

GROWING

A YEAR IN REVIEW

CONROE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

AUGUST 2023



WHAT'S INSIDE?

- » Welcome
- » Upcoming Events
- » Fine Arts & Athletics
- » District Overview
- » Financial Awards
- » Budget & Tax Overview
- » November 2019 Bond Update & 2023 Draft Bond Propositions

www.conroeisd.net



Fast-Growth DISTRICT

71,216
JANUARY 2023



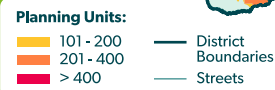
+3,339
67,877
JANUARY 2022



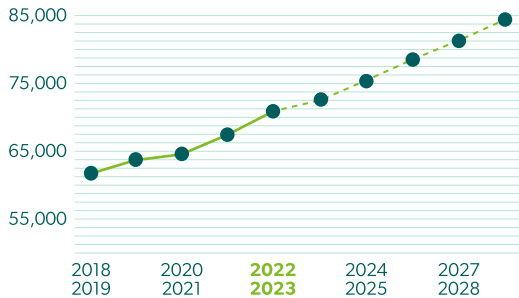
+2,897
64,980
JANUARY 2021

PROJECTED NEW HOUSING OCCUPANCIES

Single-Family &
Multi-Family
October 2022 - October 2032



ENROLLMENT GROWTH



A MESSAGE from DR. CURTIS NULL, Superintendent of Schools



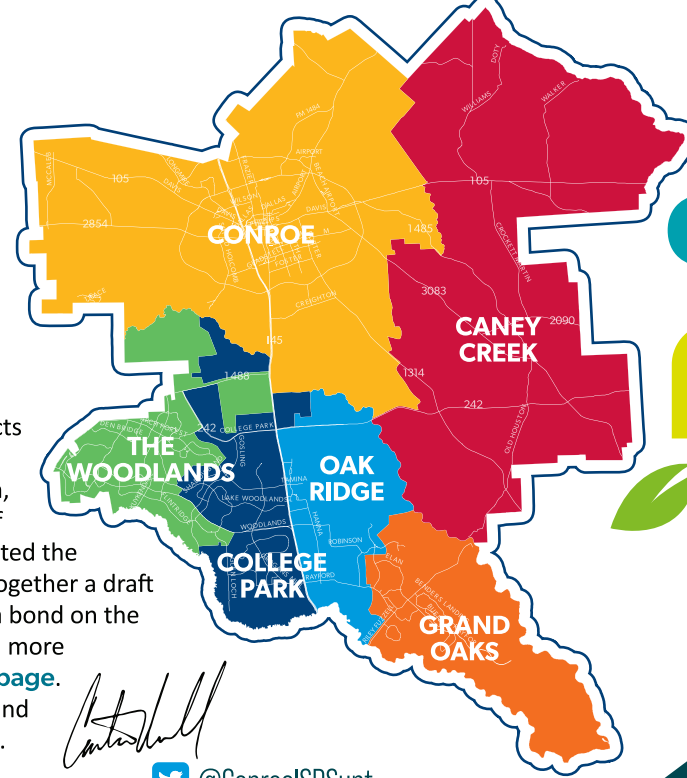
What a great year! We are so proud of the accomplishments of our over 71,000 students and want to thank all teachers, administrators, and staff for their work in supporting them. The District continued to experience unprecedented growth during the 2022-2023 school year - adding over 3,000 students for the second consecutive year. Our recent demographic study projects this will be our new normal, which means we can expect to add approximately 15,000 students in the next five years. To address current and projected growth, a **Bond Planning Committee (BPC)** comprised of 150 individuals from across our community evaluated the District's needs totaling nearly \$3 billion and put together a draft bond proposal of \$1.995 billion in anticipation of a bond on the November 7, 2023 ballot. I encourage you to learn more about this process and proposal on [our BPC webpage](#). We value your partnership in making Conroe ISD and our community a great place to be.



