

Date: Thursday, August 29, 2024

Time: 4 – 6 p.m.

Location: Fort Bend ISD Board Room

Members in Attendance:

BOC Members:

Chips Adams
Jeffrey Albus
Patrina Carter
Richard Friedman
Joanne Gore
Yasmin Hypolite
Rashid Khokhar
Jim Levermann
Tammy Marino
Stephanie Means-Brown
Saurin Patel
Willie Rainwater
Kali Shiller
Jeff Wiley

Board of Trustees:

Kristin Tassin, Board President

FBISD Staff:

Dr. Marc Smith, Superintendent
Kathleen Brown, Deputy Superintendent of Operations
Daniel Bankhead
Bryan Guinn
Jojo Jacob
Mike Jones
Beth Martinez
Chris Nilsson
Long Pham
Chief David Rider
Dr. Damian Viltz
Laura Alvarez

Jeanette Boleware
Maria DiPetta
Ashley Dixon
Bart Rosebure
Kelly Schlacks
Nan Stout
Jane Thompson (Jacobs Engineering)
Joaquin Mubarak (IT Support)

BOND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Welcome & Introductions

Bond Oversight Committee (BOC) Chair Rashid Khokhar opened the meeting at 4 p.m. and welcomed attendees. He introduced Board President Kristin Tassin, Superintendent Marc Smith and Deputy Superintendent of Operations Kathleen Brown.

Meeting Goals & Structure

Deputy Superintendent Kathleen Brown addressed the committee and discussed the meeting goals and structure. Questions during the presentation were to be submitted via a QR code. She then introduced Superintendent Marc Smith and Board President Kristin Tassin.

Dr. Smith welcomed everyone and thanked the BOC for their service to FBISD. He acknowledged the January BOC meeting was one of the first meetings he attended shortly after joining FBISD and he has much more clarity on the issues surrounding this now. Many changes have taken place, some which impact the committee. Key decision makers for Bond 2023 are no longer with the district, so everyone in place now is new. He noted that although the past should be understood and respected, the goal is to get to a much better place moving forward. FBISD is working to pull the bond program out of a deficit. Key items of note:

- Since the last meeting, a bond investigation on the budget planning process was conducted . In-depth information can be found on the FBISD website (<https://www.fortbendisd.com/Page/168894>).
- There is an ongoing investigation concerning the new natatorium. More information can be provided In September. It will also be provided to the public.
- In addition, there is a bond audit taking place. It is spearheaded by Gibson Consulting and the draft report should be available in September with the final report being released in October to the Bond Audit Committee. It will then be released to the Board of Trustees in November/December.

The theme Dr. Smith has introduced districtwide is *Lead the PAC* – professionalism, accountability and communication. The BOC should expect this in all interactions with FBISD.

Board President Kristin Tassin was introduced. She provided background on herself as it relates to the district. She stated she feels like it is truly a new day in FBISD with new leadership and new Board members, and now is the time to hit “reset” and look at issues with fresh eyes.

Challenges the district faces such as the Bond 2023 program were acknowledged, but the new leadership is moving forward in a positive manner with the Board. Together with the district, the Board is looking at policy, transparency, communication and committee formation policy.

Committee charters should be put in place outlining structure, goals, guidelines and roles so members know how the committee benefits the district and provide input. There will be systems in place to support longevity in the committee. Members are encouraged to reach out to Ms. Tassin via email, phone or text with questions/issues.

