

# 2020 Citizens' Bond Committee Questions 6-1-20

## General Questions

1. How many new High schools?

**There is one high school in the 2020 bond proposal. This campus will be in the northern part of the school district, as projected by our demographer Population & Survey Analysts (PASA).**

## 2017 Bond Proposal

2. In the 2017 bond we had an expense to resurface the admin building...strip off the brick, seal and rebrick...is that in the new District Facility line?

**The recladding of the Brazos Crossing Administration building is in the construction document phase and will be bid this summer.**

## 2020 Bond Proposal

3. Are all items covered and/or listed in the needs from the district approved in the District facility upgrades now approved? Are all the items priority 1? Are only the critical one's going to be done. As brought up asking for blanket approvals is not the goal.

**The items that were presented by the administration were all P1's. The facilitator will review the process with the committee at the beginning of our next meeting.**

4. Has any person in staff or District accessed the items added by the committees been evaluated and/or prioritized to be a critical need or rated for incorporation into the district needs assessment?

**No. The committee has not finalized these items. The District did provide staff notes regarding some of the items originally brought forward by the committee.**

5. Why are specific needs, like practice pools, not included in the original proposal for the buildings they will serve? / [Randle High School practice pool] This should have been included in the build out as all high schools are to have a practice pool Why is this on our bond committee?

**The standard of a practice pool was established as a result of the 2014 bond process. The District has used a phased approach to bring new secondary campuses online. As a high school begins with grades 9 and 10, and builds one grade per year, the decision has been to add a practice pool after the campus has reached a larger number of students, when the need would be realized for that campus and its swim program.**

6. Why are we building new schools without all spaces programmed....orchestra room, pools, etc.?

**The District launched an orchestra program prior to the 2017 bond. The 2017 bond included orchestra rooms at all our middle schools, where we launched the program with middle school students. The plan was to then phase in the construction of additional orchestra rooms at our junior highs and high schools as the orchestra program grew. All new secondary campuses are being built with a dedicated orchestra space. The orchestra rooms recommended in the 2020 needs assessment will ensure all secondary campuses have a dedicated orchestra space. This supports equitable programming on all our secondary campuses.**

7. How many laptops are in inventory and available for students who need one?  
**The District currently has a total of 11,789 laptops available for student use.**
  
8. If distance is going to become a "Norm", do we need to be building schools?  
**While there has been a short-term shift to all instruction being delivered remotely, all school districts are working with state and local governmental authorities to outline the process for students and staff to return to schools for direct instruction. Lamar CISD uses information provided by our demographer to identify the need for additional schools based on research of current and future housing information.**
  
9. What is the cost per square on the roof replacements?  
**The estimation was based on \$16.50/sq. ft.**
  
10. I also thought when we revisited projects that did not hit the 75% approval rating, we would get more detailed information regarding the project. That is not the case. How can we change our decision without additional information, pictures, etc?  
**You can find pictures by clicking [here](#). This information is posted on our 2020 Bond webpage under the 5-4-20 Meeting.**
  
11. I would like to discuss the events center more if it could generate \$3.4M in revenue. / \$3.4 million over what time period?  
**The Leonard Merrell Center was created and built in a partnership with the City of Katy, Katy Mills Development (Katy Mills Mall) and the Katy Development Authority. While Katy ISD manages the facility and uses it extensively, the funding and revenue for the facility is a much more complicated issue. The facility does not operate at a profit, but it does generate income due to rentals/events hosted at the site. Like the Berry Center, the District uses a cost avoidance model through student use, rather than District programs/students having to attend events off site.**
  
12. Again, it is appearing to me an Events Center **\*\*could\*\*** be a revenue generator. This was on the District generated needs assessment. I have a problem with loud voices bullying us towards an end. I'd like to hear why this was recommended, and what kind of money could be generated to the benefit of our students.  
**The Berry Center was opened in Cy-Fair ISD in time for graduation ceremonies in May 2006. It is a complex of five main facilities: arena, conference center, stadium, theater,**

and food distribution center. These facilities are used by CFISD for: food preparation for delivery to campuses, athletic banquets, tournaments, graduations, student performances, concerts, galas and proms, and convocations among other things. The District retains priority booking for all the facilities, and when unoccupied, the sites are offered for the booking of outside rentals. The Berry Center does not generate additional funds for the District because its focus remains on student use. In the past fiscal year, the Berry Center (specifically) generated roughly \$3 million in revenue but sustained an operational cost of \$6 million. The loss was made up largely through cost avoidance. The District estimates that 65 percent (or possibly more) of the time, the facility is used by the District and avoids costs relating to: rentals of space for staff development and convocation, graduations, proms, banquets, retreats and so on. CFISD now has a Visual and Performing Arts Center under construction.