Scan to
LEARN
MORE



Conroe ISD
named **2023
HOMETOWN HERO**
by Interfaith of The Woodlands



Curtis Null
@ConroeISDSupt

AMERICA'S
BEST-IN-STATE
EMPLOYERS
TEXAS

Forbes
2022
POWERED BY STATISTA

Get Involved, **BECOME A VOLUNTEER!**



Scan the code to complete our **volunteer form**, and then contact **your neighborhood school**. You're just a few steps away from being the **next guest reader!**

apps.conroeisd.net/volunteer

VIRTUAL SCHOOL

Conroe ISD's Virtual School is open to Conroe ISD students in **4th through 9th grade** that meet the enrollment guidelines of SB 15 and the District.

The virtual school has a **limited number of students** taught by full-time virtual teachers. Students receive high-quality instruction that aligns with Conroe ISD best-practices.

Enrollment in Conroe ISD's Virtual School is by **application only** and offered to students who reside within the District. Anyone interested in learning more or completing an application for their student should visit virtual.conroeisd.net.

SENIOR PRIORITY PASS

Conroe ISD residents age 60 and over may receive **free admission** to any **Conroe ISD athletic event** at any District facility, excluding playoffs. Qualifying residents will also receive **free admission** to **student fine arts performances** at any District facility, excluding fundraisers.

Complete your application for your **lifetime pass** at the Conroe ISD Administration Building during regular business hours.

Scan to
LEARN
MORE



www.conroeisd.net/communications/senior-priority-pass/

WE LOVE OUR CONROE ISD COMMUNITY

All means all!



If you have a photo of a loved one you'd like included, please bring it to the **Conroe ISD Administration Building** between 8 AM and 4:30 PM Monday - Thursday from **June 5th - July 31st** so it can be scanned for the project.

Photos must be of the individual in their uniform or on active duty. This is open to any resident of Conroe ISD.



VETERANS MEMORIAL MURAL

As a way to honor those who have served or are currently serving in our armed forces, we are creating a photo mural for Veterans Memorial Intermediate opening in the Caney Creek Feeder Zone in August.

PK-12 NEW STUDENT REGISTRATION DAY

SATURDAY | JULY 29 | 9 A.M. - NOON

On-site registration for the **2023-2024 school year** will be available at Grangerland Intermediate, Grand Oaks High School, College Park High School, and Peet Junior High.

No appointments necessary. Please bring copies of all necessary documents.

Registration is for families **new** to Conroe ISD. Current students **do not** register each year.



Scan to
LEARN
MORE

conroeisd.net/parents/enrollment-information/

CONROE ISD CARS & COFFEE

SATURDAY | OCTOBER 21 | 8 - 11 A.M.

at WOODFOREST BANK STADIUM

Roll-in 7:30 - 8:00 a.m. • **RESPECT THE SPOT**



65+ TAX EXEMPTION and FREEZE

Conroe ISD residents age 65 and over qualify for the **over 65 exemption** effective January 1 of any year in which the resident turns 65 or purchases a residence after they are already 65 or older. Conroe ISD **exempts an additional \$15,000** of the assessed value and places a **freeze ceiling on the district tax amount** for qualifying individuals.



Scan to
LEARN MORE
& APPLY

mca-dtx.org/homestead-exemptions/

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Trustees are **elected to four-year terms** and serve as **volunteers** to represent our community at large.

From left to right: Tiffany Baumann Nelson, *Trustee*; Stacey Chase, *2nd Vice President*; Datren Williams, *Secretary*; Theresa Wagaman, *1st Vice President*; Melissa Dungan, *Assistant Secretary*; Misty Odenweller, *Trustee*; Skeeter Hubert, *President*



State, National, & Global CHAMPIONS

Conroe ISD is proud of the **outstanding accomplishments of its students**. Below are some of the many celebrations from the 2022-2023 school year.

