



The 2014 bond election passed May 10, 2014, with nearly 70 percent voting in favor. The \$663.1 million package is divided into four areas – facilities; fine arts; safety, security and technology; and transportation – and allows the district to continue striving to be a premier school district and a leader in education.

The district worked with Jacobs Project Management to plan the implementation of the bond program. The planning work helped determine the most efficient way to implement the bond program, enabled the bond program to start promptly after the election, established best practices and quality standards, enhanced transparency and community confidence, and provided a road map for a successful bond program.

After a great deal of planning work – educational specifications, construction planning, program design and transition planning – implementation in all four areas of the bond is well underway:

Facilities: The facility projects were grouped into five phases and include new facilities and life-cycle upgrades at every campus. Most projects in Phase I are now finished or nearing completion. The two new elementary schools in Phase I, McNutt and Peach, opened in August 2016, along with a 16-classroom addition at Workman Junior High. New multipurpose activity centers at each of the AISD's six traditional high schools are now open and major renovations at Corey Academy of Fine Arts and Dual Language have concluded. The future Career and Technical Center is underway and scheduled to open for next school year; major renovations at Jones Academy of Fine Arts and Dual Language will conclude this spring, and an addition at Boles Junior High recently started. Many Phase II projects are also now in the construction phase, including the future Agricultural Science Center; a major addition at Sam Houston High School and renovation and roof work at Martin High School. Elementary renovations to add STEM labs, strings rooms and security vestibules are underway at 13 schools, with more to start soon. Phase III projects are now in design.

Fine Arts: The fine arts portion of the bond includes \$9.8 million for music capital over the course of five years – or \$1.96 million each year. Year two purchases of instruments and equipment, based on requests from the campuses, were issued in the spring and included uniforms for band, choir, orchestra and drill team. Many of the new instruments funded by the bond are helping meet an increased demand in fine arts since the district eliminated instrument fees in August 2014. Since the bond's inception, secondary band and orchestra participation has risen 16 percent. The list for purchases of instruments and equipment in year three is now being developed.

Safety, Security and Technology: The district is in the process of upgrading security cameras at all schools. Over 40 schools have been completed, with more than 1,500 new cameras installed. In technology, classroom standards were developed for audio/visual, teachers and students, and are now being implemented. Network and wireless enhancements are also underway for each school, bandwidth has been increased 200 percent since the bond started, and new PA systems are being installed to bring all schools up to a recently established districtwide standard. In addition, 138 Transformation Through Innovation grants – totaling over \$3.2 million – have been awarded to teachers and schools to foster innovative teaching methods through technology.

Transportation: The bond is helping the district replace aging vehicles and add new ones, with purchases spread out over the course of five years. To date, 59 new buses and 74 new white fleet vehicles have been received. Year three purchases will include 20 buses and 23 white fleet vehicles. The district is also implementing Zonar, a GPS system that tracks students when they board and exit the bus. The system has now been installed on all buses and the tracking component is in the process of implementation.

For more details and to sign up for the bond newsletter, visit www.aisd.net/bond.