

How was the bond amount decided?

During a special called Board meeting October 30, 2006, Dr. Pat Guseman of Population and Survey Analysts (PASA) presented the Waller ISD Board of Trustees with data on the expected growth of Waller ISD. Following the presentation, with the desire for parent and community involvement, the Board approved the formation of a citizens committee to explore the district's needs.

November 14, 2006, a large group of community members gathered at Waller High School to study the results of the demographic study done by PASA. It was pointed out that Roberts Road Elementary is currently over capacity and, according to PASA's "most-likely growth scenario," all four elementary schools, Schultz Middle School, and Waller Junior High will be at or above capacity by 2009. Following the study, a District Needs Assessment Committee was formed by over 60 parents, community members, business leaders, and school employees.

Members worked on three different sub-committees—the Financial Planning Committee, the Existing Facilities Planning Committee, and the Capacity Planning Committee (for enrollment, growth, and grade structure)—to narrow the most pressing facility issues. Their focus was to find the best way to provide for the social and academic needs of students in Waller ISD.

During November, December and January the committees met a total of eight times and had multiple conversations with architectural and financial consultants and on February 19, 2007, the committees presented their final recommendations to the WISD Board of Trustees. The Board then met in special sessions March 1 & 7 to discuss the committees' recommendations and develop a facilities improvement plan.

March 11, 2007, the Board unanimously voted to call a \$49.29 million bond referendum.

What will be on the ballot of the May 12, 2007 Bond Election?

Voters will be asked to consider the approval of \$49,290,000 worth of bonds in one proposition.

What will WISD do to resolve overcrowding in its elementary schools?

WISD plans to build one new elementary school in the east part of the district where most of its growth is occurring. The new elementary school would have a capacity of about 800 students and be placed in a location where it could accommodate student growth and relieve capacity issues at Roberts Road Elementary, Holleman Elementary, and Fields Store Elementary. The new elementary school would open in fall 2009.

Why will the student grade structure be realigned?

If the bond issue is approved, the district's current grade structure (K-4, 5-6, 7-8, 9-12) would be realigned with the more common K-5, 6-8, 9-12 structure used in many other area districts such as Cy-Fair, Bryan, Fort Bend, Katy, Klein, Spring, and Spring Branch.

According to PASA's data, if Waller ISD's grade structure does not change, WISD will need four new schools by 2016. If the grade structure is realigned, the district will need only three new schools by 2016. In addition to saving the district the cost of one school, the grade structure realignment also aligns with state curriculum and testing, and allows fewer transitions for students, staff, and parents. The grade structure realignment would occur in fall 2009. The realignment allows for more room at Schultz Middle School and Waller Junior High by spreading three grades over two campuses.

What will be done at Schultz Middle School and Waller Junior High to convert them for use as 6th-8th grade campuses?

Schultz Middle School would require the addition of eight science classrooms; art, band, and choir facilities; a career tech lab; a large group instruction room, and a practice gym to accommodate both boys and girls athletics. It would also require renovation to provide athletic locker rooms as well as drama and In School Suspension facilities.

Waller Junior High currently has all the internal facilities it needs to accommodate 6th-8th grade, however it does require renovation. A large covered walkway would be added from the east to west campus across Farr Street to provide all-weather coverage for students traveling across the campus. WISD is also working with the city of Waller to permanently close Farr Street between Waller Street and Daugherty Street to provide a safer environment for students. The existing Umland Building, located behind the WISD Administration Building, would be renovated (along with the rest of the campus) with a new coat of paint, HVAC, and electrical/main service upgrades.

What will be done at the remaining five existing WISD schools?

All four existing elementary school campuses and Waller High School would receive a variety of upgrades and renovations including new kitchen equipment to comply with federal requirements, covered walkways to portable buildings, new roofing, electrical/main service upgrades, air conditioning and heating, paint, locks, and exterior door replacement.

What about transportation and technology?

With growth comes the need for additional transportation services. The bond proposal includes the addition of buses and new routes, bus parking area, fueling stations, and other security and safety items at the existing transportation facility.

The technology department has long outgrown its space in the WISD Business Office located at 1918 Key Street. The bond proposal would provide an addition to that facility to accommodate technology needs. The proposal also includes district-wide network upgrades, replacing obsolete network switches, and replacing district and student management systems currently out of date.