13. Can we get the income projections for the new stadium and event center. / Can we see a revenue forecast for what a new stadium would bring in annually? Then compare it to what our current stadium brings in (revenue) and compare that against the cost of building. / What is the district AD's need for a new stadium? What kind of revenue could it generate? / How much do we spend as a district on reserving private facilities for school functions that could be held at these proposed new facilities?  
**The answers to questions 11 and 12 address revenue generated by two event centers in our area.**

**It would be difficult to immediately compute how much is spent on reserving external facilities in Lamar CISD, as expenses are paid from activity funds, booster clubs, etc. However, from our conversations with other districts, these facilities do not substantially generate additional money, they only offset costs overall. Each District operates differently, and there is no real standard. Yes, some hold proms and athletic banquets at the event centers. All have stated that these facilities provide flexibility and revenues decrease based on the District having priority of use.**

**The stadium is not intended to be a revenue generator. It is an identified need for the District to support the extracurricular activities of six high schools—with a seventh high school proposed in a potential 2020 bond referendum.**

14. Why does Terry need a replacement pool? What is wrong with the current one? / Current pool was built in 1980's and the bubble top roof is broken. / can the roof just be replaced if its broken?  
**The current practice pool at Terry High School served as the original District natatorium. It has a retractable roof, unlike any of our other practice pools. A decision was made a few years ago to leave the top down. This decision was based on factors including liability, safety and the difficulty of finding a contractor that could execute the process. The approximate cost to move the top into position is approximately \$60,000 per year. The roof that was on this facility was not broken. It was an air structure that had to be physically put up and taken down every year.**

15. Can someone detail what all is programmed into the Police Station? How many officers? Include security restrictions that prevents it from being included in a current LCISD building such as Admin... / Where will the proposed police station be? on campus?

**The police facility will function as the organizational headquarters of the department, much as the Rosenberg Police Department did while under our existing contract. While there are officers assigned to individual campuses, the space is not sufficient to effectively coordinate the operation of a police department. The functions are to coordinate the operations of the police department, maintain a central database of all case reports and investigations conducted by the department, coordinate the investigation and the filing of cases with the District Attorney office, central processing of any arrests, space for the processing and storage of evidence collected during investigations and coordinate all required police and security services throughout the District and with other law enforcement agencies.**

**There are 21 officers being proposed in the new department. As new schools are added, this number will increase to keep up with the growth in the District.**

**The proposed police facility can be located anywhere in the District.**

**As a physical location is a requirement to form a police department, the District has identified temporary space at Brazos Crossing (Central Administration Building) after an examination of District facilities. The temporary location at Brazos Crossing displaced storage while any other area would have required the displacement of occupied offices. The space at Brazos Crossing is limited, but adequate for the short term. As the District grows, there will be a demand for additional space that won't be available at Brazos Crossing.**

16. How many of total buses have seatbelts?

**All of our smaller/special needs buses have seat belts—that number is currently 56 buses. Four new special needs buses will be delivered this summer. By the start of the coming school year, 44 of our large buses will have seatbelts. This order, if approved, will bring that number close to 100 large buses with seat belts.**

17. Is it possible to prioritize elementary buses to have the buses with seat belts?/ Can we repurpose the buses without seatbelts to High school students?

**At the beginning of the 2019-2020 school year when the District began Pre-K transportation for Seguin Early Childhood Center, we made it a priority for those routes to receive the buses with seatbelts. However, with our routing structure, all buses do an elementary run and then a secondary run, so it's not possible to have buses with seatbelts run only elementary routes. Each seatbelt-equipped bus assigned to a route will have an elementary run on it.**

18. During previous meeting it was asked if the New Terminal was sized for the 60K student population projection or is this 27M only for the next 3 years. Also it was asked if the terminal could be only built out for the current needs on the full plot of land and then slowly gradually built out to reduce some of the sticker shock the bond.

**Our Rosenberg facility can park 168 buses under the sheds and our Fulshear facility can park 196 under the sheds. Overflow parking is done around the perimeter of the fence when needed. We currently have over 150 routes operating out of the Rosenberg facility without enough parking available for spares, trip buses, band trucks and our white fleet. All of the band trucks are housed at Fulshear for this reason. If the third facility is built to the same size as Fulshear, we will have room to grow for several years to come, certainly beyond the schools added with the 2020 bond.**

**Our Fulshear facility was built in two stages, with the main building and two sheds of parking built initially, and an additional two sheds of parking and expansion of the shop coming a few years later. The placement of the facility also allows for shorter travel times, resulting in time and fuel savings.**

19. I don't believe the district has enough drivers now. How many drivers do we have and do we need?

**We finished the year short about 20 drivers with approximately eight in training. Our major holdup is the time it takes now to get a driver through testing at DPS. The District has made several changes including hiring a new training coordinator, revamping our training program, hiring new additional behind-the-wheel trainers and taking steps to become a third-party skills tester for DPS. We also pay better than any other District in the area. The driver shortage is not a local or regional problem, it is nationwide for all types of CDL drivers.**