

Crawford Independent School District



The first week of early voting is just about complete. I would like to take some time to provide some information about the process leading to this point, and answer a few more questions regarding the proposed projects. I invite you to access the district website for more information. In the middle of our homepage is a “Bond Election” link that has documents attached.

1. The process started about 15 months ago with the formation of a community committee to discuss possible plans for the old two-story building.
2. A year ago, the board and administration began discussing long-range facility needs to address growth, and additional classroom space needed for intervention instructional areas.
3. Architect, Bruce Thacker, conducted a survey among administration, directors, and staff to determine needs.
4. The list of facility needs identified by Bruce were presented and discussed at Town Hall meetings on July 5 and August 1. At those meetings, Bruce presented potential plans, and Dusty Traylor from RBC Capital discussed potential costs and the impact to property taxes.
5. Questions from the Town Hall meetings were posted to the bond documents on the district website.
6. In the last few days, a few questions have been presented to me, and I would like to address them here. Please feel free to contact me if you need more information. The school number is (254) 486-2381. My email is khall@crawford-isd.net.

FAQ

1. **How are public schools funded?** The simple answer is that public schools are funded based on student attendance. The district receives approximately \$7,500 per student per year. That remains the same even if local tax revenue increases. If local tax revenue increases, the state revenue to districts is decreased to keep the funding at that estimated \$7,500 per student.
2. **Why do we need more space?** The need for more space is dictated by: increases in enrollment and additional classrooms needed to provide instructional space for intervention programs such as reading intervention, math intervention, dyslexia instruction, and the PASS disciplinary intervention. Depending on legislative action, 504 intervention classrooms may be required soon.
3. **Couldn't we stop taking transfers to create more space?** Yes. We could eliminate transfers. That would not create more space in grade 7-12. It could potentially free up 2-3 classrooms at the elementary. If we stopped all transfers, that would be a revenue loss of around \$1.1 million. No transfers would not change the required staff numbers in grades 7-12, but it would eliminate about 3-4 positions (at a cost savings of around \$200,000) at the elementary.
4. **Can we charge a fee for our transfers?** Certainly. Crawford charged a fee for transfers at one time. It has not done so in 15 years or so. This concept also becomes a numbers game. That is why Crawford stopped this practice before. We currently have an estimated 137 transfer students. If the district set a fee of \$500 per transfer student, and we lost one transfer student for every 15 that remained, we would break even in transfer revenue.
5. **What is included in this bond?** This bond includes three projects.
 - A. Renovation/Reconstruction of the old high school building to address overcrowding at the elementary campus and structural needs of the old high school building. The proposal is to renovate that structure, keeping some of the history of our school district while adding new construction equipped with safety features to provide increased security for staff and students. If our voters prefer not to address this project, then this building will have to be demolished.
 - B. Additional parking at the elementary campus to allow for increased parking options and provide additional safety measures around the playground and cafeteria areas. The proposal is to add an additional parking lot in the front of the campus, allowing more parking for programs and special events. The additional parking in front would allow for the rear of the school to be secured by fencing, protecting the playground and rear cafeteria entrance.

C. Addition of four tennis courts to address growth in the program. A significant number of students participate in this program. The proposal will be to provide the courts necessary for these students to practice and compete in this program.

6. Please refer any further questions to my email, and we will get them addressed as soon as possible.

Thank you,



Dr. Kenneth Hall