

Mabank ISD Board of Trustees Calls Bond Election

Following a recommendation from the district's Facility Advisory Committee, the Mabank ISD Board of Trustees unanimously called a bond election for May 7, 2022. If approved, the proposition totaling \$94 million would fund a new early childhood center, a career and technical education addition at the high school, athletic improvements, and more.

The district's Facility Advisory Committee of approximately 30 people, representing a cross-section of the community met last fall to identify district priorities for the future. This committee of parents, grandparents, alumni, MISD staff, retirees, business owners, elected officials, and law enforcement all offered unique perspectives as the group worked to identify district facility challenges and a consensus recommendation for the Board of Trustees regarding a possible bond election. After touring district facilities, reviewing demographic data, learning about school finance and MISD's historical tax rate, and speaking with administration about academic focus and long-range plans, committee members reached consensus on a list of prioritized needs. The group then presented its recommendation to the Board in January, and Trustees held a special meeting Feb. 15 to call the May election.

"I sincerely appreciate the service of our Facility Advisory Committee and want to thank each and every member for helping us prepare for the future," said Superintendent Brad Koskelin. "The proposal that was recommended and called, if approved, could not only increase academic and career training options, but also reduce overcrowding in our elementary campuses, provide additional space for enrollment growth at the high school, and centralize our CTE programs."

On their ballots, MISD voters will see a proposition for \$94 million. The projected monthly tax impact, upon passage of the new \$40,000 homestead exemption, will be approximately \$6.00 a month (based on a \$200,000 home). However, there will be no tax increase for taxpayers 65 years of age and older who have applied for and received the "age 65 freeze of school homestead taxes."

Proposed projects include:

- New early childhood center housing the Child Development Center, Head Start, Pre-K, and eventually Kindergarten students districtwide
- Career and technical education addition at the high school
- Baseball and Softball fields
- Additional district wide improvements

If anyone has questions or would like more information regarding the bond election, they may call MISD administration at 903-880-1302 or send an email to bondinfo@mabankisd.net.