

The District Bond Steering Committee met on March 31, 2025 at 6:00pm at the Arzell Ball Center, 410 South Greenville Avenue, Richardson, Texas 75081, with the following present: Tabitha Branum, Superintendent; Mike Jasso, Chief of Staff; David Pate, Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Support Services; Melissa Heller, Assistant Superintendent of Strategy and Engagement; Matthew Gibbins, Assistant Superintendent of Administrative Services; Kristin Leeper, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning; Chris Goodson, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources; Sandra Hayes, Assistant Superintendent of District Operations; Leticia McGowan, General Counsel; Michael McDonald, Area Superintendent of Berkner Learning Community; Jennie Bates, Area Superintendent of Lake Highlands Learning Community; Mike Evans, Area Superintendent of Richardson High Learning Community; Peggy Dillon, Area Superintendent of Pearce Learning Community; James Watson, Senior Executive Director of Operations; Le Estes, Executive Director of Planning, Design and Construction; as well as the following committee members: Alicia Brown, Amanda Clair, Angela Guesby, Amanda Hinders, Amy Phipps, Anabel Ruiz, Blake Sawyer, Brad McCutcheon, Brent Jones, Brooke Bailey, Charles Carroll, Charles Rinderknecht, Chelsea Jeffery, Chris Walters, Colin Bready, David Deason, Deena Chavoya-Ellis, Dontarious Johnson, Eric Stengel, Euan Blackman, Gary Wolff, Hanan Dawoud, Jarod Jagers, Javier Fuentes, John Zancana, Katie Mottram, Kristen Holland Shear, Kristi Gardere, Lacey Laude, Larry L Johnson, Jr., Lena Ho, Luis A Soto, Luis Fernando Rojas, Mariama Maiga, Mark Holmes, Matt Ballard, Matt Jacob, Matthew Garcia, Megan Fuentes, Megan Price, Meredith Suntich, Olivia Mayberry, Rebecca Parada, Stephanie Loovis, Thomas Howery, TJ Callaway, Tori Behrman, Vivian Torres.

The 2025 Bond Steering Committee gathered to discuss its goals and purpose. This committee consists of a diverse group of individuals representing parents, staff, community members, and business leaders. Mrs. Tabitha Branum and Dr. Melissa Heller welcomed the members and facilitated introductions, ensuring a wide range of perspectives from across the district.

Mrs. Sandra Hayes outlined the committee's purpose and established meeting norms. The 2025 Bond Steering Committee aims to address the district's short- and long-term facility, equipment, and infrastructure needs through the next potential bond election. The committee reaffirmed this goal and committed to thoroughly reviewing data and relevant information to develop a comprehensive recommendation that aligns with the district's North Star Goal, to present to the Board of Trustees.

Dr. Melissa Heller presented an overview of the district's demographics to help committee members gain a better understanding of the community's context and needs.

Information about Richardson ISD was presented, including the history of past bond elections and an overview of the bond process. This background information will guide future decision-making for the next bond.

The committee was introduced to the Bond Planning Process, including the steps and procedures involved in preparing for a bond election. The process was discussed in detail, ensuring that all committee members are aware of the timeline and their role in the process.

Mr. David Pate provided crucial insights into the workings of bonds, their significance in funding district initiatives, and their impact on district finances. He also summarized school finance, covering federal funding, tax rate information, property tax exemptions, and the role of bonds in the overall financial structure.

A timeline was presented, explaining the process of calling for a bond. A timeline for the potential 2025 bond election was discussed, including key dates and milestones. The committee agreed on the next steps, which include reviewing data and district staff input regarding facilities, equipment, and infrastructure needs in the coming months.

The meeting concluded with an emphasis on the importance of the committee's work in supporting the district's North Star Goal. Committee members will meet again on April 14, 2025.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:58pm.