

### CITIZENS' BOND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Arlington ISD 2019 Bond Program
Annual Report to Board of Trustees
June 29, 2023

### **Agenda**

- Purpose
- Composition
- Meeting Schedule
- **CBOC Charge** 
  - Observations
  - Recommendations
- 2019 Bond Program
  - **Expected Outcomes**
- **Special Thanks**



### **Purpose**

The Citizens Bond Oversight Committee ("Committee") is established to provide transparency and enhance public confidence in the use of proceeds from the sale of bonds authorized by Arlington Independent School District ("AISD" or "District") voters on November 5, 2019.

The purpose of the Committee is to provide findings and recommendations to the Board of Trustees ("Board") relating to the expenditure of bond proceeds authorized in the 2019 Bond election, the progress of the 2019 Bond Program, and ways the District can maximize the potential of the 2019 Bond Program.



# Composition

### Members (11)

Charles Finicum (chair)

Jonathan Horton

Kimberly Lloyd

Chere Maxwell

Darla Peznell

Kimberlyn Proctor

Aaron Steele

Poppy Moore

### Alternates (1)

Adam Baker

### **SLAB Members (8)**

Osarenoma Egbenoma – ACHS

Monet Chiessa - AHS

Skylar Evans – ACCHS

Emiliano Gutierrez Berlanga – LHS

Abel Hernandez – ACHS

Joel Regina – MHS

Joanna Silva – SHHS

Joanne Xia – BHS

Lilly Perez – SHS



### **Meeting Schedule**

August 2, 2022 – New Member Orientation Meeting, (Virtual)

August 23, 2022 - Quarterly Meeting, Location: Center for Visual and Performing Arts

October 25, 2022 - Quarterly Meeting, Location: Webb Elementary School

January 26, 2023 – Quarterly Meeting, Location: Seguin High School (MAC)

April 25, 2023 – Quarterly Meeting, Location: Berry Elementary School (Crow LA)

**June 29, 2023** – Annual Board Report to Board of Trustees, Location: AISD Administration Building



# CBOC Charge (1 of 12)

1. Review the January 2019 report submitted to the Board by the 2019 Capital Needs Steering Committee to gain an understanding of the projects and capital needs recommended for inclusion in the 2019 Bond Program.

#### **Observation:**

- AISD Staff conveyed bond scope with full transparency
- Identified projects are consistent with district's long-range master plan

#### **Recommendation:**

 Sustain AISD Staff methodology for orientation of future CBOC members

| 2019 Bond Funds                 |               |
|---------------------------------|---------------|
| Facilities                      | \$852,726,335 |
| Fine Arts                       | \$6,955,752   |
| Safety, Security and Technology | \$90,829,000  |
| Transportation                  | \$15,488,913  |
| Total                           | \$966,000,000 |

#### PAT VO

### CBOC Charge (2 of 12)

2. Review the process used to solicit, qualify, and select design professionals, contractors, and vendors for projects funded from the 2019 Bond Program.

#### **Observation:**

- Bidding processes such as Construction Manager-at-Risk (CMAR) and Competitive Sealed Proposal (CSP) methods of procurement explained
- Architect, Consultant and Contractor performance evaluated to determine selection for additional work
- Method of Procurement recommendations for bond projects based on "Best Value" to the District

- Continue to maximize "Best Value" through competitive bidding process
- Continue to include RFQ process information on District website
- Continue process of posting project RFQ results on District website for transparency

### CBOC Charge (3 of 12)

3. Review reports on the current status and planned implementation of the 2019 bond program to determine whether such status and implementation are consistent with the Bond Program approved by the voters.

### **Observation:**

- Efforts by Facility Construction, Fine Arts, Transportation and Safety, Security and Technology meet the intent of the 2019 Bond Program as approved by the voters
- Inflation and rising costs of construction and manufactured products is creating significant funding challenges for the District to meet the original expectation and intent of the 2019 Bond Program

- Continue to analyze and prioritize most critical program needs of the District for completion
- Continue to review bond scope on projects and realign from a cost standpoint to meet bond intent and manage for inflation

### PX1

### CBOC Charge (4 of 12)

4. Review bond program reports that track budgets, encumbrances, expenditures, and estimated costs for completion for each bond project to understand the overall financial position of the 2019 Bond Program.

