MEETING NOTES

MEETING: Bond Oversight Committee Meeting
Bond Oversight Committee Q1 2018 Meeting

LOCATION: Wilson Montessori
2100 Yupon Street
Houston, TX 77006

DATE: April 24, 2018

TIME: 8:30 A.M.

PRESENT:
Bond Oversight Committee (BOC)
Mr. Michael G. Davis
Mr. Craig Johnson
Mr. Robert M. Eury
Ms. Phoebe Tudor
Mr. D.V. “Sonny” Flores
Mr. David Quan
Mr. Gusta Booker

Houston Independent School District (HISD)
Ms. Grenita Lathan, HISD Board of Education Superintendent
Mr. Sergio Lira, HISD Board of Education, District III
Mr. Brian Busby, Business Operations
Mr. Eugene Salazar, Business Operations
Ms. Mary Lehnhart, Business Operations
Mr. Derrick Sanders, Construction Services
Mr. Dan Bankhead, Construction Services
Mr. Andreas Peeples, Construction Services
Ms. Mary Rochon, Construction Services
Ms. Christine Manrique, Construction Services
Ms. Goya Geralds, Construction Services
Ms. Precilla Rivera, Construction Services
Ms. Alexis Licata, Business Logistics
Ms. Yesinia Taylor, Business Solutions
Ms. Tonya Savoie, Business Solutions
Ms. Cheryl Smith, Business Solutions
Ms. Sherrie Robinson, Controller’s Office
Mr. James Moore, Capital Project Accounting
Ms. Beth Bonnette, Wilson Montessori Principal
Mr. Tracy Clemons, Press Office
Ms. Rebecca Suarez, Communications
Ms. Sheleah Reed, Strategic Engagement and Outreach
Ms. Holly Huffman, Strategic Engagement and Outreach
Ms. Christi A. Landry, Strategic Engagement and Outreach
Mr. Joshua DiNapoli, Strategic Engagement and Outreach
Ms. Rebecca Kiest, Strategic Engagement and Outreach
Ms. Antonia Jones, Strategic Engagement and Outreach

ABSENT:

Ms. Beth Bonnette, Wilson Montessori Principal
Mr. Tracy Clemons, Press Office
Ms. Rebecca Suarez, Communications
Ms. Sheleah Reed, Strategic Engagement and Outreach
Ms. Holly Huffman, Strategic Engagement and Outreach
Ms. Christi A. Landry, Strategic Engagement and Outreach
Mr. Joshua DiNapoli, Strategic Engagement and Outreach
Ms. Rebecca Kiest, Strategic Engagement and Outreach
Ms. Antonia Jones, Strategic Engagement and Outreach
Ms. Alecea Rush, Strategic Engagement and Outreach
Mr. Mario Brown, Strategic Engagement and Outreach
Ms. Saira Treviño, Strategic Engagement and Outreach
Mr. Ian Powell, SIM-PBK Architects
Mr. Jim Rice, Rice & Gardner Consultants, Inc.
Ms. Patra Brannon-Isaac, Leadership ISD

The general purpose of the meeting was to brief the Bond Oversight Committee on first quarter progress of the new construction and renovation projects funded through the 2012 Facilities Capital Program. Related issues, questions, and activities were also discussed:

**Item 1 Wilson Montessori Tour**
Construction Services Officer Derrick Sanders welcomed Bond Oversight Committee members and other guests just after 8:30 a.m. The group met in the third-floor library, where they were greeted by HISD Facilities Design General Manager Dan Bankhead, Wilson Montessori Principal Beth Bonnette, and HISD Interim Superintendent Grenita Lathan. Ms. Bonnette and Mr. Bankhead led the group on tour of the new school’s addition, beginning in the library and making stops in the upper elementary classrooms, the middle school Kiva, educational community spaces for students, the second floor “practical life” spaces, and the central administration area and dining commons on the first floor. The tour ended in the gymnasium, where the remainder of the meeting was held.

**Item 2 Welcome**
Construction Services Officer Derrick Sanders welcomed Bond Oversight committee members and other guests to the business portion of the meeting at 9:20 a.m.

**Item 3 Minutes from February 6 Meeting**
Mr. Sanders requested that the group approve the previously distributed minutes from the February 6 meeting. The minutes were approved unanimously.

**Item 4 First Quarter Construction Update**
Mr. Sanders then introduced a video and photo presentation highlighting the nine facilities that opened during the first quarter of 2018, as well as the 12 schools that are slated to finish construction and open by the start of the 2018-2019 school year, and the six schools that are slated to finish construction by the end of this year. Included in the presentation were videos showcasing Parker Elementary School’s first day in their new building and Energy Institute High School’s new building, which formally opens this fall.

Mr. Sanders noted that the schools that opened in January include North Forest High School (non-bond), Sharpstown High School, Scarborough High School, Robinson Elementary School (Harvey Rebuild), and the Austin High School Temporary Campus. In March, he said, HISD opened Parker Elementary School, as well as new additions at Westbury High School, Wilson Montessori, and Garden Oaks Montessori.
He said the 12 schools are slated to open in time for the start of the 2018-2019 school year, including High School for Law and Justice, Eastwood, Pilgrim and Young Women’s College Preparatory Academies, Lawson Middle School, Askew and Hilliard (Harvey Rebuild) Elementary Schools, Wilson and Garden Oaks Montessori Schools, and Yates, Washington, and Energy Institute High Schools.

