

Austin ISD 2017 Bond Implementation

CBOC Communications Summary

May 2020



CAT and Community Meetings

As the district transitioned to virtual/continuous learning, the bond communications team worked quickly to move all upcoming CAT and community meetings online as well. To ensure a smooth and consistent transition for project teams and stakeholders, the bond communications team created the [COVID-19 communication protocols for bond meetings and events](#).

These communications protocols were approved by the Construction Management Department and Department of Communications and Community Engagement. They outline how meetings and events should be conducted for the rest of the spring 2020 semester while the district works to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

It is the district's preference that all project teams use the platform Zoom to host meetings. The CAT and community meetings that have been held virtually so far have been successful, and there has even been an increase in participation and more information covered in this format.

Below is a list of upcoming meetings that are scheduled to be held virtually. New meetings are always being added; to view the most up-to-date calendar of events, please visit www.AISDFuture.com/events.

Community Meetings

- Austin High School - May 21 at 11 a.m.

CAT Meetings

- Murchison Middle School - May 13 at 4 p.m.
- Austin High School - May 14 at 11 a.m.
- Bowie High School - May 20 at 5:30 p.m.
- Eastside Memorial ECHS and International High School at the Original L.C. Anderson Campus - June 3 at 5 p.m.

Milestone Ceremonies

Due to COVID-19 and campus closures, in-person events are not possible for the four projects scheduled to break ground this spring: Austin High School, Brentwood Elementary School, Casis Elementary School and Hill Elementary School. In order to ensure these schools are still able to celebrate the start of construction, the bond communications team looked at alternative options for each event.

Construction at Austin High School will take place in phases, with the first phase starting in May on the track and second starting later in the summer on the academic wing. This gives the district an opportunity to host a groundbreaking at a later date, hopefully in-person. It was determined, with input from Principal Taylor and the project team, that there would be a groundbreaking ceremony to kick-off the second phase of construction in late summer or fall.

For the elementary schools breaking ground this spring, the district wanted to ensure they were still able to celebrate the start of construction for their schools. The bond communications team worked closely with DCCE, CMD and the school principals to move these groundbreakings online.

Each school will have a virtual groundbreaking via a Zoom Webinar, with activities and pre-recorded videos tailored to their community. Joining the celebration led by the respective principal, Dr. Cruz and the Trustees will also provide remarks in real time.

Here is a list of the dates and times for each virtual groundbreaking:

- [Hill Elementary School](#) - May 1 at 10 a.m.
- [Casis Elementary School](#) - May 8 at 9 a.m.
- [Brentwood Elementary School](#) - May 22 at 10:30 a.m.

We encourage everyone involved in these projects to attend these virtual celebrations.

Community Outreach

In late March, as the situation with COVID-19 continued to unfold, the bond communications team drafted and shared an [update about bond projects](#). The update, which can be found on the homepage of www.AISDFuture.com, explains the safety measures being taken on construction sites as they continue to operate as essential services.

While the bond communications team continues to monitor questions and concerns related to COVID-19, regular project updates are going out. For example, a construction update went out to the Eastside Memorial ECHS, International High School and L.C. Anderson communities on April 28. Regular updates are also being shared with the Brentwood Elementary School and Webb Middle School communities in regards to temporary swing space planning. Direct mailers are also being sent to neighbors within a half-mile to mile radius of all upcoming construction projects.

To read the COVID-19 construction update, view the latest blog posts and follow along with community meetings and events, please visit www.AISDFuture.com.