



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### 1. What is a bond?

A bond is similar to a home mortgage. It is a contract to repay borrowed money with an interest rate over time. Bonds are sold by a school district to competing lenders to raise funds to pay for the costs of construction, renovations and equipment. The district does not receive funding from the state for construction of new school buildings or facility improvements.

### 2. How can bond money be used?

Bond money may be used for new schools and facilities, expansion and renovations of existing facilities, furniture, technology, equipment, busses and new school sites. However, NBISD does not use bond money to cover technology or purchase transportation vehicles.

### 3. How is bond money restricted?

Bond money can only be used for capital improvements and related costs. It may not be used for employee salaries, utilities, and other such operating expenses.

### 4. How did NBISD determine which projects would be proposed for a bond?

The New Braunfels Independent School District believes education is a joint partnership with the community. In November of 2014, the Board of Trustees formed a Facility Planning Committee comprised of employees, parents, and community members to develop a comprehensive plan for current and future facilities.

### 5. What does the proposed bond election address?

The proposed bond package would provide two (2) new elementary schools for growth and address facility, safety and compliance needs of our existing facilities.

### 6. Has NBISD been experiencing growth?

Yes, there is limited space at the elementary schools and 5 will exceed capacity in the fall of 2015. In the past decade, NBISD's student enrollment had grown by 2,000. Just 10 years ago, the enrollment count was 6,431 and this past school year the enrollment was up to 8,442. With help from expert demographers, it is estimated that NBISD will grow to more than 15,500 students by 2024. That means the district could nearly double in size in a decade.

### 7. If we are growing so fast, when can we expect the new schools be completed?

Once the bond passes, the process will start with the bid process in early 2016 with construction to be completed and ready for students in the fall of 2017.

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**8. If the schools will not be completed until 2017 and the elementary schools will be at capacity in the fall of 2015, what will we do with the students?**

Students may have to overflow from their home campus to other campuses with space, special teachers may “double-up” or “float” and science labs/art rooms/computer labs may need to function as classrooms. There is also room for portable buildings to be placed at some of the existing elementary schools until the new schools are ready.

**9. When will Lone Star be opened as an Early Childhood Center?**

Lone Star will continue to serve Pre-K through 5<sup>th</sup> graders as an elementary school through May 2017. That summer, the renovations will take place and be completed in time for the first day of school as an Early Childhood Center serving Pre-K and PPCD students in August 2017. We do not anticipate closing Lone Star at anytime to make the transition.

**10. Where will those students that are currently zoned to attend Lone Star Elementary attend in the fall of 2017?**

NBISD will begin work on the rezoning process for elementary schools in the fall of 2016. This will allow the district to notify patrons in the spring of 2017.

**11. When was the last time NBISD funded projects through a bond election?**

The District’s last bond was in November of 2010 for \$45 million. It was used to build New Braunfels Middle School (located on Klein Meadow), a new transportation facility and funded improvements district wide.

**12. What will happen to my property taxes if the bond is approved?**

With a \$62,799,420 bond, NBISD is projecting a 0 to 1 ½ cents increase per \$100 of valuation of your home. Roughly for a house with a value of \$200,000 you may expect an increase of \$0 to \$30 per year.

**13. Would this bond proposal have any impact on taxes paid by home owners age 65 and older?**

No. The property taxes of those 65 and older with a “65 and Older Homestead Exemption” would not be affected. Taxes of those receiving 65 and older homestead exemption are frozen at their present rate for as long as you own and occupy your home. For more information, [CLICK HERE](#).

**14. Who is eligible to vote in this election?**

Any registered voter that resides within the school district boundaries is eligible to vote in the bond election.

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**15. Can I still register to vote in the election?**

The deadline for voter registration is Monday, October 5, 2015. If you are not registered to vote by this deadline, then you are not eligible to vote in this election. You can get a voter registration application online by clicking [here](#). You must be a resident of NBISD in order to vote in the bond election.

**16. After I have registered, when will I receive my Voter Registration Card?**

You should receive a Voter Registration Card within 30 days. On Election Day, please bring your Voter Registration Card and photo ID to your local polling place.

**17. Do I need to present an ID when I vote?**

Yes, in 2011, the Texas Legislature passed Senate Bill 14 (SB 14) creating a new requirement for voters to show photo identification when voting in person.

**Acceptable forms of photo ID:**

Texas driver license issued by the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS)

Texas Election Identification Certificate issued by DPS

Texas personal identification card issued by DPS

Texas concealed handgun license issued by DPS

United States military identification card containing the person's photograph

United States citizenship certificate containing the person's photograph

United States passport

With the exception of the U.S. citizenship certificate, the identification must be current or have expired no more than 60 days before being presented for voter qualification at the polling place.

**18. If I have any additional questions, whom can I contact at NBISD?**

For more information, call (830) 629-8540 or send an email to [info@nbisd.org](mailto:info@nbisd.org).

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