- **2023 UIL 6A Girls' 107lb Weight Class Wrestling State Champion**
Riley Rayome, The Woodlands High School
- **2023 UIL 6A Girls' 1-Meter Diving State Champion**
Chloe Sharpe, College Park High School
- **2023 UIL Class 6A Boys' 200-Yard Medley Relay State Champions**
The Woodlands High School
- **2023 UIL Class 6A Girls' 200-Yard Freestyle Relay State Champions**
The Woodlands High School
- **2023 UIL Class 6A Girls' Swimming State Champions**
The Woodlands High School
- **2023 UIL 6A Girls' 138lb Weight Class Wrestling State Champion**
Anna Vogt, College Park High School
- **2023 UIL 6A Boys Doubles Tennis State Champions**
Jose Perez and Emilio Lopez, The Woodlands High School
- **2023 U.S. Marine Corps JROTC National Champion Armed Division Regulation Commander**
Isabel Martinez, College Park High School
- **2023 National High School Drill Team Champion - Division 1 Armed Commander Trophy**
Isabel Martinez, College Park High School
- **2023 U.S. Marine Corps JROTC National Champions Armed Division Color Guard**
College Park High School
- **2023 National High School Drill Team Champions - Division 1 Armed Color Guard**
College Park High School
- **2023 National High School Drill Team Champions - Division 1 Armed Regulation**
College Park High School
- **2023 U.S. Marine Corps JROTC National Drill Champions**
College Park High School
- **2023 National High School Drill Team Champions - Division 1 Armed Overall Championship**
College Park High School
- **2023 UIL 6A Current Issues and Events Academic State Champion**
Nixon Gorka, The Woodlands High School
- **Special Olympics Powerlifting and Track & Field State Champions**
Conroe Stars Team Members
- **2023 Destination Imagination Global Champions**
Insoluble Fraction, Knox Junior High



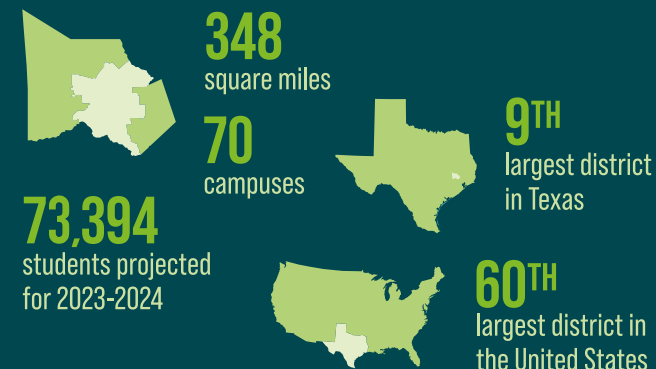
The Woodlands High School **Highlanders** earned their **9th Lone Star Cup** for their performance in district and state 6A championships for the 2022-2023 school year.



The UIL Lone Star Cup is awarded annually to **six high schools** across the State, one in each UIL classification (1A, 2A, 3A, 4A, 5A, and 6A).

FAST-GROWTH DISTRICT

Conroe ISD is a **348-square-mile school district** that is geographically diverse and **includes The Woodlands, Shenandoah, Oak Ridge North, Conroe, and Grangerland** as well as several other smaller towns, communities, and unincorporated areas. As the **9th largest district in Texas** and the **60th largest in the U.S.**, Conroe ISD serves over **71,000 students across 70 campuses** and is repeatedly named a **fast-growth school district**. Each of the last two years, the District has grown by 3,000 students.



TOP WORKPLACE

In addition to being the largest school district in Montgomery County, Conroe ISD is also the **largest employer** with over 10,000 employees including substitutes. Conroe ISD was named a **Top Workplace** by the Houston Chronicle in 2021, awarded **America's Best-in-State Employers for Texas** by Forbes in 2022, and rated the **Best School District, Most Diverse School District, Best Place To Teach**, and **Best District for Athletes** in Montgomery County by Niche in 2023.

~9,000 employees



10,000+ including substitutes



LARGEST EMPLOYER

in Montgomery County



ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Conroe ISD offers a comprehensive academic program to meet the needs of all students. **ACT and SAT scores perennially outpace the State and National averages**, and, in 2023, the District had **37 National Merit Semifinalists**. Conroe ISD celebrated the graduation of over 4,800 members of the Class of 2023 along with the **successes of students across the District**. A national speech and debate semifinalist, a Regeneron Science Talent Search top winner, Presidential Scholars, and science fair winners at the State and international levels are just some of the honors our students received in 2022-2023.