#### **Observation:**

- CBOC recognizes the need to realign the 2019 Bond Program to ensure completion of projects and manage costs against rising inflation
- District has capitalized on labor and competitive pricing on early projects

#### Recommendation:

 Sustain District efforts to monitor, track and report costs



### CBOC Charge (5 of 12)

5. Review HUB utilization on facilities projects.

#### **Observation:**

- HUB participation as of June 2023 at approximately 26.42%
- AISD considers past vendor HUB performance when awarding new projects
- District continues to participate in DFW area minority contractor symposiums and host minority contractor events twice annually to identify and improve HUB utilization opportunities

- Sustain efforts to require increased HUB participation on bond projects
- Sustain efforts to promote HUB participation through marketing events

### CBOC Charge (6 of 12)

6. Review internal and external audits of the bond program to assess administration's response to the audit and remediation efforts of the district, as applicable.

### **Observation:**

- External audit scope identified and overseen by District's Chief Internal Auditor
- Internal controls help to identify projects requiring 3<sup>rd</sup> party audits
- External audits will continue under the direction of the Chief Internal Auditor
- All CMAR and random CSP projects are externally audited

- Sustain efforts to conduct random external audits where appropriate
- CBOC to review project audit findings during 2023-2024
- Add audit information to quarterly meetings
- Include Internal Audit presentation in 2023-2024 meeting schedule

### CBOC Charge (7 of 12)

7. Review and provide input on AISD communications to the public regarding the 2019 Bond Program.

#### **Observation:**

 District communications efforts are effective and provide great detail on existing and future projects

- Sustain website presence and informational transparency
- Continue to leverage social media platforms for external communications
- Consider adding a "What's Up Next in the Bond" section to the website
- Include a "What's Going On in the Bond" segment to District media postings
- Consider utilizing other local media outlets with larger followings for postings
- Consider involving students to assist with social media presence

### CBOC Charge (8 of 12)

8. With the coordination of the Superintendent or Superintendent's designee, assess the degree of satisfaction of key stakeholders with the quality of work and impact of bond program projects.

#### **Observation:**

- Conducted group on-site visits of AISD Center for Visual and Performing Arts Center, AISD Athletic Center, Webb ES, Seguin HS, Berry ES and Crow Leadership Academy
- CBOC members received positive feedback from AISD faculty and staff at each of the sites visited

- Include virtual tours of on-going and completed bond projects
- Continue to increase bond presence on social media

### PX1

### CBOC Charge (9 of 12)

9. With the coordination of the Superintendent or Superintendent's designee, conduct on-site campus and facility visits related to bond projects, as necessary, in a non-disruptive manner.

#### **Observation:**

- CBOC members received positive feedback from AISD faculty and staff at each of the sites visited
- Contractor Management responsive to Principal requests and requirements

### **Recommendation:**

Continue to visit campus locations

### CBOC Charge (10 of 12)

10. Agree by majority vote upon all findings and recommendations to be presented to the Board.

#### **Observation:**

- CBOC Committee agreed by majority with the enclosed recommendations
- When CBOC members were not present; virtual attendance was established
- Significant participation by Student (SLAB) Members that was informative and helpful to understand the impact of the Bond on students

#### **Recommendation:**

Continue to encourage attendance and participation by SLAB students

### CBOC Charge (11 of 12)

11. Report to the Board annually or more frequently, if necessary, on the implementation of the 2019 Bond Program.

#### **Observation:**

Annual briefing to the Board is appropriate

- Continue annual reporting
- Sustain Board member presence at CBOC meeting to facilitate informal updates/communication

### CBOC Charge (12 of 12)

12. Coordinate with the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee to maintain a presence on the AISD website with a link on the AISD home page. The website shall timely provide the public with information regarding the Committee's activities, including: meeting agendas, information, presentations and reports received from AISD staff; and meeting schedules of the Committee and all subcommittees.

