

March 3, 2014

Dear CFISD community,

Our Board of Trustees unanimously voted to call a May 10 bond election during a special-called meeting on Thursday evening, and I wanted to briefly summarize for you some of the highlights and tax implications of the referendum.

The \$1,209,280,000 bond package was recommended by a community long-range planning committee to address the following district needs through the year 2020:

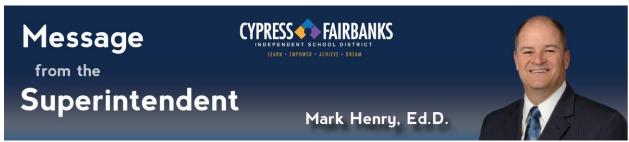
- security and safety;
- student growth (support facilities, school sites and buses);
- technology; and
- instructional/support facilities renovations.

A detailed breakdown of the committee's recommendation is <u>available on the CFISD</u> <u>website</u> by accessing the "Vision 2020 – Bond 2014" logo.

Once phased in, the bond would affect the Interest & Sinking (I&S), or debt service tax rate by a maximum of 4.5 cents per \$100 of property valuation by 2019. Based on a conservative estimate, this would amount to an annual change of about \$62.25 for a Cypress-Fairbanks home valued at \$200,000.

Over the next 8 to 10 weeks, CFISD staff members will be providing educational presentations throughout the district, where materials about the proposed bond referendum will be available. I encourage you to stay tuned for updates on the district website to stay informed as we approach the May 10 bond election.

Sincerely,



April 14, 2014

Dear CFISD Community,

Our Board of Trustees approved a pivotal agenda item during the April 14 regular meeting that will **revert the last day of school back to Thursday, June 5**.

On Jan. 31, following two inclement weather days that closed schools, I <u>wrote to you</u> with our intention to designate one of the make-up days for Friday, June 6. This decision was made in order to comply with the Texas Education Agency's required number of instructional days.

We recently learned, however, of CFISD's eligibility to request an expedited waiver from the TEA allowing the district to conduct additional staff training in lieu of one day of student instruction.

Last night the Board unanimously approved this waiver as requested by the administration, thus designating Friday, June 6 as a student holiday and staff development day for all campus personnel.

Thank you for your patience as we work to align district policies with state law for the benefit of our students, staff and community.

Sincerely,



"Facts are stubborn things; and whatever may be our wishes, our inclinations, or the dictates of our passion, they cannot alter the state of facts and evidence."

— John Adams

May 1, 2014

Dear CFISD Community,

Just as I feel that our stakeholders have a responsibility to cast a vote in the <u>CFISD</u> <u>bond election</u>, I feel that we have a responsibility to present you with clear facts about the bond.

Those of you with access to social media, the internet, a television, radio or newspaper have by now likely seen or heard various viewpoints on the bond. While I welcome differing thoughts and opinions (part of what makes this country great), I take exception to the misleading half-truths and outright falsehoods that have been circulating in recent weeks.

To keep our community members informed of the facts, a "Bond 2014 Questions and Answers" document is accessible on our <u>CFISD website</u>, or by clicking this image:



Some of the facts covered in the document include:

- Homeowners **would not** face a 42-percent paid tax increase on a \$200,000 home as a result of the bond's passage—this is a 31-percent miscalculation;
- CFISD **does not** have the highest debt load of any Texas school district—it has the *15th-lowest* among districts with outstanding debt greater than \$200 million;
- A new phone system will not cost the district \$20 million—the \$7,469,294 system is the smallest component of a \$20 million technology line-item;
- The bond package does not devote a small percentage to address student growth—all components of the bond (construction, renovations, safety/security, transportation and technology) are a result of rapid growth, and asset protection is essential in guaranteeing equal access to quality facilities for all students; and

 The district is not holding a May election to promote low voter turnout—the May election will address immediate needs while saving the district \$60,000.

I encourage you to read the Q&A over more closely and share with those who have questions about the bond.

Also, I have included an image embedded below that shows the remaining early voting dates, times and locations through May 6, as well as precinct details for election day on May 10. As you can see, you have several opportunities remaining to exercise your right to vote.

Thank you for staying informed throughout this election process and for going to the polls with a decision based on facts.