96.5%
2020-2021 graduation rate
State: 90.3%



6,538
AP tests passed in
2021 - 2022



5,521
dual credit courses passed in
2021 - 2022



24.7
average ACT score
State: 19.8 | Nation: 19.8



1092
average SAT score
State: 1001 | Nation: 1050

CAREER AND WORKFORCE READINESS

Conroe ISD's **Career and Technical Education (CTE)** curriculum provides students in grades 7 through 12 the opportunity to participate in a variety of course offerings across **13 career clusters** and **29 programs of study**. Conroe ISD **students earn thousands of certifications** each school year providing greater post-secondary opportunities for students whether they go straight into the workforce or continue on to college. In the 2022-2023 school year, CTE students celebrated a **variety of successes** at the **Montgomery County Fair** and in areas such as audio/video production and culinary arts. CTE culinary arts students at Conroe High School **placed 1st** in the main dish competition and received a **Chef's Choice award** from celebrity guest Chef Anne Burrell at the "Cook Around the World" contest at Epcot.



13
career clusters



29
programs of study



150
course offerings



COMMITMENT TO SAFETY

Conroe ISD is vigilant in maintaining safe learning and working environments for students and staff. We are proud to have the **third largest law enforcement agency** in Montgomery County and work hand-in-hand with local law enforcement agencies to keep our community safe. Learn more about the Conroe ISD Police Department at [police.conroeisd.net](https://www.conroeisd.net/police).



81
police officers including
3 detectives and 3 K-9 officers



100 HOURS
of training per year per officer including active shooter, crisis intervention, and mental health



3RD LARGEST
law enforcement agency
in Montgomery County

CONROE ISD FINE ARTS

The District's six comprehensive high school choirs delivered **award-winning performances** at the 2023 American Classic Madrigal and Chamber Choir Festivals where Oak Ridge Rhapsody **placed first**.

Conroe ISD was named a **2022 Texas Art Education Association District of Distinction** for providing a well-rounded education that promotes and integrates visual arts curriculum to inspire creativity and connect learners to their community and beyond.

Thirty-eight high school students from across Conroe ISD were named **2023 Texas Music Educators Association All-State Musicians**.

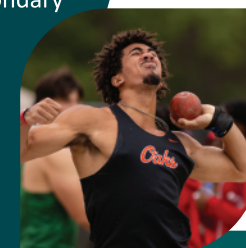
For **over a decade**, Conroe ISD has received a **Best Communities for Music Education Award**.

Annually, student artists from across the District have their pieces showcased at the **Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo** with many receiving awards. Among the honors are two students who won the **Quick Draw competition**.

CONROE ISD ATHLETICS

Conroe ISD's athletic programs continue their tradition of excellence with **strong performances at the local and State levels**. Over the past year, student athletes have been celebrated for their tremendous accomplishments.

The athletics programs at our **seven junior highs** continue to nurture and develop young athletes which **bolsters the success** of our high school programs.



All varsity home football games are streamed on Conroe ISD's YouTube channels for Woodforest Bank Stadium and Moorhead Stadium.

Conroe ISD Athletics - Woodforest Bank Stadium
Conroe ISD Athletics - Moorhead Stadium



Advertise with us! Call 936-709-7708 to learn more.

NUMBER of YEARS

FOR AWARDS

10 Top 10
in State
10+ Years

Award of
Excellence
40+ Years 40

19 "A"
Rating
19 Years

3/3
Stars
11 Years 11

4 Award
of Merit
4 Years

Award of
Excellence
1 Year 1

FINANCIAL AWARDS



The Education Resource Group

According to the Education Resource Group, which provides an independent framework for managing ongoing improvement among school districts, the Conroe Independent School District continues to perform at high levels. For over a decade, **Conroe ISD has ranked in the top 10 among the largest 200 school districts** in Texas for academic and financial performance.



CISD Receives Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting from ASBO

For 50 years, the Association of School Business Officials (ASBO) International's Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting has honored school districts for their high-quality Annual Comprehensive Financial Report.

Conroe ISD is **one of 57 school districts in Texas** to be recognized with the most recent award - marking **over 40 consecutive years of recognition for the District for providing transparent and quality financial information**.

ASBO International provides programs, resources, services, and a global network to school business professionals who are passionate about quality education. They promote the highest standards of school business management, professional growth, and the effective use of educational resources.