Mr. Sanders noted that six more schools are scheduled to finish construction by the end of the year and open to students in January 2019. These schools are HSPVA, Wharton Dual Language Academy, Jordan High School for Careers, and Worthing, Northside, and Westbury High Schools.

The district is currently reporting a 51 percent completion rate for the 2012 Bond Program, Mr. Sanders said, noting that the number would rise to 80 percent by the end of the year. In total, he added, 24 new facilities will have opened their doors to students between January 2018 and January 2019.

Item 5 Supplier Diversity (M/WBE) Report and Community Outreach
Business Logistics Officer Alexis Licata introduced Business Solutions General Manager Yesinia Taylor, who told the committee that three M/WBE workshops that had been held during the first quarter — “How to do Business with HISD” in January at the Hexser T. Holliday building, “Access to Capital” in February at the Construction Services office, and “Better Proposals Equal More Wins” in March at Waltrip High School. Ms. Taylor also noted that the team had done additional outreach with various community groups and organizations, including the East End Chamber, Fifth Ward Chamber, Greater Houston Business Procurement Forum, Houston Minority Supplier Development Council, Greater Houston Black Chamber, Women’s Business Enterprise Alliance, and Women Contractors Association. She noted that the M/WBE participation rate was almost 28 percent for Minority- and Women-Owned small business, and that the department is very involved with the development, success, and growth of M/WBEs.

Item 6 Financial Reports
Controller Sherrie Robinson reported that the total budget for the 2012 bond program was $2.1 billion (including original and supplemental dollars), with total commitments of $1,708,932,441, including $397,429,517 in encumbrances and $1,311,502,924 in expenditures. Available funding is $393,517,522.

Item 7 Bond Communications
Business Operations Communications and Strategic Services General Manager Holly Huffman reported that the Bond Communications Team had spent much of the first quarter focused on the nine facilities that opened in January and March. The team created teaser videos for the schools to generate buzz in advance of the opening. Leading up to the opening, the team worked with school administrators and project managers to provide parent communications, including letters, callouts, maps, FAQs, project updates, etc. On the schools’ opening days, the team also provided full, on-site coverage of the new campuses additions. Ms. Huffman said the team also is continuing to grow the @Build_HISD twitter account, noting that the number of followers was continuing to increase. She further noted
Looking Ahead
Mr. Sanders noted again that 12 schools are scheduled to be finished by the start of the 2018-2019 school year. Those schools are Washington, Yates, and Energy Institute High Schools, High School for Law and Justice, Lawson Middle School, Eastwood, Pilgrim, and Young Women’s College Preparatory Academies, Askew and Hilliard Elementary Schools, and Garden Oaks and Wilson Montessori Schools. He also stated that by the end of 2018, 80 percent of all Bond projects would be completed.

Mr. Sanders then introduced HISD Chief Operating Officer Brian Busby, who told the group that the district was in the early stages of planning for a possible bond referendum in November 2018. The bond would be part of a larger, long-range Capital Improvement Plan. With the current bond program expected to be 69 percent complete by the start of the 2017-2018 school year, and 80 percent complete by the end of 2018. Chief Busby said the team was moving forward with plans for possible bond referendums in November 2018, again in 2020 and then every four years after that.

Chief Busby then introduced Jim Rice with Rice and Gardener Consultants and Ian Powell with PBK Architects. Both firms have been hired as consultants to help plan for possible future bond referendums.

Mr. Rice stated that his presentation served as formal notice for committee members of the district’s desire to pursue a bond referendum in November. He noted that next steps would be sharing the information with the HISD Board of Education at their board workshop that afternoon. With the board’s input, the team then would begin hosting community meetings throughout the district to present the proposed program and gather feedback. Mr. Rice presented two options for a possible bond program, and both put safety and security in the forefront. The first option, which has a cost of $954 million, focuses on replacing 18 schools, creating security vestibules at all campuses, upgrading building automation systems and district technology, and replacing school buses. The second option, which has a cost of $1.45 billion, which includes the above items, as well as two new relief schools, a new CTE high school for the southern portion of the district, a replacement district stadium and fieldhouse, a new professional development and training facility, and districtwide energy efficient lighting upgrades.

New relief schools would be strategically driven by student growth data, while facility repair and replacement would be driven by facility age and needs, number of temporary buildings on-site, and cost of maintaining existing buildings.
Mr. Rice said the proposed design and construction schedule is expected to be completed in three phases between 2019 and 2022. The phased scheduling was suggested to prevent the district from overwhelming the architectural and engineering community, the general construction community, which could reduce construction costs in the long run.

General discussion on the topic followed, including questions pertaining to the management of future bond projects, as well as potential costs. Chief Busby stated that the district planned to take the same approach with M/WBEs as it had previously to ensure M/WBE participation. He also noted that the goal is to completely rebuild — rather than renovate — all schools selected to be included in a potential bond. However, he said, the team will seek community and school stakeholder feedback and consider exceptions for historic and architectural preservation.

**Item 9**  
**Executive Session**
There being no further questions or discussion, the Bond Oversight Committee members agreed by consensus that no Executive Session was needed.

Mr. Sanders thanked Bond Oversight Committee members for their attendance and service and the meeting was adjourned.

The information outlined above reflects the author’s understanding of the key discussions and decisions reached during this meeting. Should there be any additions and/or clarifications to these meeting notes, please notify the author in writing promptly. These notes will be relied upon as the approved record of the meeting, unless a written notice to the contrary is sent to the author within seven (7) days of the submission of these meeting notes.

Prepared by HISD Bond Communications and Business Operations Communications and Strategic Outreach.