

Executive Summary

Master Program

This document represents a “*Master Program*” for facility capital improvements for the Lockhart ISD. It represents the efforts of many individuals, including the District’s Administration, Campus Staff and Community Members. With each campus actively participating in the facility evaluation surveys and after meeting with the campus Leadership and members of the Community we have developed these decision documents to enable the District to address both the short and long-range facility needs for Lockhart ISD.

Facilities Assessment

In March of 2013, each campus began the process of identifying the facility needs specific to their school. Through detailed facility surveys and meetings held with campus staff, all participants had an opportunity to document their knowledge and concerns.

Then in April, **OBR** also performed a complete assessment of each facility. The data collected was compiled with the data provided by the campus surveys and meetings with campus leadership into a summary for each campus, detailing facility needs.

After the facility data was compiled, historical enrollment data was evaluated to establish enrollment trends. Instructional and support spaces were compared to the standards defined in the Texas Administrative Code. Campus utilization was evaluated to determine total and functional capacity.

The data was then compiled and presented to a Facilities Task force made up of community members from across the District. The Facilities Task Force discussed numerous scenarios for solutions to the most critical facility needs within the District.

The Task Force was then presented with an overall summary of District finances in order to develop recommendations that were consistent with the District’s capacity to fund the various scenarios.

The goal of this final report is to provide detailed information that allows flexibility for decision-making related to current and future facility needs, while minimizing the impact on the local taxpayers as much as possible.

Executive Summary

Compilation of Efforts

The results of our efforts are presented in this report and are categorized into four major endeavors:

- ◆ *An inventory and evaluation of all existing facilities*
- ◆ *An examination of enrollment, historical and current trends*
- ◆ *A capacity and utilization study of existing campuses*
- ◆ *The development of options available to the school district to meet facility needs based on enrollment projections and priorities developed during the study*

The findings generally indicate that the Lockhart ISD has maintained its facilities well over the years. Deficiencies were largely related to the ages of some buildings and the need for additional permanent instructional spaces to improve overall functionality and utilization.

- ✓ Facilities require code-related upgrades such as fire alarms, accessibility improvements, etc.
- ✓ Safety and Security upgrades ranging from exterior lighting to entry door and hardware replacement are needed.
- ✓ Minor capital improvements aimed at improving the overall environment within the schools would be beneficial.
- ✓ Major capital improvements are also needed, including such things as restroom renovations, electrical upgrades, HVAC and roofing.
- ✓ It was the general consensus that Lockhart High School is no longer adequate and should be overhauled. The facility should be modified to serve 9th-12th grades and provide room for growth.
- ✓ Moving 9th grade to the High School provides an opportunity to consolidate Administration and a number of support services into M.L. Cisneros.
- ✓ It was determined that the District has significant capacity challenges at the PK-K and Elementary campuses. It is recommended that the District acquire property for new school sites and plan for at least one new Elementary Campus in the immediate future.

Executive Summary

The improvements recommended in this report reflect a responsible approach to enhancing the educational environment within the Lockhart ISD schools. As indicated, the District has maintained the facilities well. *However, as programs and curriculum change, so too must the facilities that support them.* Further, ongoing capital investment in the buildings will maintain the infrastructure at an acceptable level.

This report details the deficiencies at each campus and offers solutions with estimated costs for all improvements. In considering an approach to addressing the deficiencies, the District should balance the needs with the tax impact associated with the total cost of improvements. Discussions of costs and recommendations are included in Section 7 of the Report.