PAC and Stadium. The BAC recommended moving this Project to Facilities and assigned it to **Category 2**.

#### **Technology – District Student & Staff Device Upgrades**

This Project would replace student digital learning devices (formerly the 1:1 device initiative), computer labs, classroom devices, staff laptops, and copier/printers; and also update special education adaptive technology. About 9500 devices were purchased with ~\$5 million from the 2015 Bond, plus E-rate revenue. Current copier/printer leases & maintenance cost M&O ~\$500,000 per year. Buying new equipment with a Print Management System & Maintenance Agreement could halve that cost. This proposal budgets \$8.5 million for student devices, including accessories like new charging stations, warranties, and keyboards; \$5 million for staff & classroom devices; \$1.5 million for copier/printers & maintenance; and a “negligible” amount for SPED devices. The BAC assigned this Project to **Category 2**.

#### **Technology – District Wide Audio / Video (A/V) Upgrades**

This Project would replace or add approximately 580 projectors and flat-panel displays in classrooms and auxiliary spaces. Annual projector bulb replacements cost ~\$87,000, and about 40 devices are replaced each year with comparable devices (same dimensions, resolution, etc.). Discussion re: flat panel lifespans (~10 years), alternative tech options & decreased demand for interactive features (\$1000 additional cost). New purchases would include installation costs & maintenance contracts. The BAC assigned this Project to **Category 3**.

## **Transportation & Support**

School buses are replaced on a 15-year cycle, using funds allocated in every Bond, plus grants equal to ~20% of each purchase. The 22 replacement buses would include state-mandated seat belts, plus SMART Tag & camera systems (moving recently-purchased equipment to new buses whenever possible). This Project would also install seatbelts on ~30 remaining buses and purchase 6 additional buses to offset decreased capacity & address longer ride times caused by increased traffic. In addition, some District vehicles & maintenance equipment (like mowers) are scheduled for replacement, and the larger bus fleet will need a higher-capacity propane tank; the current tank pad was built to accommodate a larger tank. Discussion re: fire extinguisher inspection and driver training. The BAC assigned this Project to **Category 1**.

### **Other Business:**

The final meeting of the Bond Advisory Committee will be held on Tuesday, January 8, 2019, in the EISD Central Administration Board Room at 6:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Summary submitted by Dina Dreifuerst, BAC Secretary.