

Bond Oversight Committee Meeting Status Report

HISD's Bond Oversight Committee met on July 26, 2016, to review second quarter progress of the district's bond program. The meeting was held at Condit Elementary School, where committee members had the opportunity to tour the school's new facility.

The tour was led by Condit Elementary School Principal Dan Greenberg who shared his vision for 21st century learning on his new campus, which opens its doors for the start of the 2016-2017 school year.

Placing an emphasis on modern learning styles, the two-story school features bright colors, open spaces, large windows that let in copious amounts of light, and curved walls that create lots of seating nooks. White boards are found throughout the hallways, creating pockets where students can gather and learn throughout the building.

Originally built in 1909, Condit moved to its current facility in Bellaire just over 100 years ago, with an addition built in 1927. Located on the existing campus, the new building incorporates the school's history into its modern design. An original brick archway is featured in the new front entrance and wooden accent paneling mimics the look of the hardwood floor in the old building.

The Learning Commons, which replaces a traditional library, and Learning Staircase, which serves as a spot for impromptu lessons, are key design features in the 750-student, \$24 million project. The Learning Commons includes a makerspace, where students can gather to create, invent and learn.

Following the tour, the committee settled into a first-floor science lab for an update on the bond program's second quarter progress. HISD Construction Officer Derrick Sanders noted that construction was underway at 22 campuses — more than at any other time in district history. Of those projects, six new schools — Condit and Mark White elementary schools, Mandarin Immersion Magnet School, North Houston and South early college high schools, and North Forest Early Childhood Center — will open their doors for the 2016-2017 school year.

Seven construction contracts were executed in the second quarter, Sanders said, adding that construction contracts on all but four projects will have been executed by the end of the third quarter.

In addition to project-specific questions, committee members inquired about the funding method for non-bond schools, which include North Forest Early Childhood Center, North Forest High School and Energy Institute High School. Members also asked about the status of current construction pricing and whether or not the district would need to use the supplemental funding.

Reports on finance, communications and M/WBE also were discussed. View the complete quarterly bond workbook [here](#).

Looking ahead to the next quarter, Sanders noted that several projects were nearing completion, including Sterling Aviation High School, Delmar Fieldhouse, and Waltrip High School renovations.

The next quarterly meeting of the Bond Oversight Committee is scheduled for Oct. 25, 2016.