

West Rusk CCISD

Bond - 2024

What is a Bond Election?

In the same way homeowners borrow money in the form of a mortgage to finance the purchase of a home, a school district borrows money in the form of bonds to finance the design, construction, expansion, and renovation of schools.



Bond History of West Rusk CCISD

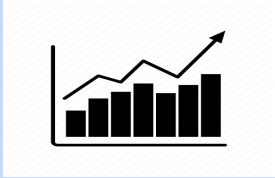
Bond Election 2004 - \$6,500,000

- New High School Gymnasium/Band Hall
- Updated flooring and ceiling in Junior High/High School Classrooms and HVAC systems installed
- 4 New Science Labs with equipment for Junior High/High School

Bond Election 2011 - \$15,000,000

- New Cafeteria
- New Stadium with turf field
- Renovated Kindergarten and Art building
- New Multi-Purpose Building
 - Weight Room, Junior High Gymnasium, 6th Grade Classrooms with Science Lab, Coaches Offices and Locker Rooms
- Ag Greenhouse

Why Call for a Bond Now?



- To Prepare For Growth
 - To improve the safety and infrastructure of current facilities as student enrollment grows and technology changes.
- To Take Advantage of the Current Financial Environment
 - Construction prices rise every year, causing projects to become more expensive over time
 - Interest rates are decreasing, making it less costly to finance bonds
 - Homestead exemptions increased, which lessens the burden of the taxpayer
- To Address the Concerns of the District
 - The Maintenance and Operations budget cannot handle the repairs and upgrades necessary to fix the existing buildings

WR Needs Assessment Committee

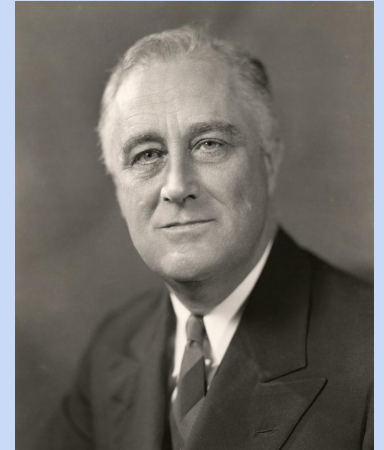
- 26 members consisting of administrators, teachers, parents, community people, and business people met 3 times (Sept. 26th, Oct. 10th, and Oct. 23rd)
- Conducted walk-throughs of the facilities on the existing elementary campus and existing band hall
- Architects joined the committee to listen to the concerns from the committee to create preliminary drawings
- Financial agent joined the committee to show how much money a bond can be called for and how it affects homeowners
- Committee made a formal recommendation for the board to call a bond election for \$26,403,037

West Rusk Elementary has not received a campus-wide improvement since it was built in

1935



Franklin D. Roosevelt
was President.



West Rusk Elementary - First Rendering





West Rusk Elementary

\$22,808,779

- Elementary campus will provide the latest in safety and security additions and technology with secure vestibule and controlled entryways.
- Facility will include a storm shelter, which is constructed to withstand winds of up to 250 mph

Information submitted by Harris Craig Architects, Inc.

- Pre K Classrooms will use existing Kindergarten Building
- New facility will include:
 - 5 Kindergarten Classrooms
 - 5 First Grade Classrooms
 - 5 Second Grade Classrooms
 - 1 Computer Lab
 - 1 Reading Intervention Classroom
 - 1 Science Project Room
 - 1 Literacy Room
 - 1 Ready Bodies Motor Lab
 - 1 English as Second Language Classroom
 - 1 Resource Classroom
 - Music Classroom and Storage Room
 - Multi-Purpose Gym, Offices, and Storage Room with a Stage
 - Secretary/Receptionist Office with Access Control Entry Vestibule
 - Offices for Principal, Assistant Principal, Counselor, Diagnostician
 - Testing Room, Conference Room, Clinic or “Sick Room”
 - Faculty Workroom and Restrooms
 - Student Restrooms
 - Custodial Closets
 - Main Electrical Room, Mechanical Room, General Storage

Existing Band Hall



- 6th grade band: 74 students
- JH band (7th/8th grades): 125 students
- HS band (9th-12th grades): 121 students
- Jazz band (9th-12th grades): 49 students
- Offices for 3 band directors; horn and uniform storage; individual and ensemble rehearsal rooms



West Rusk Band Hall Addition - Rough Sketch



- New facility will include:
 - Rehearsal Hall
 - Instrument Storage
 - Ensemble Room
 - Administrative Offices
 - Restrooms
 - Easy access to Football Stadium for games and practices
- Existing facility will be used for splitting bands into Varsity and Junior Varsity levels for concert season
 - Rehearsals
 - Small Group Practices
 - Instrument Storage



Band Hall Addition
(6th-12th Grades)

\$3,594,258



West Rusk is partnering with Samco Capital as our financial planner for the 2024 Bond.

Brian Grubbs attended a Needs Assessment Committee meeting to discuss the amount of money a bond can currently raise for West Rusk. The following information is from his findings:

- West Rusk CCISD has been awarded a “Superior” rating in Texas’ School FIRST accountability system. This prestigious rating demonstrates WRCCISD’s exceptional financial management practices and effective allocation of resources.
- 2023-2024 I&S Tax Rate is currently \$0.3200. Bond 2024 proposal would raise this amount by \$0.1585 to \$0.4785 in order to raise \$26,403,037.

Home Value Before Exemptions	Home Value After \$100,00 State Exemption	Projected Annual Tax Increase	Projected Monthly Tax Increase
\$125,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
\$200,000	\$60,000	\$95.10	\$7.93
\$300,000	\$140,000	\$221.90	\$18.49
\$400,000	\$220,000	\$348.70	\$29.06

Town Hall Informational Meetings

Tuesday, April 2nd at 6:00 p.m. in the
WR Cafe

Thursday, April 18th at 6:00 p.m. in the
WR Cafe



Register to Vote by April 4, 2024

In order to vote, you must be registered.

Click on this link to register online. [Voter Registration Application](#) or type vrapp.sos.state.tx.us in your browser to locate the registration site.

You are eligible to register if:

- You are a US Citizen;
- You are a resident of the county;
- You are at least 17 years & 10 months of age;
- You have not been declared by a court of law to be either totally, or partially mentally incapacitated, AND
- You have not been convicted of a felony, or, if convicted, must have (1) fully discharged the sentence, including any term of incarceration, parole or supervision, or (2) been pardoned or otherwise released from the resulting disability to vote

Early Voting and Election Day Locations

West Rusk Administration Building

10705 S. Main

(corner of Phillips St. and Hwy 42)

New London, Texas 75682

(903) 392-7850



Rusk County Elections Office

204 N Main St

Henderson, Texas 75652

(903) 657-0321



Early Voting Dates and Times

Monday, April 22nd: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Tuesday, April 23rd: **8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.**

Wednesday, April 24th: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Thursday, April 25th: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Friday, April 26th: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Monday, April 29th: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Tuesday, April 30th: **8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.**

Tuesday, April 23rd from 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Elementary and Intermediate Fun Night (booth with Bond Information available)

Tuesday, April 30th beginning at 5:00 p.m.

5:00 p.m. - Fundraiser dinner in WR Cafe to benefit the band (booth with Bond Information available)

7:00 p.m. - Spring Band Concert for 6th - 12th graders in HS Gym

VOTE!

Election Day

May 4, 2024

7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

VOTE!