

2018 Conroe ISD Facility Planning Committee Proposal

Good evening Dr. Null, members of the Board. As Dr. Null said my name is Cody Bartlett and I had the pleasure of serving alongside 26 other dedicated community members on the 2018 Facility Planning Committee.

The committee members represent non-CISD employee representatives from each of the District's feeder zones, along with representatives from community groups and the business community - all of whom want the very best for the students in Conroe ISD in the most fiscally responsible manner.

This committee began meeting at the beginning of October and met over the course of 7 meetings and 14 hours to come up with the recommendation I'll present to you tonight. Before I do, I'd like the members of the Facility Planning Committee who are present tonight to please stand and be recognized.

In addition to the committee members, numerous representatives from the District including those in Central Administration, Campus level and engineers and architects were present at each meeting and all freely gave information and addressed any questions or concerns we had. To each of you that took part in this process, Thank You!

During our meetings we listened to in depth presentations and received information regarding the purpose and process of the committee, the State of the Schools, the history of previous CISD Bonds and the current financial position of the District. We also had lengthy discussions and received information on Safety & Security, CTE and Early College Programs, Athletics, Technology, Transportation, Auxiliary Buildings, Life Cycle projects, Growth, Land, and the most recent PASA Demographic study to name a few.

During this immensely comprehensive process, I believe; one of the most beneficial things we did was to meet at campuses varying in grade level, age and size to see firsthand the needs of some of the facilities along with some of the unique benefits of each campus. With the average age of CISD Facility being 28 years old, we were exposed to facilities on each end of that average. We walked the halls of Grand Oaks fresh with blue and orange paint, we saw the level changes of Conroe High School and dodged weather as we visited each of the six buildings on campus. We saw the beams of Stockton Junior High rising and heard the creaks of Oak Ridge High School. We walked through the cafetorium of Collins Intermediate, and even took a ride on a new Blue Bird School Bus. And, we concluded by sitting right here in this board room to work through the projects to put together the package I present to you tonight.

As mentioned earlier, at the heart of every discussion was what is best for the students of this district, what are the needs of this district and does this project make financial sense. With that in mind, we categorized the projects into the following areas:

Conroe High School

Oak Ridge High School

Growth and Sustainability

Safety and Security

District Wide Needs

Conroe High School

I'll begin with the Master Plan for Conroe High School. With the passage of the 2015 Bond, construction began to update and renovate Conroe High with the intent to continue on the next bond issue. We have allocated funding in this proposal to finish the master plan. Many challenges exist on this campus ranging from security, with multiple buildings and students crossing outside, weather playing a factor, along with the design of the current campus and the number of level changes and buildings that exist. The plan proposed addresses each of those issues and when the renovations are complete, Conroe High School will be all under one roof. This project solves many issues and will breathe new life into the District's original High School and the Conroe community.

Oak Ridge High School

We recommend an overhaul to Oak Ridge High School to upgrade many of the systems throughout this nearly 40 year old campus with some cosmetic updates as a byproduct. The auditorium and gym will be evaluated for potential improvements as funds allow and will also include new window systems for the campus. In addition, we recommend a CTE Conversion at Oak Ridge adding space for a Robotics program, automotive technology and engineering design programs.

Growth and Sustainability

Based on known growth patterns, current enrollment and information received from the PASA Demographic study, we recommend the following new schools to accommodate **growth**:

One new Elementary School in the Grand Oaks Feeder Zone

One new Elementary school in the Conroe Feeder Zone

One new Elementary school in the Caney Creek Feeder Zone

One new Junior High in the Caney Creek Feeder Zone- Doing so would also allow for use of current Moorhead Junior High as an Intermediate

In an effort to increase capacity and upgrade programs and space we recommend additions and upgrades to:

- The Woodlands College Park High School
- The Woodlands High School
- Caney Creek High School
- Conroe High School Ninth Grade Campus
- York Junior High School

To again accommodate the growth of the district, we recommend:

- Land Purchases for future campuses
- A new Outdoor Practice Pool to allow for increased practice space for our six high school programs. Currently, Conroe ISD ranks at the bottom when compared to peer districts in lane meters of water. This new outdoor pool would be located next to the Natatorium on land the district already owns.
- And, the addition of a North County Agricultural/CTE Complex. This facility would be utilized by students participating in Ag Programs at Conroe High School and Caney Creek High School and serve as the District's home base during the Montgomery County Fair. The location of this facility would be on the land donated by Montgomery County adjacent to the Montgomery County Fairgrounds.

The **sustainability** issues we recommend include:

- Mechanical, electrical, plumbing and HVAC upgrades and overhauls at Creighton Elementary and Glen Loch Elementary
- The addition of a gym at Collins Intermediate and Wilkerson Intermediate - the only two intermediate schools in the district without a gym. And additionally, a new gym at Runyan Elementary.
- Reconstruction of the tennis courts at Knox Junior High School
- Athletic Field Conversions- Doing so eliminates our reliability on water and allows usage of the field regardless of weather with the exception of lightning. These conversions would benefit athletes, drill teams and band members in addition to attracting other contests to our District facilities
- An annual expenditure for Life Cycle and Sustainability Issues relating to the normal wear and tear of our buildings within the district and issues that must be addressed to keep our campuses functioning.

In regards to **Safety and Security**:

We recommend an annual expenditure upgrading our Safety and Security spread out over each campus including vestibules, cameras, locks, windows and fencing all in line with the districts layered approach to campus security.

Finally, **District Wide Needs**

We recommend:

- Additions, upgrades and expansion of our existing Auxiliary facilities to accommodate growth and extend the life span of those facilities including Transportation Centers, Maintenance & Custodial Facilities and a new Professional Development Center.
- The repurposing and transition of existing auxiliary facilities to better serve the District: These facilities include the Jett Center, which is a 98-year-old building, Hauke and Washington Junior High
- Annual expenditures for network and infrastructure to upgrade our technology and enhance our safety and security
- And, the purchase of new Buses to support the nearly 400 daily routes driven and 2,200 daily runs

As a committee we make this recommendation of projects and do so after having received an incredible amount of information and participated in hours of discussion regarding the needs of this district as we look towards the future. We are very fortunate in Conroe ISD to be in superb financial shape and because of that and the confidence in our leadership, the 2018 Facility Planning Committee unanimously recommends a bond proposal with contingency and inflation accounted for in the amount of \$827,476,195

Thank you.