

Why is a New School Needed?

- Significant school population growth- average 5% every year for the past 20 years. 2012 to 2022 went from 523 to 800 students. 65% growth in that time frame, with no end in sight.
- Currently out of space for additional growth. MS would provide needed space for up to 15-20 years growth. Keeps class sizes small and let's us maintain our accreditation with the state.
- Helps us recruit and retain high quality staff. If class sizes increase, staff will have the ability to choose districts with smaller class sizes and difficulty to recruit new teachers. Just the opposite if we build a new school, teachers would stay and recruiting new staff is much easier.
- Drop off and pick up areas would be greatly improved and much safer than the current drop off area.
- Infrastructure of the current site is not capable of handling many more students. Water/sewer/drainfield/parking/classrooms are at capacity. Playground area is not sufficient for a school our size.
- Older part of the current building will need major upgrades to meet current safety standards.
- We have worked with the steering committee and Cushing/Terrell to come up with a consensus for a new middle school and improvements to be made to the existing building.

What the 27.3 Million Dollar Bond Would Provide?

- New Middle school that meets the needs of the established by the steering committee for long term growth. This can be done within the current bonding capacity.
- Part of the bond amount would be used to purchase property, up to 20 acres at \$27,500.00 per acre, which is about half the cost of comparable acreage in the West Valley area. We have also received a donation of 5 acres from the people who we would buy the additional acreage from. The land is also in an area where a large housing development is planned.
- Once the new MS is built, the existing school can easily be transformed into an elementary school that would allow for decades of growth.
- The new MS would have the following benefits: space for project based learning, large gym, up to date technology, energy efficient, STEM Labs, Music room, increased safety/etc...
- We would have enough acreage for future expansion if needed.
- Update the older parts of the existing school to meet 21st century standards.

Why Build A New Middle School?

- The current MS already exceeds capacity and short term solutions are already in place.
- Adding classroom space to the existing building would only help for the next 5 years and would not be the best long term financial solution.
- If the bond passes this spring, the earliest we would be able to occupy the new building would be 2024.
- This would allow for added electives that we currently can't offer due to space constraints.
- Current school does not have the capacity, or infrastructure to handle more than 1000 people. Currently at 800 students and 94 staff, will be at the 1,000 mark within the next 5-7 years, or sooner.
- Waiting another 5 years to build a new MS would increase the cost by at least \$5,000,000.00.
- Gives all of our students the needed space to thrive academically and gives them the best chance for success.