Questions

Ms. Brown explained the question submission process during the meeting via QR code to ensure the efficient use of time. Questions submitted:

1. What is the scope of the natatorium investigation? The second investigation concerns the natatorium being built under Bond 2023. The natatorium was on a separate bond issue (Proposition C) and outside counsel is looking into what was communicated to the public regarding the scope, size, purpose, etc. of the natatorium.
2. Will the current Bond Oversight Committee have any input into the new charter and systems and to the natatorium audit and investigation? FBISD is not “driving” this investigation. Outside counsel is hired for this purpose to make sure the investigation is independent. Regarding the policy and charter, there is a policy committee who crafts this with Board input. The Board is always welcome to feedback from the community prior to adopting these policies.
3. What is the timeline for the Board to review the committee structure and how will that be communicated after the Board reviews the structure? There is no timeline yet, but potentially toward the end of this calendar year.
4. Will questions always be submitted through a QR code? This remains to be seen. As this is the first time utilizing this, an informed decision will later be made.
5. Was there something that prompted the natatorium audit? Yes. There has been much discussion as there was confusion if the natatorium was to be a competition facility or a practice facility.

2018 & 2023 Bond Construction Update (slides 7-17)

Executive Director of Design & Construction Daniel Bankhead provided a brief update on construction and a Bond 2018 status summary (9 active projects, 32 projects in closeout and 22 projects completed). Details regarding Bond 2018 as well as progress on the Clements High School (CHS) Field House (first step in the CHS rebuild) are provided on slides 7-9 of the presentation. He then introduced Ashley Dixon, Director of Bond Construction for Design & Construction. She presented updates on eight Bond 2023 projects, value engineering solutions incorporated into these projects and the CHS rebuild. Details can be found on slides 10-17.

- Briargate ES Rebuild (BP001) – construction 20% complete; final GMP (Guaranteed Maximum Price) approval in April 2024; scheduled for substantial completion in June 2025; currently installing steelwork, foundation items such as slab pours and grade

beam pier caps; work is being done in areas F-A (working counterclockwise beginning with F. Area A will be last). Concrete and steel contractors are working six days per week at no additional cost to ensure the completion deadline is met. Examples of value engineering include:

- Deleted amphitheater
 - Changed metal panel roofing manufacturer
 - Changed brick size
- Mission Bend ES Rebuild (BP002) – construction 40% complete; final GMP approval in January 2024; scheduled for substantial completion in June 2025; celebrated their “topping out” recently along with FBISD staff, Board and community members. Examples of value engineering include:
 - Deleted amphitheater
 - Deleted brick column wraps
 - Changed metal panel roofing manufacturer
 - Changed brick size
 - Clements HS Rebuild (BP003) – design 75% complete; construction 1% complete; scheduled for substantial completion in May 2027 (Phase 1) and August 2028 (Phase 2). Based on community feedback and stakeholder conversations, two additional science classrooms were added (total of 18) as well as two additional tennis courts (total of eight). Examples of value engineering include:
 - Changed brick size
 - Decreased amount of glazing in learning corridors (minimized)
 - Changed wall construction type to burnished block
 - Metal panel/inlaid ceiling in learning commons

Phase 1 started in August 2024 and will continue until May 2027 – construction fencing is up and field house demolition has begun. Once complete, demolition of the competition fields and auxiliary buildings as well as site and foundation work will begin. Restriping of parent drop off and entrance was done to minimize community impact.

Phase 2 begins once the new building is complete and students move from the old building into the new building (August 2027). This phase involves demolition of the old building and work will begin on athletic fields, tennis courts and the remainder of the student parking lot.

- Barrington Place ES (BP009) – This is the first project completed under Bond 2023. In August 2024, students and staff were welcomed back. The project was a complete interior renovation and gym expansion.
- Other Bond 2023 Construction Projects include:

- Furniture, Fixture & Equipment (FF&E) – BP016
 - Campus-wide refurbishment of staff and student learning spaces at Dulles HS, Dulles MS, Dulles ES and Highlands ES (summer 2024)
 - Additional campuses will be addressed in future summers.
- Flooring – BP018
 - New flooring installed at Sienna Crossing ES, Pecan Grove ES and Hunters Glen ES in corridors and classrooms (summer 2024)
- Playgrounds – BP019
 - New walking tracks were installed at Pecan Grove ES, Brazos Bend ES and Lexington Creek ES. Three additional schools received their foundations for future playgrounds.
- Stage Curtains – BP053
 - Thirteen campuses are receiving new stage curtains. 85% have been installed.

