

## News from Dripping Springs ISD

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**DATE:** February 22, 2019

### FACILITY PLANNING UPDATE

*Feb. 21, 2019:*

*On Feb. 21 the Long-Range Facility Planning Committee is having its second meeting of the year. The main agenda item is an introduction to the topic of the future of high school(s) in Dripping Springs. In approximately 2025-26, Dripping Springs High School (with the planned expansion) is projected to be at 120 percent capacity and a solution will be needed. In the next year or so, as a community we will have to decide what the best solution is to serve our students. Tonight is an initial conversation about this. We have invited some leaders from other districts that have had to make this decision in recent years, representing a variety of perspectives.*

*These committee meetings are posted as public meetings so that observers may attend. We will post a video summary of this meeting and presentation materials ([www.dsisdtx.us/LRFPC](http://www.dsisdtx.us/LRFPC)). The district will offer many opportunities over the next year or so for community conversation on this topic.*

Posted Feb. 11, 2019:

As implementation of the 2018 bond program progresses, Dripping Springs ISD is looking ahead by engaging in a continuous planning process for future facilities. The Long-Range Facility Planning Committee (LRFPC) was reconvened in the fall following an open invitation for community members to participate. This group will help district administration plan for continued enrollment growth in the district over the next 5-10 years. Nearly 100 community members expressed interest in participating with the committee; in addition, observers may attend single meetings to hear discussion and learn more about the process.

At the first meeting held this year (Nov. 1), a discussion was held about the potential timelines of when new facilities will be needed and when planning would need to begin for those facilities. A summary of Meeting #1 can be found on the Long-Range Facility Planning page of the DSISD website.

The LRFPC will hold its second meeting of the year on Thursday, Feb. 21, 2019, in the Lecture Hall at Dripping Springs High School. The agenda for that meeting will include a report on the progress of the 2018 bond program and a discussion about an important future question

that will face the district: whether the future includes a second high school (or more) or if steps could be taken to maintain a single high school. Many options related to the high school question will be discussed, and pros and cons that have been gathered through research will be shared. Several guests from other Texas school districts will talk about their experiences with various high school models. This will be the first introduction to this conversation about possible paths moving forward for Dripping Springs ISD, which will continue over the next year.

The third meeting for the LRFPC will occur in May (specific date TBD). This meeting will focus on the final report from the demographic study currently being conducted by Population and Survey Analysts (PASA).

## **2018 BOND PROGRAM UPDATE:**

Progress continues on the projects included in the 2018 bond program. Projects were split into “Phase I” and “Phase II” projects based on timing. The following are quick updates on the status of all projects; in addition, the Bond 2018 webpage is being updated to reflect recent developments.

### **“PHASE I” PROJECTS**

Dripping Springs High School Expansion/Renovations: Input gathered from stakeholders at high school incorporated into design, design nearing completion; plans to break ground at the conclusion of school year; American Constructors chosen as the contractor.

Dripping Springs Elementary/Rooster Springs Elementary Renovations: Cadence McShane Construction Company chosen as the contractor; input gathered on design; construction documents are complete and the project is currently out to bid. Construction expected to occur Summer 2019. Also, for DSE, selection of new furniture has been made and project is currently out for pricing.

Transportation Center Renovations: QA Construction Services, Inc. selected as the contractor; design is in progress; construction is expected to start early fall 2019.

Athletic Turf/Track Replacement: Assessments of the condition of fields and tracks conducted; a contractor will be determined after the review of Competitive Sealed Proposals, which will be received in Spring 2019.

### **PHASE II PROJECTS:**

Walnut Springs Elementary New Construction/Dripping Springs Middle School

Renovations: Input from stakeholders will be gathered in March/April from stakeholders and design will start late spring; Construction Manager at Risk selected as the delivery method; construction likely to start in late Spring 2020.

Elementary #5: Land acquisition in progress.

Administration Relocation: Design will occur during spring/summer 2021 and construction will begin in Fall 2021.

In addition, technology improvements at all district locations will be implemented over time and repairs and upgrades that were identified in the school-by-school needs assessment will be addressed.