



## **2017 HILLSBORO SCHOOL DISTRICT BOND PROGRAM**

### **SAFETY & SECURITY**

#### **BOND PROGRAM OVERVIEW**

The 2017 Hillsboro School District Bond was approved by District voters in November, 2017 by a margin of 67 percent to 33 percent. The Bond program focused on four major categories: Improving Safety and Security; Building for the Future; Enhancing Existing Infrastructure; and Providing a Modern Educational Experience for all students. Included in the Improving Safety and Security component of the bond is approximately \$11.5 million for safety and security enhancements at our existing schools and on buses. We are undertaking these projects because safety of our students and staff is a foremost priority and we know they perform better when they feel safe. The purpose of this document is to provide detailed information about these safety and security projects.

#### **BACKGROUND**

The Hillsboro School District includes 25 elementary schools, four middle schools, four comprehensive high schools, two alternative schools, and five support campuses. The oldest of these buildings was constructed in 1922 (Reedville Elementary) and the newest in 2009 (South Meadows Middle School). Over this 87-year period, our awareness and application of safety and security measures have evolved; the result is that we currently have varying, but still significant, levels of security at our campuses.

The purpose of the bond's safety and security enhancements is to ensure that all schools and facilities, regardless of age, have a uniform level of security with the same safety measures in place. Much of this work involves limiting access into schools during school hours, improving communications within buildings, and monitoring more closely our school facilities.

#### **SAFETY & SECURITY MEASURES**

Distributed Antenna System – Particularly in our newest schools, the amount of concrete and steel creates reception gaps that prevent first responder radios from working properly in at least a portion of the building. The Distributed Antenna System, also known as DAS, will eliminate these gaps in our District buildings. The DAS will

ensure that radio communications by first responders are fully operational in the event of an emergency, regardless of their location in the building.

Entry Vestibule/Line of Sight Improvements – A key to increasing the safety of our students and staff is limiting access into our school buildings via more secure entry vestibules and ensuring school staff can see all visitors entering the building (line of sight). The physical implementation of the improvements will vary by school, but in each case, all visitors will be required to check in through the main office before they are allowed to proceed into the building once the school day begins.

Access Control – All exterior school doors, including the main entry, will be locked after the start of the school day. Entry to the school building can only be accomplished by using an electronic key card or by checking in through the main office. The access control system also will allow building staff to lock all exterior doors remotely at any time in the event of an emergency.

Door Alarms for Exterior Doors – Door alarms will alert building staff when an exterior door has been propped open.

Security Cameras – Security cameras will allow building staff to view the interior of school buildings (building entry, main corridors, and commons areas) as well as the exterior (access points, parking lots, covered play areas, and play fields).

Security Fencing – Additional fencing will improve student supervision during the school day and assist in directing visitors to the main office while creating a visual deterrent.

In-Building Communication – All schools will be supplied with new radios to ensure staff are able to communicate throughout the school building and when out on playgrounds and play fields.

Public Address System – All public address (PA) systems will be tested to ensure they are functional in all areas of the school building.

Alarms and Visual Warnings – Inside and Outside of Building – All school buildings are equipped with audio alarms for fire protection. These alarms will be upgraded to include visual warnings so that students and staff are alerted in the event of an emergency in areas where audio warnings are difficult to hear.

Interior Door Locks – All interior classroom doors will have the ability to be locked from the inside. This will eliminate the need for staff to enter the corridor to lock a classroom in the event of an emergency.

Security Film – A protective film will be placed over windows and glass in various areas to enhance glass strength.

School Buses – All school buses are equipped with new five-camera monitoring systems as well as GPS tracking systems, which allow their locations to be known at all times.

### **ONGOING SAFETY DRILLS**

It's important to remember that these safety and security enhancements will provide much safer facilities for our students and staff; however, they will not eliminate the need for ongoing safety drills. Drills help staff and students to know how to react in the event of a safety or security event. For more information regarding safety please visit the [Safety](#) page of our District website.