



*Question 2: What is your opinion on the upcoming school bond referendum and why?*

4-Year Candidates

**Ruthina Malone:**

"I support the GO Bond and the Facilities Master Plan. The GO Bond ensures that we as a district continue to move forward, making our schools not only safe, but equitable. Without its passage, we will be a district halted on any movement associated with our master plan. The Facilities Master Plan is also paramount and should be retained as closely as possible because so many of our community members had a voice in its creation. "

**Janet Godwin:**

"I strongly support the GO Bond. A healthy, well-maintained school district is the backbone of a vibrant, thriving community. The bond is critical for our district's success because it effectively resources the remaining projects in the FMP. Smaller bonds, in my opinion, would only fund a few projects at a time, making it hard to gain district-wide support and creating a political atmosphere where individual neighborhoods or school communities might have a disproportionate impact on the way the district spends money. By investing in our facilities, we invest in our students and teachers by creating environments more conducive to teaching and learning. Investment in school infrastructure is also an investment in our community. It will help property values stay high, enable business growth, and promote the recruitment and retention of talent in our community. "

**JP Claussen:**

"I support it. We have many unmet needs that will be addressed by the remainder of the FMP, and since it is unlikely that the State or Federal governments will deliver the needed funds, we must take care of our own district. As a teacher who taught in the unairconditioned part of West High school, I understand that our teachers and students need adequate facilities. 33 years ago our district had 7,000 students. Now we have 14,000 students. Our population has doubled but our infrastructure has not, and we need to keep pace with our growth as much as possible."

**Karen Woltman:**

"Voters have very few opportunities to directly decide school issues, but GO Bonds are one of them. The ballot language is set and the voters will decide the issue on September 12th, before the new board is seated. I am committed to working with whatever the voters decide to keep making progress on completing facilities projects in the FMP."

**Laura Westemeyer:**

"Our current bond referendum falls short of my expectations in many ways. First, there would be more consensus in our community if we had a smaller bond(s) with language that makes the district more accountable. Historically, our data is most accurate short term, and I am concerned we are committing the next generation to pay off the GO bond since the proposed payoff period for the bond is the year 2042 (assuming all series are issued and no early payoff). Plus with the feelings of distrust in our community about the closing of Hoover, it is possible that community expectations are being set that



may not be fulfilled due to the fact that the FMP can be altered in the future. I never would support the closing of a school in a growing community; the bond language does not guarantee that this may not happen again. Second, for the best opportunity for success and implementation of the largest bond in state history, we need to be demonstrating a clear vision and have effective leadership. If I am elected to serve on the board, I will fully support the community's vote on the matter. If it is necessary to bring a future bond forward, I would work with my fellow board members to bring unified support to pass it as well as work diligently with the ICCSD community to listen to their concerns/issues with the prior bond and try to truly understand why it did not pass.

I do support the District having a Facilities Master Plan. I recognize that growing enrollment, while a good situation to be in, may be challenging going forward for many reasons. Our Facilities Master Plan, although ever evolving, is a good thing to keep our sights on. "

#### 2-Year Candidates

##### **Shawn Eyestone:**

"I fully support the bond. The Facilities Master Plan has driven great change in the last few years in our district. Part of the plan has always been to use a general obligation bond to pay for the next several years' worth of projects. It is key for all of our students to have equitable learning environments. We have already seen a benefit to the general fund by installing more efficient HVAC and lighting systems. With the implementation of WRAM, we had unintended consequences of students needing to be in portables at brand new schools. We have a shortage of seats across the district as well as spaces that are not appropriate for the instruction going on in them. The projects associated with the bond will address many of these issues."

##### **Charlie Eastham:**

"I am supporting the general obligation bond measure and will work to implement the Facilities Master Plan. Approval of the bond will lead to the most timely completion of the Master Plan which will improve the physical educational environment for all students and is directly supportive of district equity goals. I respect the perspectives of people who are not in favor of the bond proposal and look forward to engaging with the entire community, whatever the election result, as we move forward to accomplish our facility goals."