#### **Observation:**

- Website presence and Dashboards continue to improve
- Bond progress materials and reports easily accessible
- Continue to leverage audio/visual information efforts

- Sustain efforts to develop the website presence
- Leverage Social Media and Marketing efforts to enhance push-to-viewer opportunities

# **2019 Bond Program Expected Outcomes**

- 1. Expanded Programming
- 2. Educational Adequacy
- Efficient Utilization of Facilities
- 4. Facility Condition Improvements
- 5. Safety and Security Improvements



### **Expanded Programming**

- Full-day Pre-K
  - Offered at all neighborhood elementary schools
  - Full-day Pre-K for 4-year old students
  - Half-day Pre-K for 3-year old students
  - STEM Learning Incorporated
- Fine Arts and Dual Language Academies at the Secondary Level
  - Gunn JHS incorporates Fine Arts and Dual Language Academy
    - Grades 6 through 8
  - Arlington HS to incorporate Fine Arts and Dual Language Academy
    - Grades 9 through 12
- Expansion of Career & Technical Programming



### **Education Adequacy**

- Accessible Elementary School Playgrounds
  - Two (2) new replacement playgrounds at each elementary school
  - ADA accessible equipment and surfacing
  - Solar Canopies shading equipment areas
  - Kindness benches (4) at each campus playground area
- Fine Arts Facility Updates
  - Two (2) Fine Arts and Dual Language Academies at the secondary level
  - Fine Arts improvements at each secondary school
  - Platform (stage) sound and lighting improvement at the junior high and elementary level
- Athletic Facility Updates
  - Girls' Competition Softball Fields at each of the comprehensive high schools
  - Additions and Renovations at each of the three varsity stadiums
  - Life Cycle Replacements for the artificial turf and track surfaces at each comprehensive high school
  - Restroom/Concession/Storage buildings at each junior high school



### Efficient Utilization of Facilities

- Consolidation and replacement of older facilities
  - · Increased efficiency and utilization
  - Decreased operational costs (Personnel, Utilities, Transportation)
  - · Updated state-of-the-art educational facilities
- Replacement elementary schools and junior high school
  - Berry Elementary
  - Thornton Elementary
  - Webb Elementary
  - Carter Junior High School
- Replacement of Security / Transportation Center
  - · Improved operational efficiency
  - · Updated security systems technology
  - Improved training and restroom facilities
- Reduced number of temporary buildings
  - 99 temporary buildings removed to date (56% reduction)
  - 77 temporary buildings remain in District inventory

### **Facility Condition Improvements**

- Life cycle and condition deficiency improvements at all campuses except newly constructed campuses from 2014 and 2019 bond programs
- Mechanical, electrical and plumbing upgrades
- Flooring, ceiling and lighting upgrades
- Roof replacements
- Restroom upgrades
- ADA improvements
- Gymnasium improvements
- Paving and landscaping upgrades





### Safety and Security Improvements

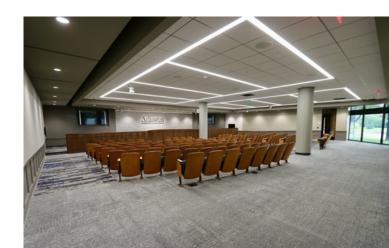
- Continue to upgrade Secure access at all campuses
  - Additional keyless entry points at all campuses
  - Additional IP-based cameras with higher resolution and quality
- Continue upgrading District vehicle fleet with GPS tracking systems
- Additional interior & exterior cameras on buses
- Enhanced communications for stakeholders
  - New District-wide fiber network
  - Upgraded PA systems
- Upgraded burglar and fire alarm systems



### **Special Thanks**

#### **Board of Trustees**

Melody Fowler, Board President
Justin Chapa, Board Vice President
Sarah McMurrough, Board Secretary
Dr. Aaron Reich, Board Member
David Wilbanks, Board Member
Brooklyn Richardson, Board Member
Leanne Haynes, Board Member





### Special Thanks

#### **Administrative Staff**

Dr. Steven Wurtz, Interim Superintendent

Darla Moss, Chief Financial Officer

Dr. Michael Hill, Asst Superintendent of Administration

Wm. Kelly Horn, Asst. Superintendent of Facility Services

Carla Martin, Asst. Superintendent of Financial Services

Eric Upchurch, Asst. Superintendent of Technology

Corey Robinson, Executive Director of Facility Services

Eric White, Director of Athletics

Michael Parkos, Director of Facility Planning and Construction

Dr. Christopher Anderson, Director of Fine Arts

David Lewis, Director of Food and Nutrition Services

David Stevens, Director of Security

Tim Collins, Director of Transportation