



As the Arlington ISD continues to evaluate and request bids for projects for the Bond 2014 implementation, the district is striving to provide world-class facilities while being fiscally responsible as directed in the district's *Achieve Today. Excel Tomorrow.* strategic plan.

With the financial goal of the Arlington ISD's Bond 2014 program being to deliver all planned projects within the total bond authorization, the district has continuously referred to the comprehensive facilities assessment performed by Jacobs Project Management in 2013. At that point, every building was assessed and the most critical deficiencies were included in the \$552.4 million recommendation for facilities projects for the bond proposal. Jacobs developed the estimated costs to address these deficiencies by using R.S. Means Catalog – a nationally recognized company that provides an industry-standard compilation of average construction pricing for both labor and materials depending on geographic region. Estimates for new construction projects were based on costs of recent comparable projects and allowed for cost escalation.

Included in project estimates were amounts to abate identified asbestos, allowances to address inflation and contingencies to provide for funding unforeseen conditions. Construction projects are based on several items – construction itself, design, inflation and contingencies, and furniture, fixtures, equipment and technology. Below is a breakdown of construction budgets for the Bond 2014 projects:

	Deficiency Improvements & Life Cycle Replacements	New Construction Projects
Construction	80%	73%
Design	10%	7%
Inflation/Contingencies/Misc.	10%	11.5%
FFE & Technology	0%	8.5%

Recently there have been indications that construction costs are rising. Several factors can contribute to increased costs, including increased demand, labor shortages, rising material costs and subcontractors who are at or near their bonding capacities. The Arlington ISD is working diligently to stay within the Bond 2014 budget by controlling project scope, capitalizing on construction manager-at risk arrangements, and efficiently packaging projects for bidding.