Sincerely,

Mark Henry, Ed.D. Superintendent of Schools







Voting Locations, Dates and Times

All precincts will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Election Day

Precinct	Harris County Precinct #	Location
A	111, 124, 126	Ault ES
В	370, 734, 768	Goodson MS
C	442, 479, 602, 691, 805,828	Hamilton MS
D	300, 481, 688	Sampson ES
E	125, 484, 519, 641	Bleyl MS
F	478, 516, 823	Cy Creek HS
G	451, 513, 669	Yeager ES
н	480, 640, 713, 979, 980, 1021, 1022	Adam ES
I	244, 518, 548, 597	Windfern HS
)	225, 495, 671, 687, 759, 934	Cook MS
K	74, 661, 904, 1028	Post ES
L	364, 496, 593, 609, 628, 753	Frazier ES
M	117, 270, 383, 498, 689, 966, 1033	Dean MS
N	512, 642, 939, 1023	Owens ES
0	155, 260, 398, 622, 701, 771, 991	Truitt MS
P	616, 651, 667	Lowery ES
Q	314, 709, 803	Aragon MS
R	517, 553, 643, 650, 882	Tipps ES
S	617, 712, 919, 1016	Jowell ES
T	149, 875	Cy Springs HS
U	143, 921, 923	Smith MS
٧	50, 800	Cy Falls HS
W	305, 804, 877, 881, 951, 1062	Thornton MS







May 8, 2014

Dear CFISD Community,

With two days remaining until election day for the Cypress-Fairbanks ISD 2014 bond referendum, I wanted to send out a final reminder to cast a vote on Saturday, May 10.

Many of you have already participated in early voting, and I thank you for taking the time to express this important constitutional right. Between April 28-May 6, a total of 7,309 community members cast ballots in the bond election.

The 2014 bond will include:

- safety and security enhancements at all campuses;
- **transportation** including additional buses to accommodate student growth and elimination of the 2-mile radius;
- new facilities to accommodate student growth;
- technology upgrades to district infrastructure and classroom technology; and
- renovations to protect the district's instructional and support facilities.

There is **no tax increase for residents over 65 years of age**. The potential tax impact of the bond is \$0.045, but with the growth of property values in the district, it could be much less.

A summary and other details about the bond are available on our CFISD website.

Precincts and locations for election day are available below this message. You can look up your Harris County precinct number by entering your name and address on the <u>Harris County Clerk's website</u>.

Thank you for being a part of our great community, and for participating in this great democratic process.

Sincerely,



ELECTION DAY

May 10, 2014

Voting Locations, Dates and Times

All precincts will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Election Day

Precinct	Harris County Precinct #	Location
A	111, 124, 126	Ault ES
В	370, 734, 768	Goodson MS
С	442, 479, 602, 691, 805,828	Hamilton MS
D	300, 481, 688	Sampson ES
E	125, 484, 519, 641	Bleyl MS
F	478, 516, 823	Cy Creek HS
G	451, 513, 669	Yeager ES
н	480, 640, 713, 979, 980, 1021, 1022	Adam ES
I	244, 518, 548, 597	Windfern HS
J	225, 495, 671, 687, 759, 934	Cook MS
K	74, 661, 904, 1028	Post ES
L	364, 496, 593, 609, 628, 753	Frazier ES
M	117, 270, 383, 498, 689, 966, 1033	Dean MS
N	512, 642, 939, 1023	Owens ES
0	155, 260, 398, 622, 701, 771, 991	Truitt MS
P.	616, 651, 667	Lowery ES
Q	314, 709, 803	Aragon MS
R	517, 553, 643, 650, 882	Tipps ES
S	617, 712, 919, 1016	Jowell ES
T	149, 875	Cy Springs HS
U	143, 921, 923	Smith MS
V	50, 800	Cy Falls HS
W	305, 804, 877, 881, 951, 1062	Thornton MS





Go to www.cfisd.net for details about the Bond 2014 proposal.



May 10, 2014

Dear CFISD staff and community,

I am humbled and pleased to report that the CFISD 2014 bond referendum passed tonight with an unofficial count of 9,039 votes "FOR" the bond and 4,116 votes "AGAINST," for a 68.71% approval rating.

The bond will provide solutions to our growth, safety and security, transportation, technology and renovation needs. We pledge to be fiscally responsible with the money you have entrusted us with to meet these needs.

Thank you for your continued support of the students and staff in Cypress-Fairbanks ISD.

Sincerely,