Conroe ISD Receives Highest Financial Rating for 19th Consecutive Year

Conroe ISD received an **"A" rating, or "Superior," under the Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas (FIRST) for the 19th consecutive year**. The "Superior" rating is the State's highest, demonstrating the quality of Conroe ISD's financial management and reporting system.

The financial accountability system requires the Texas Education Agency (TEA) to review the audited financial reports from all districts. The FIRST ratings are based on 20 financial indicators, such as administrative cost expenditures; the accuracy of a district's financial information submitted to TEA; and any financial vulnerabilities or material weaknesses in internal controls as determined by an external auditor.

"We believe in the responsible management of taxpayers' dollars and transparency. This recognition, for the 19th consecutive year, validates that," said Darrin Rice, Conroe ISD Chief Financial Officer.

FIRST ensures that Texas public schools are held accountable for the quality of their financial management practices and that they improve those practices. The system is designed to encourage Texas public schools to better manage their financial resources to provide the maximum allocation possible for direct instructional purposes.



**Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts
Awards CISD for 11 Years of Transparency**

Conroe ISD has received the **highest recognition** for transparency from the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts **11 years in a row**.

The Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts' Transparency Stars program recognizes local governments and school districts for going above and beyond in their transparency efforts.

Conroe ISD has received a star in each of the three areas for which it is eligible: **traditional finances, contracts and procurement, and debt obligations**. The District has been recognized for providing clear and meaningful financial information not only by posting financial documents, but also through summaries, visualizations, downloadable data, and other relevant information.



TASBO Presents CISD with Purchasing Award for 4th Consecutive Year

For the fourth consecutive year, Conroe ISD received the Purchasing Award of Merit from the Texas Association of School Business Officials (TASBO) for its **commitment to following professional standards** in the acquisition of goods and services.

"We believe in conscientious fiscal management," said Rick Reeves, Conroe ISD Director of Procurement & Business Services. "Responsible use of taxpayers' dollars is a duty not taken lightly."

The Award of Merit was established in 2009 to recognize school districts and other educational entities. Each year, volunteers with the TASBO Purchasing & Supply Management Research Committee evaluate the award criteria to ensure it represents the latest best practices. They then review new and recertification applications. Conroe ISD was one of only 67 districts in the State that met the stringent criteria to qualify for the award.



TASBO Presents CISD with Excellence in Financial Management Award

The Texas Association of School Business Officials (TASBO) recognized Conroe ISD with an Award of Excellence in Financial Management for **demonstrating professional standards, best practices, and innovations in the area of financial management and reporting**.

The criteria to qualify for the Award of Excellence in Financial Management is stringent, based on financial accounting and reporting guidelines identified by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) Financial Accountability System Resource Guide. Applicants must submit documents across 11 key areas, which are reviewed by a TASBO accounting subcommittee.

This is the 3rd year for this program and the 1st year for Conroe ISD to receive the award. Conroe ISD is one of 23 school districts to receive this recognition for 2023.



Learn more on the Conroe ISD Texas Transparency webpage

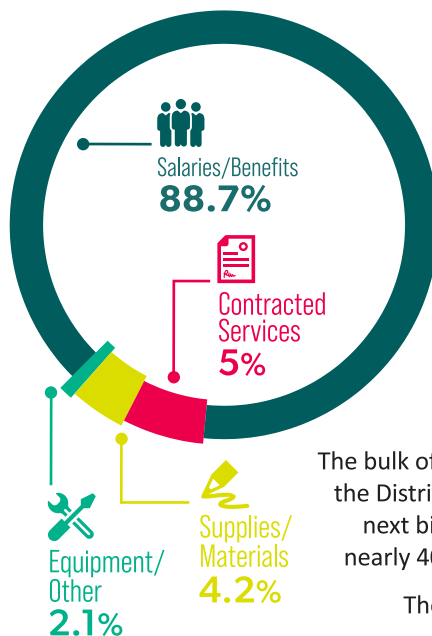
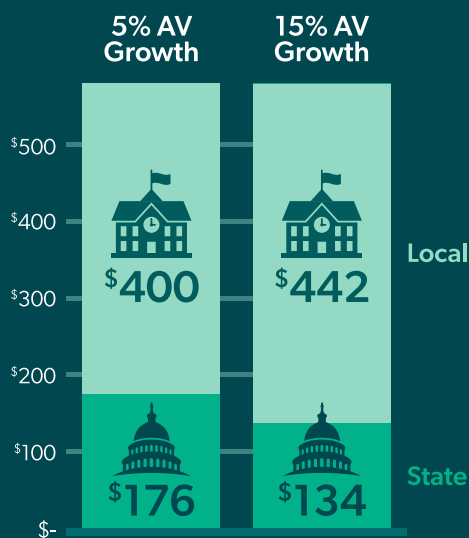
STATE SHARE VS. LOCAL SHARE



