

Next Steps

Thank you to the Abilene community as well as the KIDS (Keep Improving District Schools) committee for participation in the bond issue election. This was an independent group that volunteered their time -- KIDS committee members became informed about the issues, and then created a plan to inform the community.

Without the work of the KIDS committee the community would not have been as well informed before going to the polls. Because of voter approval we know now how to proceed and are looking to the future.

Work has started on the updates and new construction even though there are no physical signs. After the bond issue was passed on April 1st, the Board of Education began to research the construction delivery method. They are going down the path of construction management at this time looking at the pros and cons.

We are also in the process of interviewing the staff affected by the construction and getting their thoughts and input before the initial designs are drawn. So far we have talked with the Garfield staff, the middle school staff, and the high school staff. We have one more meeting to visit with the parties at Kennedy and McKinley. The people using the buildings on a daily basis with students are sharing great information. They know the needs of the buildings and the buildings are evolving everyday.

The drawings will begin soon and they will be reviewed several times along the way to assure the best spaces are designed for our students. We have been told that it will take about six months to get this step completed before anything begins within the buildings. So seeing progress on the sites will be down the road a way, but please know next steps are in progress. And, I will continue to keep you posted on steps along the way.