A Special Message from Board President Matt Fuller

Dear Montgomery ISD Community,

Last night during our monthly Montgomery ISD Board of Trustees meeting, members of a community-led task force committee charged with studying the need for a bond in our school district presented their findings to the Board of Trustees.

After months of studying data and reviewing information, the committee recommended a proposal for a bond referendum that would address significant growth projected in Montgomery, enhance Career and Technical Education offerings to students, and provide facility upgrades needed to modernize and improve comparability, technology and security on campuses.

In September 2021, the Board authorized our Superintendent, Dr. Heath Morrison, and district leadership to form the Community Bond Task Force to explore the need for a bond and make recommendations. The decision to form this committee came after the Board was presented with the results of a district demographic study in 2021, which projected a significant growth in population over the next 10 years. Trustees also received a comprehensive assessment of district facilities, which was conducted by Huckabee Architects, and approved a new district strategic plan during the 2020-21 school year. All were important information items that led to serious discussions surrounding the need for a bond to address growth and facility upgrades and to provide greater capacity to offer enhanced Career and Technical Education and Fine Arts programming.

This Community Bond Task Force consisted of nearly 60 individuals. The group was made up of parents and staff from each MISD campus, students from both of the district's high schools, and Montgomery community members and business leaders. The committee held six meetings during the fall semester, touring and evaluating facilities and critically evaluating data from the district's 2021 facility assessment, as well as district growth patterns and projections.

You can view their presentation to the board, which contains details of their <u>bond proposal here</u>. Please take a moment to learn about this bond package. An important facet of this recommended package is that it would represent a substantial investment in our district's facilities with very minimal impact to the district's tax rate, less than a penny, which is still significantly lower than the MISD tax rate was even just three years ago.

I am incredibly grateful to these individuals for their time and dedication to this important work. Members of this task force had many in-depth, meaningful conversations surrounding the future of Montgomery ISD. We firmly believe that they have laid the groundwork for projects and programs that would have a significant impact on the lives of thousands of students.

At our regularly scheduled board meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 15 at 6 pm, the Board will vote on whether to move forward with a bond referendum in the May 2022 election. Please learn as much as possible about this bond and reach out to board members with your opinions.

As parents, staff members and taxpayers, we believe it is critical that you are equipped with the facts needed to vote with confidence should this bond referendum proceed to the election ballot in May. With that, please plan to attend one or both of our scheduled Bond Town Hall meetings in the coming weeks. Meetings will be January 26 at Montgomery HS and February 2 at Lake Creek HS, both from 6:00-7:30 p.m. in the school auditoriums.

Additionally, all information reviewed by the Community Bond Task Force, the presentations and minutes from each of their meetings, as well as an extensive list of frequently asked questions can be found on the district's Paving Our Path: Bond 2022 webpage at www.misd.org/bond.

If you have additional questions, you can submit them here.

Thank you for all you do as a member of Montgomery ISD and for your continued partnership in our vision to be the Premier School District in Texas.

Sincerely,

Matt Fuller

President, Board of Trustees

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