Although local appraised values (AV) may increase, **Conroe ISD does not** receive an **increase** in funding to the **maintenance & operations side of the budget** because **the State reduces the funding** it provides to the District, **dollar for dollar**.

Total Entitlement \$576 M

(based on 2022-2023 State funding formula)



2023-2024 BUDGET

\$672,772,241

A LOOK at Conroe ISD's OPERATING BUDGET

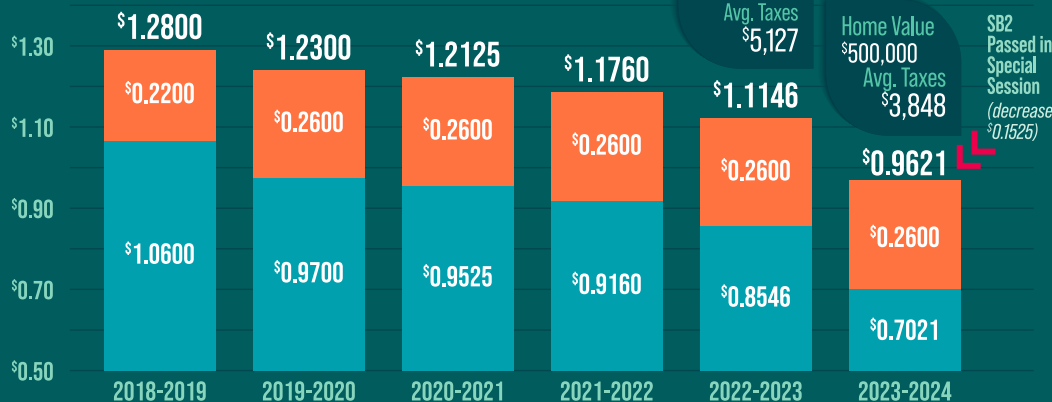
The 2022-2023 Conroe ISD budget included a competitive compensation plan and continued support to provide supplies and equipment for maintaining a safe and productive learning environment for our students and staff.

The bulk of Conroe ISD's operating budget is **salaries**, given that the District is the largest employer in Montgomery County. The next biggest expenditures are fuel for our buses to transport nearly 40,000 students daily and utilities for our 70 campuses.

The Board of Trustees will hold public hearings in August prior to adopting the 2023-2024 budget.

TAX RATE HISTORY

Maintenance & Operations Debt Service

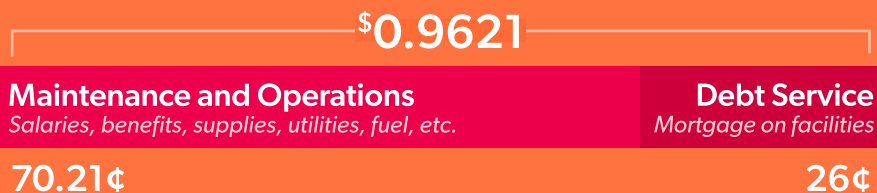


Conroe ISD's 2022-2023 tax rate of \$1.1146 is over **6¢ lower than the 2021-2022 tax rate** of \$1.1760 and represents **a decrease of over 16¢** in the last four years. With the 2022-2023 rate, Conroe ISD continues to have **the lowest tax rate** when compared to surrounding districts that are similar in size, performance, and demographics.