Questions

1. We were told value engineering would not remove anything, so why was the amphitheater removed at BGE? The amphitheater was removed at both BGE and MBE. The amphitheater was something added by the architect that is not part of FBISD's educational specification standards. It was a design element added outside of the realm of educational specifications for elementary schools. The two outdoor classrooms remain (these were elements discussed previously during community meetings) and are part of educational specifications. This was a cost savings measure and the exact amount will be provided later.
2. Will value engineering solutions be available to the public and is this being communicated directly to the community if they are affected by this? The changes noted with the exception of the amphitheater will not be noticed, would not be visible on a design rendering and is as durable as the original item. Therefore, D&C is not delivering something outside of what was shown to the community with the exception of the amphitheater.
3. Were neighborhoods/learning communities incorporated in the building plans for Clements HS? Is this a value engineering piece as there are no classrooms in the neighborhood/learning community concept? Four neighborhoods will be provided on the campus.
4. Will burnished block (building material) have an impact on Wi-Fi internet access at Clements HS? No. A Wi-Fi study will be conducted during construction. Wi-Fi is provided in each classroom and throughout corridors. A data antennae survey will also be conducted during construction to ensure the correct protocol for safety and security with regards to emergency responders.
5. Are the D&C completion percentages based on physical completion or complete spend? These are based on current pay applications for the construction (paid based on services contractors are performing). Services are not paid if they are not performed. Clements HS is a construction manager at risk project, so design

and construction are running simultaneously. As this is a phased project, a certain amount of drawings are complete at this point.

6. Can art students decorate the fencing at Clements HS? This will be discussed.
7. What fields and auditorium will be used for Clements HS during the demo and construction? The existing auditorium will remain active through Phase 1. When Phase 2 (demo of existing building) begins, the auditorium completed during Phase 1 will be used. Regarding the athletic fields, several campus fields will be used including Mercer Stadium and Kempner Stadium. One existing full practice field will remain during Phase 1 during the first year.
8. How will the Clements HS foundation be improved over the existing foundation? A geotechnical review was completed early in the design phase. Results provided the required needs for the load it will carry. The foundation will be a structural slab with deep piers for stabilization.
9. Was Barrington Place ES completed within the original budget? Board approval was obtained in spring 2024 for an additional \$250,000 to finish the work. When construction began, a lot of underground water was discovered so additional funds were needed to mitigate this issue.
10. Were any Bond 2018 funds or contingency used for Barrington Place ES or Briargate ES? Barrington Place ES was funded by both 2018 and 2023 Bond. The work began before the 2023 Bond election, so 2018 Bond funds were used to cover demolition costs. Briargate ES was fully funded by Bond 2023.
11. Regarding making recommendations on value engineering, are we only using FBIDS staff or using third party consultants as well? Yes, D&C uses consultants for advising and recommendations. Contractors, architects and engineers are all involved to identify the best approach to keep projects within budget.
12. What is the timeline for MS16 as it relates to construction and opening? The Notice to Proceed was just issued with the hope to break ground September 1, 2024. It is scheduled to be completed in summer 2026.
13. Was there any way to salvage the new Clements HS field house built using Bond 2018 funds? No. Replacement of the field house was necessary based on structural analysis. The location of the existing field house is next to the neighborhood and in order for the campus to fit in the current space (52 acres), the layout of the campus needed to change as well.

Transportation Update (slides 18-20)

Executive Director of Transportation Michael Jones explained the student ridership project was priority this summer. Tablets and cradle mounts for the buses were purchased and installed. CI Solutions was the provider for printing ID badges for 1st-12th grade students. Badges were given to campuses in early August. Students received their badges by Friday, August 16 and began using them on buses Monday, August 19. Badges are being successfully used in campus libraries and cafeterias (speeds up lunch line).