Why is a new stadium included in the proposal?

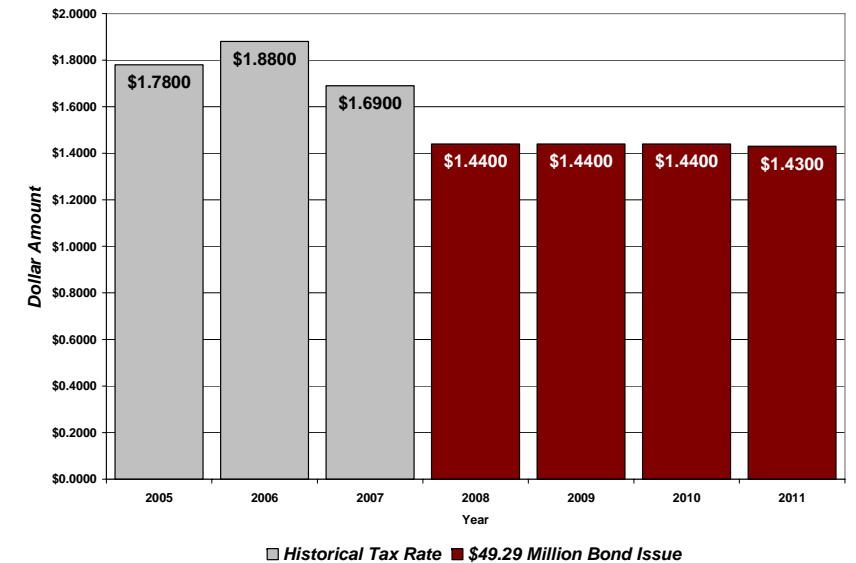
WISD is a growing, large 4A district that will soon become 5A. Its current stadium facility was built in 1964 when the district had 2A enrollment. Attendance at home games is well past the current 3,500 person stadium capacity (more than the home game attendance at some 5A schools) causing safety, security, and parking issues for spectators and participants in addition to circulation problems with ticket sales, concessions, and restrooms.

To allow ample parking, the new facility would be centered on the block in the same location. The seating capacity would be raised to 6,000 on the home side and 4,000 on the visitor side with handicapped accessibility. The new track and field would accommodate all varsity, sub-varsity, and junior high events and practices including band, football, soccer, and track at the high school and junior high levels. It would include new ticket booths, concessions, a field house, and press box. The new facility would also be a drawing point for revenue to the community as it would be able to host playoff events and other outdoor competitions such as marching band, drill team, color guard, and district track meets. The stadium would be complete in fall 2008.

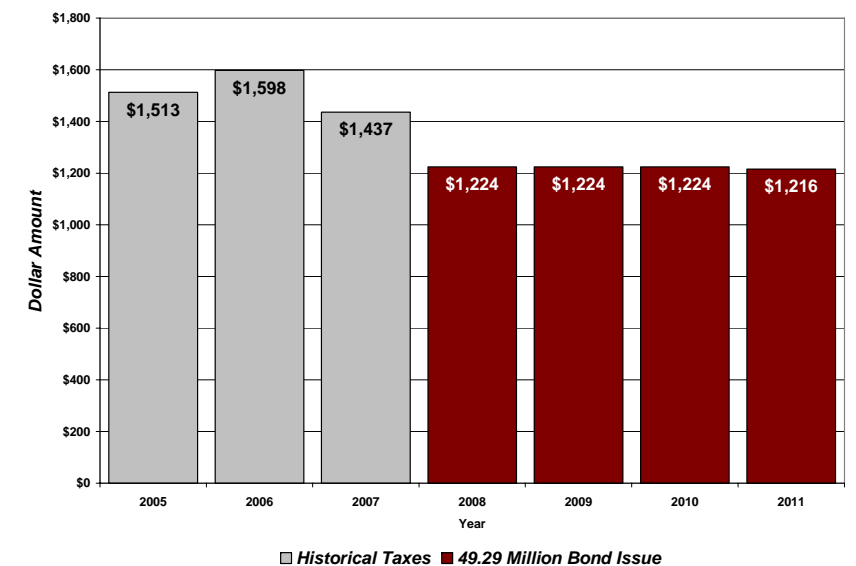
How will the bond election impact our taxes?

