

**Plano Independent School District**  
Communications Department  
2700 W. 15th Street, Plano, TX 75075  
Office: (469) 752-8150 Fax: (469) 752-8086  
[www.pisd.edu/communications](http://www.pisd.edu/communications)



**P L A N O**  
Independent School District

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**August 16, 2022**

**Media Contacts:**

Lesley Range-Stanton, Chief Communications Officer  
(o) 469.752.8094 | (m) 469.360.7552 | email: [lesley.range-stanton@pisd.edu](mailto:lesley.range-stanton@pisd.edu)

## **PLANO ISD BOARD OF TRUSTEES VOTES UNANIMOUSLY TO CALL NOVEMBER ELECTIONS**

*Voters to Consider a Tax Rate Election and Bond Election on November 8 Ballot*

**PLANO, TX, August 16, 2022** – At tonight’s school board meeting, Plano ISD trustees voted unanimously to include a Voter Approval Tax Rate Election (VATRE) and a Bond Election on the November 8 ballot. Registered voters residing within the Plano ISD attendance zone will be asked to consider five propositions that would generate additional funding to support educational programs, staff salaries and facility renovations across PISD. If voters approve all five Plano ISD propositions, the PISD total tax rate will be 6.1 cents lower than last year’s tax rate.

“It has been more than six years since Plano ISD held a bond election to address major facility, infrastructure and technology needs,” said School Board President David Stolle. “Safety and security was also a focus for our Task Force, and the proposed bond will address safety systems across the district. Our voters will have the opportunity to consider our district’s needs and to consider additional funding that could be made possible by the tax rate election.”

The five Plano ISD propositions on the November 8 ballot are:

**1. Funding for Staff and Programs**

*Voter Approval Tax Rate Election (VATRE), Prop A*

The net revenue generated by Plano ISD would be approximately \$9 million annually.

**2. School Renovations & Safety**

*Bond Prop A: \$1,172,976,000*

**3. Instructional Technology**

*Bond Prop B:* \$173,450,000

**4. Event Center**

*Bond Prop C:* \$130,000,000

**5. Safety & Maintenance at Stadiums**

*Bond Prop D:* \$19,212,000

**VATRE**

A Voter Approval Tax Rate Election (VATRE) is an election required by the state that asks voters to consider approving a modified tax rate to increase revenue for student programs as well as teacher and staff salaries.

A VATRE would generate local revenue for Plano ISD to:

- Provide the district's teachers and staff with additional compensation, allowing Plano ISD to retain a competitive and quality workforce for our students and community
- Allow Plano ISD to continue offering quality programs for our students
- Maintain positions and systems for the safety, security and wellbeing of students
- Help reduce the budget deficit
- Help offset the loss of federal funding
- Maximize Plano ISD's Maintenance & Operations (M&O) funding

If the VATRE is approved by voters, the net revenue generated by Plano ISD would be approximately \$9 million annually.

**BOND ELECTION**

The four bond propositions total \$1,495,638,000 and address safety and security, major and minor renovations, infrastructure, transportation, CTE and innovative programs, fine arts and athletics. An overview of the project areas is listed below. Additional information is available at [pisd.edu/election2022](http://pisd.edu/election2022).

<b>Proposition</b>	<b>Project Areas</b>	<b>Amount</b>
A	Safety and Security	\$54,305,000
A	Major Renovations	\$423,130,000
A	Minor Renovations	\$86,490,000
A	Infrastructure Maintenance	\$194,775,000
A	Technology Infrastructure	\$61,800,000
A	Transportation	\$47,630,000
A	Career & Technical Education (CTE)	\$134,840,000
A	Fine Arts	\$14,585,000
A	Athletics	\$155,421,000
B	Instructional Technology	\$173,450,000
C	Event Center	\$130,000,000
D	Safety & Maintenance at Stadiums	\$19,212,000

Desiring strong and valuable input from stakeholders, the Plano ISD Board of Trustees appointed a Facilities and Technology Task Force in August 2015, an advisory committee comprising citizens, business leaders, parents, school administrators and teachers. The task force, now known as the Future Forward Task Force, convened again in the 2021-2022 school year and through the summer to evaluate and prioritize the district’s current and future needs. Their research included garnering input from the community through a third-party survey, as well working in committees to identify and prioritize needs. After months of study and public input, the task force made final recommendations to school trustees, which are included in this bond proposal.

Superintendent Dr. Theresa Williams expressed her appreciation to the Future Forward Task Force. “We are grateful for the Task Force’s work over the past year and all the time the committee members poured into the process to develop a recommendation that aligned with Plano ISD’s mission and vision.”

