



KILGORE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

KILGORE ISD CALLS MAY 14, 2011 SCHOOL BOND ELECTION

KILGORE, TEXAS – On February 28, the Kilgore ISD Board of Trustees unanimously called a bond election for May 14, 2011. Contents of the school bond package were developed by a 50-member facility committee consisting of parents, local citizens, business leaders and school staff. The committee met over the course of one year, studied the district’s current educational facilities and worked to develop a recommendation for a bond election to address KISD facilities.

The proposed bond will address:

- *Aging and inefficient campuses that are costly to the district’s maintenance and operations budget*
- *Campus overcrowding*
- *Educational environment deficiencies*

BOND PROPOSAL:

Replacement Elementary School

New facility for Grades PK, K and 1 to replace Kilgore Heights Elementary School

Current Facility:

- Constructed in 1936
- Deficient in areas such as handicap compliance, electrical systems, lighting and air conditioning systems
- Classroom sizes are below TEA (Texas Education Agency) standards
- Located at the intersection of two busy streets and has many access points that are difficult to monitor
- Traffic is congested around the campus during drop-off and pick-up times

Replacement Middle School

New facility for Grades 6, 7 and 8 to replace Maude Laird Middle School

Current Facility:

- Constructed in 1977
- Overcrowded with 14 classrooms in portable buildings on campus; some are over 30-years-old
- Air conditioning system is inefficient to operate and replacement is cost-prohibitive
- Building envelope (roof, walls) is inefficient

- Deficient in areas such as handicap compliance, room sizes and building quality
- Campus layout makes it difficult to monitor and secure

Renovations to Chandler Elementary School

Campus is overcrowded with 960 students in a campus suitable for 800

First grade will move to new elementary campus

Building will receive: classroom renovations for technology labs, restroom renovations, electrical upgrades, Life Safety upgrades, technology upgrades and gym floor renovations

Renovations and additions to Kilgore Intermediate School

Building will receive: four new classrooms and two new science labs, one new multi-user restroom, restroom renovations, electrical upgrades and technology upgrades

The estimated tax increase of this bond is 20 cents for a total tax rate of \$1.31. For the average homeowner in Kilgore ISD, this represents an increase of approximately \$11 per month. For voters over 65 years of age, their school taxes will not be raised above their frozen level if they have applied for and received the Age 65 Freeze on their homestead.

Early Voting begins May 2 and lasts until May 10. Election Day is May 14. A bond website has been created that gives further details about what is proposed in this election. www.kilgoreisdbond.com

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