

Technology & Transportation



Bond 2007 provides significant upgrades

“The community and district continues to invest in maintaining the technology necessary for students and staff as well as implementing new projects which have compelling instructional and operating value.”

Harold Rowe, Associate Superintendent for
Technology and School Services

The technology department will begin implementing bond projects in 2008-2009 by deploying interactive whiteboards; installing classroom projectors; providing a wireless overlay system in secondary schools; and replacing the un-interruptible power supply (UPS) systems in communication closets.

Interactive Marker Boards

Interactive Marker Boards (IMBs), which were first implemented as a pilot project through the 2004 Bond Referendum, have raised the interactive and engagement levels of classroom instruction. The effective instructional use of IMBs prompted teachers to compete for access to only a limited number provided by the 2004 Bond. Now, through the 2007 Bond, the district's technology department will increase the ratio of IMBs to a 2-teachers-to-1-whiteboard.

Projectors

The technology department will also begin installing projectors in all classrooms. In secondary schools, the projectors will be mounted

in the ceiling. The School Technology and Readiness (STaR) Chart and data from other districts supports the district implementing digital projectors to allow teachers to present their increasingly digital/computer-based presentations.

Wireless Overlay

Wireless overlay will be provided at secondary campuses, allowing laptops and other wireless technologies to connect to network-based resources from anywhere in the building.

UPS Units

The district's networking equipment currently resides in telecommunication rooms in all buildings. In order to operate at maximum levels of availability, this type of equipment is usually provided with UPS equipment, which provides conditioned power.

Additional technology items to be addressed in the near future include the following: the purchasing of software tools; an Achievement Management System for necessary reporting and information analysis; a pilot program for classroom sound amplification; and the implementation of a high school laptop project designed to prepare students for college and/or the workforce. This project calls for each student to use a laptop for one year during his/her four years in high school.

New school buses purchased, old school buses replaced

The district will provide 38 new school buses beginning in 2008-2009 to accommodate an anticipated student enrollment of more than 100,000 students.

“The district continues to manage its transportation assets amid challenging growth and maintenance conditions,” said Harold Rowe, associate superintendent of technology and school services.

In addition to the new buses, 172 school buses that are more than 20 years old will be replaced.

For the 2009-2010 school year, the district will purchase 36 buses to accommodate growth and replace eight buses exceeding 20 years in age.

“The district will continue to purchase new buses for growth and replace older buses in order to minimize maintenance costs and to assist in improving regional air quality,” Rowe said.

The district will purchase 34 new buses the following school year (2010-2011) to prepare for the projected 116,500 students.

BOND 2004

- **71-Passenger Buses**
Purchased 152 buses
- **47-Passenger Buses**
Purchased 54 buses

BOND 2007

- **71-Passenger Buses**
Ordered 169 buses
(30 new, 139 replacements)
- **47-Passenger Buses**
Ordered 32 buses
(8 new, 24 replacements)

The 2007 Bond Referendum includes monies allocated for technology that:

- accommodates student growth;
- replaces aging technology; and
- increases access for students.

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