Dr. Williams asks residents to become informed and learn how the proposals will impact students and staff. “The 2022 bond election will provide funding to address the growing demand for CTE and other innovative programs, provide technology to enhance education,

make upgrades to improve safety and security, and address deficiencies identified in the facilities assessment.”

**Proposed new construction includes:**

- CTE Center
- Replacement building for Haggard Middle School
- Event Center
- Addition at the Transportation Building
- New gyms at all three senior high schools
- Restroom additions
- Tracks at the middle schools

**Major renovations include:**

- Plano Senior High School
- Kitchens and cafeterias at multiple campuses
- Safety and security infrastructure

**Safety and Security** projects include district-wide upgrades and improvements like access control systems, security camera systems, shatter resistant window film, burglar alarm panel upgrades, two-way radio replacements and a centralized Emergency Operations location. Proposition D also includes security lighting, parking lot resurfacing for Clark Stadium and wrought iron fencing at Kimbrough Stadium.

**Technology** is addressed in both Proposition A and Proposition B. The district’s current operating budget cannot support large technology purchases without taking dollars away from other instructional programs. This bond package includes district-wide improvements to technology infrastructure and additional equipment to support classroom technologies that help maintain the district’s long-term technology plan. The technology portion of the bonds is repaid over a shorter term (5 years) than the other projects.

**Transportation:** Funding would be allocated to replace 180 buses as they reach the end of their fifteen-year useful life and replacing the district’s fleet of vehicles used to transport student groups, teams and maintenance personnel. The proposal includes a building addition and renovation to the Transportation Building, which was constructed 40 years ago when PISD’s enrollment was half of what it is today.

**CTE (Career and Technical Education)** would be addressed through a new CTE Center, classroom expansions for agricultural classes, upgrades in science areas, family consumer science labs and funding the purchase of CTE equipment.

**Fine Arts** improvements would address music, stage upgrades, art, theater and band trailers for the three senior high schools.

**Athletics** projects are included on Proposition A and Proposition D. Funding would be allocated to add gymnasiums at the three senior high schools, tracks at the middle schools, restrooms at tennis courts, locker rooms for baseball and softball and turf replacement at Clark Stadium.

### **FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY**

The Plano ISD Board of Trustees is committed to providing state-of-the-art facilities, the latest in safety and security systems, and leading edge technology resources for all students, while remaining good stewards of taxpayer dollars. Plano ISD's bond ratings are Aaa/AA+, the highest ratings assigned to Texas school districts by Moody's and Standard & Poor's rating agencies. All items promised in the 2016 bond have been addressed and/or are in progress.

For 19 consecutive years, Plano ISD has earned the highest rating of "Superior Achievement" in the state's School FIRST (Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas) program. This rating shows that Plano ISD's schools are accountable not only for student learning, but also for achieving results cost effectively and efficiently. The report is based on staff, student and budget data that the financial services team submits annually to the Texas Education Agency.

For 38 consecutive years, Plano ISD has also earned the prestigious Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada. Plano ISD's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) has been judged each year by an impartial panel to meet high standards, including demonstrating a constructive spirit of full disclosure to clearly communicate the school district's financial story. The certificate of achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental financial reporting and accounting. Its attainment represents a significant achievement by government and its management.

Due to the district's strong fiscal management practices, Plano ISD has been able to maintain the second-lowest property tax rate among Collin County school districts, and the district's total tax rate has decreased each year since 2018. Because payments on existing debt are declining as old debt is being paid off, the school district can issue these new bonds without a tax rate increase, based on current interest and tax base growth models.

### **ELECTION DATES**

Voters will decide November 8 whether to approve Plano ISD's Voter Approval Tax Rate Election and the \$1.49 billion bond proposal. The last day to register to vote for the November

8, 2022 election is Tuesday, October 11. Early voting is October 24 through November 4. The ballot will allow voters to vote “for” or “against” the five measures.

Visit the district website at [www.pisd.edu/election2022](http://www.pisd.edu/election2022) for more information.

### **About Plano Independent School District**

The Plano Independent School District (Plano ISD) ([www.pisd.edu](http://www.pisd.edu)) endeavors to foster the highest level of student learning. Plano ISD is located 20 miles north of Dallas, Texas and serves the residents of approximately 100 square miles in southwest Collin County, including 66 square miles in the city of Plano, northern portions of the cities of Dallas and Richardson and parts of the cities of Allen, Parker and Murphy. Plano ISD employs more than 6,900 staff members who serve nearly 50,000 students in 73 schools and 11 service facilities. Mission: Our Plano ISD learning community will educate, inspire and empower every student to activate their unique potential in a dynamic world.

###