

The Tri-City United Public School's Board of Education has the responsibility to plan for school facilities that are safe and secure, support high quality education for enrollment growth, and are structurally sound for today and the future. Student enrollment growth, retaining more of our students within our school district along with school building needs in roof structures, air handling systems, and security measures necessitate the TCU School Board to unanimously support moving forward with a bond referendum on Tuesday, February 13, 2018.

Over two years of study and review conducted by TCU staff, School Board, and outside consultants began in 2014-2015.

Within that timeframe there were months of meetings and discussions held by the 51 member TCU Community Task Force on Facilities that further studied the all of the reports, toured each of our schools, and came to an agreement in identifying 3 core needs:

- 1) School Facility space to meet the growing student enrollment;
- 2) Structural Maintenance needs;
- 3) Safety/Security issues.

Based upon the identified needs and task force recommendation, Tri-City United brought forward a bond referendum on May 24, 2016. The vote difference was only 15 votes.

Since that time, the needs have not gone away and enrollment continues to grow, in particular at our secondary levels. Building structures still need to be addressed with roof replacement, air handling system updated, and secured entrances built for student safety. An investment in preschool programming needs to occur to increase our children access, meet families' needs, and remain at pace with neighboring school districts.

During the 2016-2017 school year, Tri-City United held community listening sessions, conducted a community survey along with our annual parent/guardian survey. The community survey in particular focused on educational priorities and facility needs.

Representatives from the TCU Community Task Force on Facilities came back together in the spring of 2017 to dig into all of this information along with updated enrollment reports to develop a next step recommendation to the TCU School Board for "What" to consider to address the facility needs.

[TCU Community Task Force 2017 Meeting Dates](#): Thursday, May 25; Tuesday, June 6; and Monday, June 12, 2017.

Based upon the continued structural needs, enrollment growth, and input from community representatives, the Tri-City United School Board unanimously decided and supports moving forward with a bond referendum on February 13, 2018. This bond referendum will address our short term needs and Tri-City United's long term needs to continue providing small town benefits and big opportunities for our students and our communities' futures.