Transportation is utilizes Wayfinder for students to scan on/off buses via a tablet installed on the bus. They are currently working though the “bugs.”

The Stopfinder portion of the ridership badging system will be implemented next. It is an app parents use to track their students while on the bus. Transportation hopes to begin this ASAP.

Twenty special needs buses have been ordered. The first group of buses should be built in November with them being ready for students in January 2025. Ten regular buses have been ordered of which two have lifts. This is beneficial when buses are used for field trips, etc. and a student is in a wheelchair. A separate bus will not be needed to transport that student, so all students can ride together.

Each campus received one ID badge printers with initial printer supplies and additional printers have been ordered so secondary campuses can have two printers. Campuses will be responsible for printing badges for new students, replacement badges, etc. CI Solutions will print new badges each summer for campuses. ID badges for pre-K and kindergarten students will be printed by CI Solution and provided within the next few weeks.

Daniel Bankhead explained the new transportation center plan is for a one story, pre-engineered metal building with approximately 29K square feet. It will include service bays, areas for drivers, a public visiting center, offices and meeting space. There will be separate structure for bus washing with an infrastructure for a CNG fueling station. This project is in design now.

There were no questions regarding the transportation portion of the meeting.

Technology Update (slides 21-27)

Chief Information Officer Long Pham introduced Chris Nilsson as the new Executive Director of Information Technology Services (ITS). Former Executive Director of ITS Jojo Jacob has been named the new Executive Director of Information Systems. This will be Mr. Jacob's last BOC presentation.

Jojo Jacob presented on Bond 2018. Five projects are completely closed out. Audio/video is at 90% completion as they are still doing work in campus auditoriums refreshing projectors, etc.

In Bond 2023 funds are distributed between Prop A and Prop B. Prop A network refresh phases completed are:

- Phase 1B – Access Point Refresh for HS
- Phase 2A – WAN Distribution Switches for HS
- Phase 2B – WAN Distribution Switches for MS
- Phase 2C – WAN Distribution Switches for ES

The DC infrastructure systems are in progress. Additional storage will be added as there are about 7,000 security cameras district-wide that stores data on this system. Servers are being added as well.

Prop B (details provided on slides 25 & 26) is the Student Computer Refresh Elementary Toolkit & Secondary 1:1. All secondary students were eligible to receive a student laptop this school year. 44,202 student laptops were deployed at a cost of just under \$40M with funding sources being a combination of Bond 2018, Bond 2023 and a federal ECF (emergency connectivity fund) grant. In addition, the number of devices on elementary campuses was increased from 12 per laptop cart to 20 (these laptops do not go home with students). Feedback received was that the laptops were heavy, but they are only about 3 lbs. and this meets the requirement of being a lightweight laptop. Each has a protective case that does adds approximately 1 lb.

With many laptops being used in the district, it has been a challenge for students to get wireless access. It was discovered there is an issue with a new controller. IT is working with the manufacturer to identify the issues for resolution.

Questions

1. On the 1:1 equipped, the impression was it would be covered by grant funds and not the bond. Was that accurate? The grant fund was actually in addition to the bond fund, so it was supplemental. The proposed plan for Bond 2023 was to replace the existing 2:1 devices in classes, but with the supplemental funds from the grant, the district was able to provide 1:1 laptops. The money saved can be used to provide incoming 9th graders new laptops for use during their high school years. This also allowed IT to refresh elementary laptops and increase the classroom number to 20.
2. Is the technology portion of the 2018 Bond expected to come in under budget? Yes. The remaining funds will be saved and used to provide Smart Panels for new classrooms on existing campuses and to replace aging a/v equipment.
3. How will we be able to refresh 1:1 equipment when needed? Will grant funding be used? How will we be able to keep the 1:1? With the money saved, FBISD can provide this for 2-3 years. Future bonds will be used after that point. The lifecycle of the laptops is six years, so a refresh will be requested every six years.
4. On the phone refresh, is this for the physical phones or PC-based calls? This is the physical phones located in classrooms and offices. Some equipment is 10-15 years old and is no longer supported by the manufacturer.
5. As elementary schools are not 1:1, what remedies will be put in place for STAAR testing as it is now all online? With the number of laptops on campuses, this will accommodate testing needs as not all student grades are tested at the same time. With 1:1 for secondary and the number of elementary classroom laptops at 20, this allows for more inventory for laptop usage during testing.

