



School Bond



How did we get here. The journey to better and safer schools.



Infrastructure Conditions

- We have an aging infrastructure. For many years, availability of capital funding resources has been unable to keep up with the rate of infrastructure deterioration.
- The school system operates and maintains a very large building infrastructure in the county.
- Thousands of students, as well as staff, parents, and community members use our facilities each day.
- Our schools are centers for our communities and a critical driver in educational and economic success and stability.

Bond Considerations

- Transylvania County at one time had some level of a school bond an average of at least once every decade.
- School Construction Bonds have been strongly supported by our citizens. The first school bond was passed in 1906
- Additional more recent School Bond action/referendums occurred in 1946, 1956, 1970, 1972, 1986, 1997, and 2018.
- The only Bond vote that did not pass was the 1970 Bond which sought to consolidate the high schools.

Bond Planning

- 2015 - Facilities Study for all Transylvania County Schools identifies approximately \$100 million in needs for capital upgrades and improvements
- 2017 – In preparation for a potential School Construction Bond for Transylvania County Schools, the Board of Education authorizes an updated facilities study as part of the system’s Master Facilities Plan and to identify greatest needs.
- Brevard High School (1959), Rosman High School (1973), and Rosman Middle School (1949) were clearly identified as having the greatest need.

Bond Planning

- Spring 2016 – School Board began discussions on growing capital needs and funding concerns needed to address school system infrastructure.
- February 2017 – Board began planning and implementation to inform the community on growing capital concerns and to gather community support.
- March 2017 – Board conducted community input sessions on capital needs followed by regular meeting discussions.
- April 20, 2017 -Board of Education met in joint session with Board of Commissioners to discuss the master facilities plans, concepts, and funding.

Bond Planning

- April 24, 2017 – Board discussed different bond options for capital funding.
- July 2017 – Board discussed Capital Funding options, including a General Obligation School Bond.
- June 5, 2017 – Board discussed dates for a potential school bond in the future primary or election cycle
- August 2017 – Board discussed next steps for a bond referendum.
- September-October 2017 = Board authorized the release of RFQs to architectural firms for conceptual drawings for capital improvement and discusses issues related to bonds, including debt service.

Bond Planning

- November 2017 – Board hears presentations from five architectural firms regarding qualifications for design services for the school system’s Master Facilities Plan and advance planning work on .
- December 2017 – Board selects Clark Nexsen to conduct advanced planning work on school system’s Master Facilities Plan, and advanced planning work on the three schools identified as having the greatest need: Brevard High School, Rosman High School, and Rosman Middle School

Bond Planning

- Jan. 2018 – School Board passed a resolution requesting the county commissioners seek a \$68 million dollar Bond in order to address needs at Brevard High School, Rosman High School, and Rosman Middle School.
- County Commissioners authorize placement on the November 2018 ballot for public vote.

Bond Planning & Campaign

- January 2018 to November 2018, the Bond is discussed and input opportunities available in over 25 public meetings, including monthly Board meetings, community input meetings at both high schools, a Rosman Town Council meeting, and several Chamber of Commerce meetings
- A dedicated Bond web site for public information is established and construction information on what happens if the bond passes is provided on weekly and monthly radio broadcasts and podcasts by the system in cooperation with WSQL. Numerous articles regarding the Bond appear in the Transylvania Times.

Bond Campaign

- The public is only presented conceptual drawings with very general and details. Detailed drawings cannot be considered or completed until a bond is passed.
- Tours are conducted after public information sessions at all three school campuses.
- November 2018 - The Bond campaign results in an overwhelming majority (approximately 60%) of voters approving the \$68 million Bond.

Bond Construction

- December 2018 – Board reviews a draft memorandum of understanding between the School Board and the County Commissioners.
- January 2019 – Joint meeting is held between the School Board and the County Commissioners on an MOU as well as presentation by the School of Government confirming aspects of process.
- February 2019 – MOU is approved and Bond Committee established

Bond Construction

- February 2019 – Board authorizes release of RFQs for architectural firms interested in providing design services for \$68 million of improvements to the campuses of Brevard High School, Rosman High School, and Rosman Middle School.
- RFQs for CMAR released
- April 2019 – Bond Committee discussions, presentations by architectural firms and CMAR candidates.
- Clark Nexsen selected as Bond Construction architects.
- Vannoy Construction selected as CMAR

Clark-Nexsen – Architects
Vannoy Construction - CMAR

Transylvania County Schools