The 2023-2024 tax rate is projected to be **5.49¢ lower than the 2022-2023 rate** according to current law. The Board of Trustees will adopt a new rate this fall.

the TWO SIDES of SCHOOL DISTRICT TAX RATES

School district tax rates are comprised of **two sides**: the **maintenance & operations** and the **debt service**.



The **MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS** portion of the tax rate is used to fund the day-to-day operations of the district. The **DEBT SERVICE** or I&S portion of the tax rate provides funding for principal and interest payments on debt the district issues to finance the building of new facilities and other capital expenditures.

conroeisd.net/financial-services/texas-transparency/



2023 BOND PROPOSITIONS



A

- 8 New Schools
- 3 Additions
- 5 Major Renovations
- 2 Master Plans
- Infrastructure
- Safety
- Land
- Transportation
- Tech. Infrastructure

\$1,820,000,000

B

- Technology Devices

\$40,000,000

C

- 16 PE Classrooms/Elementary Gyms
- CTE - Ag Barns

\$112,877,000

D

- Pool
outdoor pool & Natatorium
mechanical refurbishment

\$22,900,000



Scan to
LEARN MORE

or visit conroeisd.net/bond/

WHEN MY HOUSE APPRAISAL GOES UP, DOES CONROE ISD RECEIVE MORE MONEY?



Scan to
LEARN MORE

Although local appraised values may increase, Conroe ISD **does not** receive those additional funds to the Maintenance & Operations side of the budget because *the State reduces the funding it provides to the District*, dollar for dollar. Increased values do help with mortgage- like payments on bonds. The State gives districts **no funding** for the construction of schools; they **require local communities to fund construction** through **bonds**.

BOND AMOUNT COMPARISONS PER STUDENT

DISTRICT	DATE	TOTAL ASK	STUDENT ENROLLMENT <small>based on 21-22 TAPR</small>	\$ PER STUDENT	COMPARATIVE AMOUNT	TAX RATE
Splendora ISD	Nov 2022	\$225,000,000	4,384	\$51,323	\$3,766,799,726	\$1.3881
Willis ISD	May 2022	\$225,000,000	8,432	\$26,684	\$1,958,449,953	\$1.1546
Montgomery ISD	May 2022	\$326,907,090	9,343	\$34,990	\$2,568,020,867	\$1.2289
Magnolia ISD	Nov 2022	\$232,000,000	13,658	\$16,986	\$1,246,698,492	\$1.1472
New Caney	May 2023	\$695,000,000	17,116	\$40,605	\$2,980,184,038	\$1.4430
Spring ISD	Nov 2022	\$850,000,000	33,425	\$25,430	\$1,866,414,361	\$1.2546
Lamar CISD	Nov 2022	\$1,716,506,501	39,579	\$43,369	\$3,183,033,380	\$1.2420
Humble ISD	May 2022	\$775,000,000	48,112	\$16,108	\$1,182,248,711	\$1.2929
Klein ISD	May 2022	\$1,101,865,000	53,294	\$20,675	\$1,517,436,856	\$1.2300
Conroe ISD	Nov 2023 <small>anticipated</small>	\$1,995,377,000 <small>potential max. total</small>	73,394 <small>proj. 2023-2024</small>	\$27,193	\$1,995,377,000 <small>potential max. total</small>	\$1.1146

2 cent
impact =
\$6.67 /
month



on home value
of \$500K
(including
\$100K homestead
exemption)

**DID YOU
KNOW?**

Bond funds
cannot be used
to fund staff
salaries.

NOVEMBER 2019 BOND UPDATE

Projects included in the November 2019 Bond are wrapping up. This year, **Hines Elementary** will open in the Grand Oaks Feeder and a **new Moorhead Junior High** will open in the Caney Creek Feeder. The old Moorhead Junior High building is transitioning to **the new Veterans Memorial Intermediate**.

Catch up with all of the November 2019 Bond updates at conroeisd.net/bond.

Elementary #47
Grand Oaks Feeder
Hines Elementary
Opens August 2023



Elementary #48
Caney Creek/Conroe Feeders
Bartlett Elementary
Opens August 2024



New Junior High
Caney Creek Feeder
New Moorhead JH
Opens August 2023