Safety & Security Update (slide 28)

Chief Davis Rider presented on expenditures within his department and provided an update on projects. In Bond 2023, the largest project is the installation of new security cameras. Bond 2018 funds were used prior to funding through Bond 2023 to replace security cameras (purchase a few hundred at a time). Eighteen new police vehicles have been ordered with five already being received. Floor mounted door locks will be installed for the rebuilds once construction is complete. The purchase of standardized weapons is currently on hold and medical response kits will be purchased for each officer soon. Using security guards on elementary campuses has been very successful. There is a contingency fund already set aside for Bond 2023 earmarked Safety & Security as FBISD anticipates more state mandates, but they will try to use grant money as much as possible. Please refer to the presentation for details.

Questions

1. Were any changes made to the original scope of purchases in order to meet the original budget? Yes. This happened across the board with everything, not just safety and security. When budgets were planned in 2022 and early 2023, purchases were determined based upon the buy board at that time. When the bond passed in May 2023, the cost of vehicles already increased 15%-20%, so it significantly decreased the number of vehicles FBISD was able to buy. FBISD did stay within budget.
2. How is hiring going with district officers? All law enforcement agencies are struggling. More officers are leaving the profession vs. the number of officers coming into the profession, so the applicant pool is shrinking and competition is great. It was noted if

law enforcement gets 3-5 years out of an officer, this is a good return on investment. Currently has 11 vacancies out of 75 sworn positions. Recently had an interview board interview 17 candidates, which is a larger number of interviews than FBISD has had for quite some time. Chief Rider's goal is to be fully staffed by January 2025 (he has been with FBISD 14 ½ years and has never been fully staffed). Although there are vacancies, the District is being very selective in hiring.

3. How is outsourcing elementary officers working? It has been very successful. This school year, only one contractor (Andy Frain Services) is being used. Not only are they providing the elementary school officers, but supervisors and a project manager. FBISD security leaders met with Andy Frain Services leaders to discuss expectations, FBISD security protocols, etc. to ensure success.
4. Are there door locks in libraries? No. Libraries are different district-wide (some have no doors, some glass doors, etc.). Door locks are installed on interior doors within the library if there is an interior room.
5. What future state mandates are expected, if any? Do not know at this time.

Communications Update (slides 30-34)

Director of Strategic Communication Sherry Williams discussed recent communications regarding the Bond 2023 project.

- The “topping out” ceremony for Mission Bend ES took place July 23, 2024. It was a successful community event with over 200 in attendance, coverage on ABC-13 and 1.7K social media views.
- EquippED FBISD 1:1 Initiative had 10K social media views and coverage on Channels 13, 26 and 45 (12 reports) resulting in \$39,700 in earned media.
- Blue Ridge-Briargate ES had 2.3K social media views.
- Barrington Place ES had 5.7K social media views. First day of school coverage as Barrington Place ES welcomed students back. Channels 2, 13, 26 and 45 aired 19 TV reports resulting in \$43,500 in earned media.

Questions:

1. How is earned media calculated? FBISD has a clicking service that reports when coverage involving FBISD takes place. The amount is calculated based on the amount charged by station per 30 seconds and the length of the story.
2. Can the number of questions regarding Bond 2023 on social media and “Let’s Talk” please be provided? It can be provided in the future to the best of the department’s ability.

