



**ELECTION DAY**  
**TUESDAY, NOV. 3**

**EARLY VOTING: OCT. 13-30**

## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

### **HOW WAS THE FRIENDSWOOD ISD 2020 BOND DEVELOPED?**

The Friendswood ISD 2020 School Bond is a result of quality community input and careful weighing of options. The bond package was pulled together by a Citizens Advisory Committee made up of 44 community leaders, parents, teachers, students, and local business owners representing a cross section of the district. The committee received information from district administration and industry professionals, reviewed the Friendswood ISD Long Range Master Plan, took into consideration the district's Strategic Plan, reviewed future student growth projections, and provided input regarding the district's need for capital projects. The committee's recommendation was presented to the Friendswood ISD Board of Trustees on January 13, 2020. The Board approved the committee's recommendation and unanimously called for a \$128,275,000 bond election at their regular meeting on Monday, February 10, 2020. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Board voted to postpone the 2020 Bond election to November 3 at a special virtual meeting on March 23.

### **WHAT IS INCLUDED IN THE 2020 BOND & HOW MUCH IS IT FOR?**

If approved by voters, the proposed 2020 Bond will provide funds for a new 900-student campus on the West Ranch site owned by Friendswood ISD to replace the existing Cline Elementary School; classroom additions to Westwood Elementary School, Windsong Intermediate School, and Bales Intermediate School; extensive additions and renovations to Friendswood High School to primarily address Career and Technical Education (CTE), fine arts and athletics needs; district-wide priority maintenance projects; district-wide safety and security and technology improvements; and funds for land purchases to accommodate the additions at Friendswood High School. The Friendswood ISD Board of Trustees called for a \$128,275,000 bond referendum to fund these proposed projects.

### **WHY ARE THERE MULTIPLE PROPOSITIONS?**

Recent legislation has required that specific bond items be presented to voters for consideration in separate propositions. Technology infrastructure is one of those items, which is why the Friendswood ISD 2020 Bond will appear on the ballot as Proposition A for \$127,275,000 and Proposition B for \$1,000,000 (Technology).

### **WOULDN'T THIS MONEY BE BETTER SPENT ON OUR STUDENTS' EDUCATION?**

Bond money CANNOT pay for the general maintenance and operations of a school – it CANNOT pay teachers, run buses, provide food services or maintenance and custodial services. If the bond does not pass, any renovations, remodels, and/or improvements to keep our schools open will come from maintenance and operation funds, which WILL take funds from the education of our children.

### **WHAT ARE THE PLANS FOR THE EXISTING CLINE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IF THE BOND IS APPROVED?**

There are multiple options for the facility including demolition and retaining the property for future expansion, demolition and selling the property, selling the building and property as-is for development, renting the property and/or building, or utilizing the existing property for future educational or support function needs. Administration has recommended creating a task force to study and make a recommendation regarding Cline to the Board upon voter approval of the 2020 Bond.

## HOW WILL PASSING A BOND AFFECT CURRENT TAX RATES?

The proposed Friendswood ISD 2020 Bond will increase homeowners' property tax rates by 10 cents. When comparing to historical tax rates in the district, the overall tax rate will still be below the 13-year average, from \$1.3498 to a projected \$1.3387.

## WHAT IS THE TAX IMPACT FOR VOTERS 65 AND OLDER?

Taxes for homeowners 65 years of age and older will not increase above your current exemption ceiling if the 2020 Bond is approved by voters.

## HOW DOES THE TAX RATE OF FRIENDSWOOD ISD COMPARE TO SIMILAR SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN THE AREA?

The chart provided below gives the overall tax rate of Friendswood ISD as compared to 8 local districts. The amounts are based on the latest information available at the time this document was prepared, the 2019 school year.

SCHOOL DISTRICT	TAX RATE
Dickinson ISD	\$1.4500
Texas City ISD	\$1.4133
Alvin ISD	\$1.3978
Pearland ISD	\$1.3956
Pasadena ISD	\$1.3784
Santa Fe ISD	\$1.3323
Clear Creek ISD	\$1.3100
<b>Friendswood ISD</b>	<b>\$1.2594</b>
Galveston ISD	\$1.0850

## IF THE 2020 BOND IS APPROVED BY VOTERS IN NOVEMBER, WHAT IS THE BEST ESTIMATE FOR CONSTRUCTION TIME AND SCHEDULE FOR THE OPENING OF FACILITIES?

Should the 2020 Bond be approved by voters, projects will be phased throughout construction. The new Cline Elementary School and Friendswood High School additions and renovations projects are estimated to bid in 2021, with an estimated completion of Fall 2023 for the new Cline; the completion for Friendswood High School is yet to be determined, since it will be a multi-phase project. The building additions to Westwood, Bales and Windsong are all estimated to bid in 2022 and be completed in Fall 2023. The timetable for construction will depend in large part on the availability of materials and an adequate construction work force.

## WHEN IS EARLY VOTING AND ELECTION DAY?

Early Voting runs Tuesday, October 13-Friday, October 30. Polls are closed on Saturday, October 17 and Sunday, October 18. Election Day is Tuesday, November 3.

## WHERE CAN I VOTE?

Galveston County has implemented countywide polling locations, meaning you can cast your ballot at any polling location within the county. Within the Friendswood ISD boundaries, the Friendswood ISD Administration Annex, Friendswood First Baptist Church, and the Jacob White Building will be polling locations during Early Voting and on Election Day; Hope Lutheran Church will be an additional Election Day polling location. Find additional locations and voting times on [www.myfisd.com/2020bond](http://www.myfisd.com/2020bond).

**For additional voting locations, more information or questions, visit [www.myfisd.com/2020bond](http://www.myfisd.com/2020bond)**

*Para obtener información en español, visite [www.myfisd.com](http://www.myfisd.com) o llame al 281-482-1267.*