With the passage of the bond, WISD will be able to provide its taxpayers with a minimum 25 cent **DECREASE** in overall tax rate in addition to the 19 cent **DECREASE** this year. WISD is able to do this because it holds a Moody's AAA bond rating, the taxable value of the district is rising, it is retiring old bonds, state mandated decreases, and current rates are optimal for a bond program. The average homeowner (with a home valued at \$100,000) would pay (at minimum) \$213 less in taxes each year over the next three years. (See projection charts below.)

Visualization of Tax Rate



Tax Impact for Average Homeowner (Home valued at \$100,000)



How will taxpayers who have the homestead exemptions for citizens 65 or older on their homes be affected?

School taxes on residences are frozen in the year that a taxpayer turns 65 years of age and will not increase as a result of this school bond election. The dollar amount you pay in the year you turn 65 will not increase as long as you live in the home and do not make major improvements. It is important to note that seniors must request this status to qualify.

What is included in bond proposal?

(1) Additional classrooms and facilities through new construction and renovation and (2) renovation of existing facilities. The \$49,290,000 bond proposal estimates are based upon the following:

New Elementary School.....	\$16,975,000
Convert of Schultz Middle School to a 6th-8th Grade Campus.....	\$9,643,000
Technology Addition	\$501,000
Existing Facilities Renovations (on all campuses)	3,237,000
Technology Improvements	\$1,100,000
Buses	\$2,986,000
New District Stadium (current location)	\$17,146,000
Bond Fees	\$387,000
LESS application of proceeds from sale of land	(\$1,400,000)
LESS projected interest on investments during project	(\$1,285,000)
Proposition Total.....	\$49,290,000

How can I obtain more bond information?

Waller ISD Board members and staff are committed to providing information to the public about the bond election and are available to answer any questions you may have. If you have additional questions about the bond, please visit the WISD website at www.waller.isd.esc4.net or contact Sarah Stephenson at 936.931.4078 or sastephe@waller.isd.esc4.net.

Voting Locations and Dates

Early Voting: April 30-May 4 (8 a.m.-4 p.m.)
May 7-8 (7 a.m.-7 p.m.)

Waller ISD Administration Building
 2214 Waller Street
 Waller, TX 77484

Election Day: Saturday, May 12, 2007 (7 a.m.-7 p.m.)

Waller Junior High (West Campus)
 2402 Waller Street
 Waller, TX 77484

Waller ISD Board of Trustees

Robert Carvell	President
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Robert "Bo" Pierce	Secretary
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This brochure has been prepared to provide information and answers to the most frequently asked questions about the pending \$49,290,000 bond election for the kids of Waller Independent School District.

Puede obtener la información en Español relative al bono de la escuela en la oficina de administración de Waller ISD, o puede llamar 936.931.3685.

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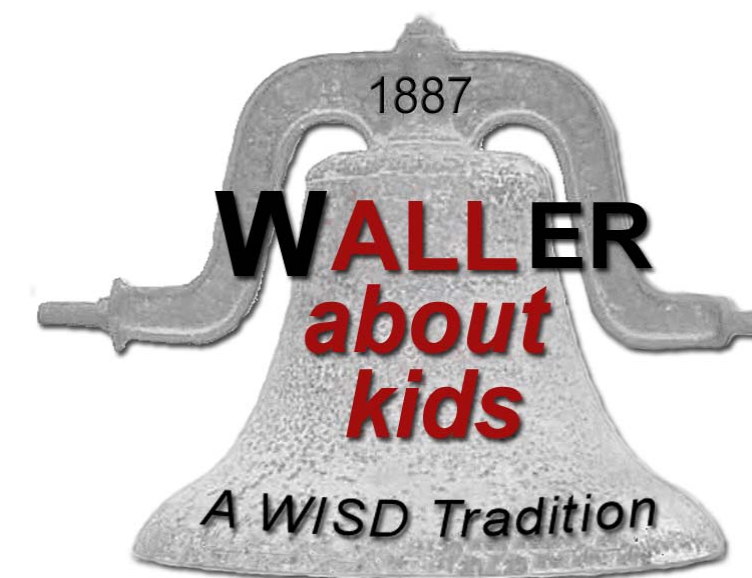
Frequently Asked Questions



Waller ISD

2007 Bond Election

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