Debt & Finance Updates (slides 35-43)

Chief Financial Officer Bryan Guinn presented in two parts. See below

FBISD deficit:

FBISD staff is working with the Board of Trustees to address the shortfall. Thirty percent of bond projects do not yet have cost estimates. Staff is working to obtain these estimates to more accurately determine funding needs (ex. Five estimates were received in August 2024 resulting in a more accurate projection showing cost savings of \$56M.). The estimated February shortfall was \$163.2M, but due to estimates received, that number has changed to \$70.4M as of August. This number will continue to fluctuate until final estimates are obtained.

There are three bonds currently outstanding – Bond 2014 (\$10,637,424 contingency has been released, but not expended); Bond 2018 (\$4,271,456 contingency) and Bond 2023 (\$1,446,347 contingency). In

all, \$16,355,227 available. There is more in Bond 2014 contingency due to construction ceasing at Reese CTC upon the discovery of the Sugar Land 95 and those remaining funds were placed in contingency. Please note Bond 2023 was issued in Propositions and there is no flexibility in moving savings from one Proposition to another. However, the Board does have power to move funding from one bond contingency to another through Board approval.

Financial update:

Please refer to the presentation for details. Please note:

- Fitch and S&P both rate FBISD as A++, so FBISD is eligible for the most favorable rates.
- Board policy states FBISD cannot have more than 25% of debt in variable rate issues.
- Eighty percent of bonds are callable and can be called within the next 10 years.
- FBISD uses a commercial paper program to cash flow bonds, so debt is not issued at once. This program allows FBISD to maximize tax savings as debt is managed.
- As of June 30, 2024, the District has saved approximately \$26.02M in interest expense through the Commercial Paper Program.
- A weighted average analysis is conducted per Board policy. It ensures the District is not purchasing short-life assets using 30 year bonds.
- As per Board Policy CCA (Local), the weighted average of maturity of the debt issued will not exceed the weighted average economic life of the assets by more than 120%.
- The 2023 Bond Program will be included in next report since debt for 2023 Bond Program was issued in June 2024.

Questions

1. How has management of the bond been, specifically related to Mission Bend ES and Briargate ES? Value engineering has a sizeable cost offset. Originally the budget for Briargate ES was \$48.3M. Once true costs were established, projected costs increased to \$59.3M. Costs were offset using value engineering, contingency, etc. Mission Bend ES's original budget was \$43.8M and the District used about \$3.5M of contingency, so total cost was \$52.3M.
2. When hard decisions are made, what exactly is being talked about? Making the decision to postpone projects to a future bond or possibly not doing the project at all. There is a Bond Workshop on September 5 for the Board to review and discuss different scenarios about delaying projects (ex. possibly delay ES55). Decision making would be based on having the best information at hand to make informed.

Additional Post-Presentation Question:

1. If FBISD stays at \$50-\$70M over budget, is legal to cut projects? Does FBISD go back to the community for more money? If contingency from all Bond (2014, 2018 & 2023) were used, there is still a large deficit. How does the District we get around the deficit? Voters have authorized the District to issue debt on projects that have been put forth and the Board wants to deliver on these promises. If there are shortfalls (the District has extenuating circumstances leading to this shortfall), once all contingency is used the options are 1) postpone the project and request additional funding from voters and 2) the Board could decide to not do the project. It should be noted FBISD is not the only district where this has happened as LCISD was in a very similar situation last fall with their athletic facilities. Also, during Bond 2018 a new elementary school was to be built in Parks Edge but the decision was made not to proceed due to low enrollment. These funds were put back into Bond 2018. When anything such as this happens, Bond counsel is always consulted to ensure FBISD remains within the parameters of what is allowable within each Proposition.

