



CITIZENS' BOND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

*Arlington ISD 2019 Bond Program
Annual Report to Board of Trustees
June 18, 2024*

Agenda

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- Meeting Schedule
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 - Recommendations
- 2019 Bond Program
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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)

William Deakyne
(Interim Chair)

Catherine Parra

Adam Baker

Jonathan Horton

Kimberly Lloyd

Chere Maxwell

Darla Peznell

Kimberlyn Proctor

Aaron Steele

Dr. Chris Lee

Poppy Moore

Alternates (1)

Harry Flood, Jr.

SLAB Members (10)

Miriam Silva – ACCHS

Michelle Carrillo – AHS

Abel Hernandez – ACHS

Andrea Celis – ACHS

Damaris Rico Landin – BHS

Emiliano Gutierrez Berlanga – LHS

Kara Peterson – LHS

Emma Grace Herrstrom – MHS

Tolani (Tabitha) Akintimi - SHHS

Lilly Perez – SHS

Meeting Schedule

August 22, 2023 – New Member Orientation Meeting

August 22, 2023 – Quarterly Meeting, Location: Thornton Elementary School

October 24, 2023 – Quarterly Meeting, Location: Berry Elementary School

January 23, 2024 – Quarterly Meeting, Location: Arlington High School

April 9, 2024 – Quarterly Meeting, Location: Bailey Junior High School

June 18, 2024 – Annual Board Report to Board of Trustees, Location: AISD Administration Building

CBOC Charge (1 of 12)

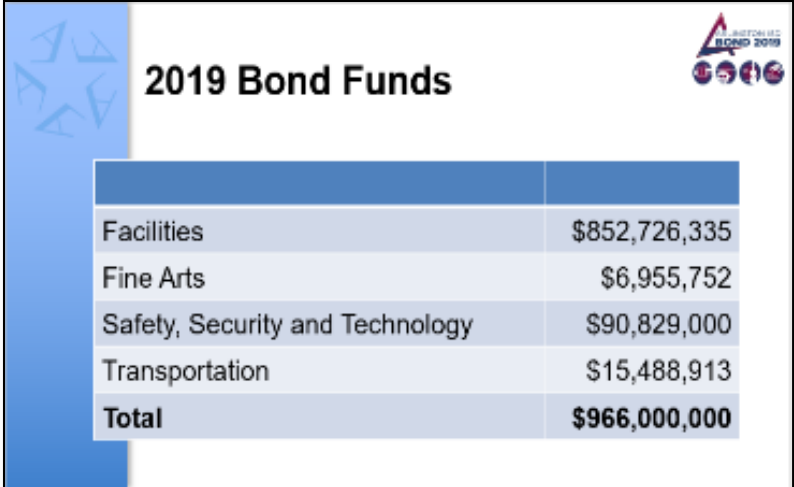
1. Review the January 2019 report submitted to the Board by the 2019 Capital Needs Steering Committee to gain an understanding of the projects and capital needs recommended for inclusion in the 2019 Bond Program.

Observation:

- AISD Staff conveyed bond scope with full transparency
- AISD Faculty and Staff working diligently to ensure classroom experiences are not significantly diminished by ongoing construction efforts
- Identified projects are consistent with district's long-range master plan

Recommendation:

- Continue countering inflation with bond issuances



The table is titled "2019 Bond Funds" and is located in the bottom right corner of the slide. It features a blue header bar and a table with two columns: the category of funds and the amount in dollars. The total amount is \$966,000,000. The AISD logo is visible in the top right corner of the table area.

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

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

Recommendation:

- Review selection criteria descriptions to identify key metrics for HUB

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 still meet the intent of the 2019 Bond Program as approved by the voters
- Inflation has leveled off from COVID and costs of construction are normalizing but still not at pre-COVID levels.
- Cost optimization still required to meet objectives

Recommendation:

- Continue to review & prioritize bond scope on projects and request realignment from Board of Trustees in order to help manage inflation

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:

- Past year inflation reduced to 1-2% (normal rate of growth)
- District is doing a good job of leveraging Bond issuance to take advantage of favorable interest rates

Recommendation:

- Sustain District efforts to monitor, track and report costs
- Continue to look for opportunities to purchase long lead items and have vendors store until needed



CBOC Charge (5 of 12)

5. Review HUB utilization on facilities projects.

Observation:

- HUB participation as of June 2024 at approximately 25%
- 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

Recommendation:

- Provide HUB participation growth from 2009-2019 Bond Programs and make publically available
- Consider updating area impact study of HUB participation for future bonds
- Sustain efforts to require increased HUB participation on bond projects
- Sustain efforts to promote HUB participation through contractor symposiums

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 provided to CBOC demonstrated benefit of conducting audits
- Internal controls support the process of continuing audits of all CMAR and random CSP projects as necessary
- External audits will continue under the direction of the Chief Internal Auditor
- All CMAR and random CSP projects are externally audited

Recommendation:

- Continue to audit all CMAR projects
- Continue to provide CBOC with review of all audits conducted
- Audit CSP projects when internal controls identify candidate projects.

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
- District emails are helpful in providing updates

Recommendation:

- Leverage individual contributors and content creators such as teachers, students or parents to tell the stories (before/after) of the bond's progress
- Consider reaching out to students through popular social media platforms; consider having SLAB members officially participate and spread structured information "SLAB member FAQs"
- Stay focused on utilizing multiple languages
- Promote community visits or "meet and greets" of completed projects "ribbon cuttings" etc.

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 Berry ES, Thornton ES, Arlington HS, and Baily JHS
- CBOC members received positive feedback from AISD faculty and staff at each of the sites visited
- Robust communications of bond projects continue to evolve and provide better and better detailed information

Recommendation:

- Continue to include virtual tours of on-going and completed bond projects; disseminate through principals and local school media/news feeds
- Encourage more “likes” and “repostings” of the good news

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 visited Berry ES, Thornton ES, Arlington HS, and Baily JHS.
- CBOC members received positive feedback from AISD faculty and staff at each of the sites visited
- Contractor Management responsive to Principal requests and requirements
- Schools visits

Recommendation:

- Whole array of tours at campuses both under construction and completed
- 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
- Significant participation by Student (SLAB) Members that was informative and helpful to understand the impact of the Bond on students
- Students as sophomores are identified as Junior Class Presidents and asked to participate in SLAB

Recommendation:

- Continue to encourage attendance and participation by SLAB students
- Recommend two-year terms for participation in SLAB
- Consider two representatives from SLAB per school; prior year SLAB
- Re-imagine orientation to become more inviting for SLAB members

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

Recommendation:

- 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

Recommendation:

- 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
3. 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
 - 176 temporary buildings at beginning of bond program
 - 50 temporary buildings remain in District inventory
 - (AHS will increase temporary building by 3 during 2024-2025)



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

Justin Chapa, Board President

Sarah McMurrough, Board Vice President

Brooklyn Richardson, Board Secretary

Melody Fowler, Board Member

Larry Mike, Board Member

David Wilbanks, Board Member

Leanne Haynes, Board Member



Special Thanks

Administrative Staff

Dr. Matt Smith, 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

Jason Gillis, Director of Transportation