Foundation For the Future

The goal of the long range facilities work is to provide our students as many opportunities for academic and extra curricular participation as possible—while not creating an undue burden on our tax base. In late 2021, the district contracted with OPN Services to generate a facility needs assessment, Through the needs assessment process, the team visited with community, administrators, teachers, students and staff. OPN then hosted community work sessions to gather input from the community at large as to the needs and wants of the district. From all of this input, OPN presented the board with a multi-phased group of projects to consider over the next several years (see page 47). During the presentation to the Board of Education on the preliminary design and after the public meetings, a few of things came to the forefront. First, we want to add programs and services for our students. Secondly, we want to make sure as we add spaces that we are mindful of not just the next two years, but rather the next thirty years. Thirdly, it may take us longer to complete all the projects because we want the spaces to be a representation of what we value and the pride we have in our community. Finally, we need to be excellent stewards of the tax payer money.

The proposed facility upgrades are slated to be completed in phases. Phase I including upgrades to our high school science department, a new baseball field, a new softball field, a new football practice field, additional parking and a field building (Part 1 including concessions, bathrooms, storage). The master plan also includes: an early childhood center, renovated gyms and locker rooms, a new stadium with a track, a cross country loop, and additional parking. Ideally, we will work toward another gym, community room, and safe room.

As many of you know, we embarked on a major renovation in 2017. This project encompassed several areas of our facility including: new transportation department (located on Valleyview Avenue), a new CTE building (including a dedicated maintenance department), an expanded elementary cafeteria and kitchen, an expanded high school cafeteria, renovated art rooms, music rooms, administrative offices (high school and district) and a new auditorium. All of these spaces are a tremendous addition to the I-35 educational program. This work was paid for and continues to be paid for through general obligation bonds, SAVE (penny sales tax) and PPEL funds.

The proposed facility updates and timelines are projected to NOT increase the tax rate. We will continue to need community support for our allocation of SAVE funds, the PPEL funds, and eventually voter support for General Obligation Bonds. This is based on our current fiscal position. As with anything, this is subject to change in both scope and timeline depending on available resources and current needs. The advantage of the long range plan is the continued focus on students and services in all the decisions we make.

We will continue to post updates, provide resources, and answer questions. We encourage any feedback and questions you may have. We want to thank the members of our facilities committee and the community who are continually working to make I-35 a great place to be, now and for years to come!

Phase 1	Scope of Project HS Science Lab rennovation; new baseball, softball, and football practice fields; new field building-Part 1 (concessions, store room, restrooms)	Tentative Timeline Fall 2023- Summer 2024	No tax increase Public Hearing
2	**New Early Childhood Addition (Part 1-classrooms, kitchen) with Playground and possible additional parking	Fall 2024- Spring 2026	Grants, donations, PPEL funds No tax increase Public vote to extend PPEL funds
3	**New Stadium—Football field, track, lighting, pressbox; cross country loop; road completion; fencing, parking; field building-Part 2 (locker room, team rooms, additional restrooms, coaches offices, training room)	Summer 2027 or Summer 2028	General Obligation Bond Anticipated no tax increase Public vote to approve GO Bond purchase, donations, grants
4	**HS Gym, Locker Room, Training Room Updates	2030	SAVE fund, PPEL funds, donations Anticipated no tax increase
5	**Early Childhood Addition (Part 2- classrooms, additional gym)		SAVE fund, PPEL funds, donations Anticipated no tax increase

^{**}All phases of the long range facility plan are tentative. The scope of each project and timeline will be dependent on community support, available funds, materials and contractual prices, etc.