2. What is the timeline for the remaining project estimates? The expectation is 4th quarter of this year with more accurate budgets being available 1st or 2nd quarter of 2025.
3. Can the savings on interest be used to close the principle gap? There are two types of interest:
 - Interest on the debt issued that is earned as it sits in savings account waiting to be expended – in the debt projects and can be used to close the gap.
 - Interest savings through cost avoidance – this is not budgeted for and is not a savings.
4. Is there a limit to how long bond funds can be held? There is no limit if the debt is not issued.
5. Based on the investigative report, it appear much of the shortfall is attributed to the rebuilds and ES55 being sized at 125K square feet vs. the original 100K square feet. Were the rebuilds adjusted back to 100K square feet? What is believed to be the right square footage for school sizes going forward? The standard for the school size is dictated by TEA and educational specifications.
6. Has the Board “disapproved”/denied of any bond contingency uses presented? None have been denied at this point.
7. Does the bond shortfall affect our bond rating as a district? Through the disclosure process, the budget deficit was provided to bond rating agencies. Agencies look at how the overage is managed. AA+ rating was reaffirmed. It did not affect the District’s rating.
8. What will be the end use of the reviews (see slide #37)? The estimates received are based on the most recent data available, so they tend to be more realistic and in line with the expected spend. These are not the final numbers and there is no guarantee the numbers will increase/decrease, but the numbers will change. These estimates have been obtained from outside engineers, architects, contractors, etc.
9. Does the shortfall include the contingency? No it does not. It is based on the assumption no contingency has been used.
10. Clarity provided on a previous question – *Was there any way to salvage the new Clements HS field house that was built using Bond 2018 funds?* The answer is no. The new field house photos shown early in the presentation is part of the new build for Clements HS. The old (original) field house is being demolished, but the new field house is part of the rebuild.
11. Will there be an issue with the new field house? A lot of money and resources were spent on the old field house and FBISD tore it down to build the new one. Is FBISD certain the new field house will not have all the issues the old field house had after spending a substantial amount on it? This should not be an issue. One of the substantial issues was the foundation (this was also an issue for Clements HS). Extensive foundation work will be done at the school and field house. The new field house was planned in conjunction with the new campus.
12. Update on earlier question - *We were told value engineering would not remove anything, so why was the amphitheater removed at BGE (and MBE)?* The cost savings for MBE was \$90K and at BGE it was \$76.5K. This is confirming what was presented to the community. The decking surrounding the legacy tree (similar to Lakeview ES) is still part of the project at BGE and is part of the schematic design.
13. Is there any opportunity to look into lighter laptops given to walkers (children living in two mile radius) as it results in very heavy backpacks and they are sometimes taking a 15-20 minute walk? Laptops were evaluated and weight was a factor. FBISD student laptops are 1/10 lb. lighter than a MacBook Air (generally thought of as very light) and 2/10 lb. lighter than those in KISD. The weight of FBISD’s is 3.2 lbs., which is not insignificant, but iPads with a keyboard cover are 2.2 lbs. and does not have the capability of a laptop. FBISD’s student laptops are not unusually heavy. Any device sent home would have a protective cover on it, adding to the weight by 30%. Student laptops with the cover (only three on the market, FBISD selected the lightest) are approximately 4 lbs. The average weight of a textbook is 2-6 lbs. Textbooks are no longer sent home, so the laptop replaces the weight of multiple textbooks. As laptops are embraced on campus, less educational materials (notebooks, books, etc.) should be sent home.

14. Will there be any contingency funds for “add ons” to schools as additional space is desperately needed at Hunter’s Glen ES? It is too early to determine. Use of contingency funds is avoided if possible.

The meeting adjourned at 6:21 p.m.

Action items:

- Bond Workshop – Thursday, September 5, 2024 (6 p.m.) in the FBISD Board Room

Upcoming meetings of the BOC will take place 4-6 p.m. in the FBISD Board Room on the following dates:

- Thursday, October 17, 2024
- Thursday, January 16, 2025
- Thursday, April 17, 2025

As a reminder, past BOC meeting minutes and presentations are located on the FBISD website at:

<https://www.fortbendisd.com/Page/103972>.