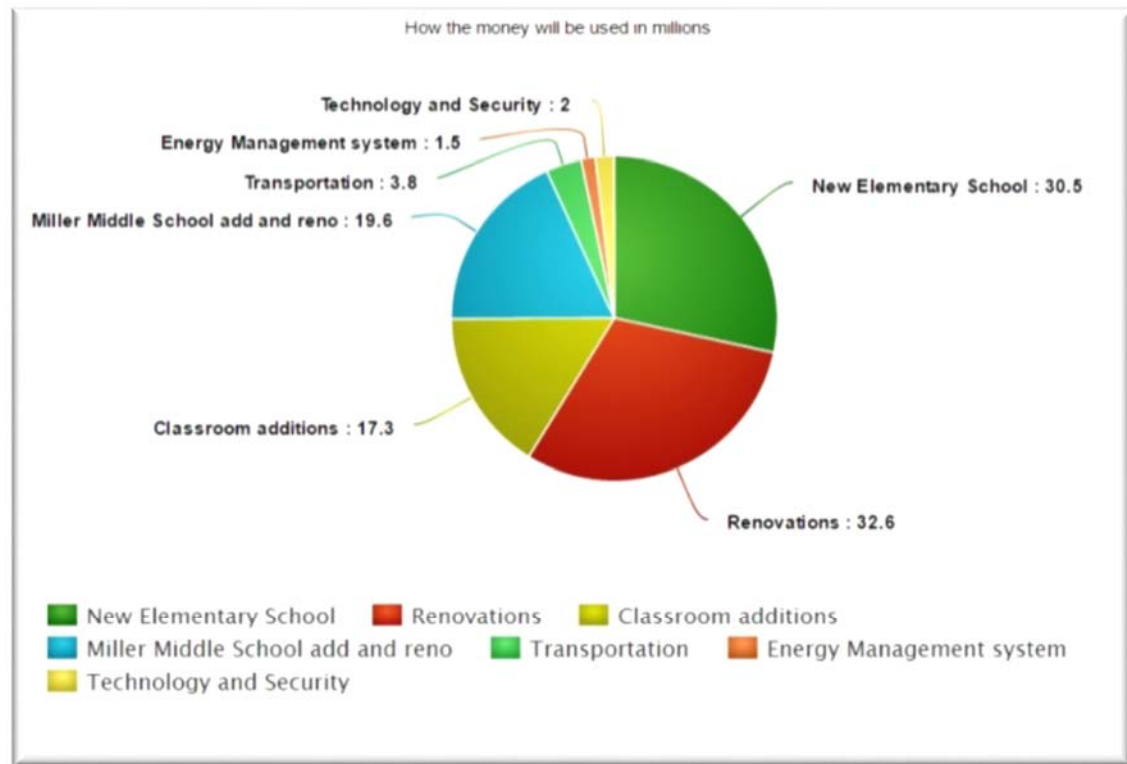


# San Marcos CISD May ballot proposition to contain potential issues with San Marcos High School

**BY: MORGAN MITCHELL**

*SAN MARCOS, TEXAS* – San Marcos CISD board voted to put a \$107.3 million bond on the May ballot Monday night to make district wide improvements.

The proposed bond will allow the district to make improvement renovations, build a new elementary school, assist in transportation, and make classroom additions to San Marcos High School.



Break down of how the money proposed on the ballot will be used to benefit schools in San Marcos CISD.

Matthew Butler, the substitute coordinator for San Marcos High School, has seen a deficit in educators with the increase in student enrollment.

“This year, we probably average about two to four teaching positions that are not filled and we are having trouble filling those positions,” said Butler.

The school is very specific when considering hiring new educators.

The sizes of the classes also pose a classroom management issue to teachers. Julia Villarreal, a geometry teacher at San Marcos High School, has had difficulties teaching students due to class size.

“My second period class is my most difficult class because it is so large,” said Villarreal.

The excess of students put together in one room, often makes it more difficult to keep the students on task and keep the learning environment conducive.

“[The students need] a lot of attention,” said Villarreal. “But they are good kids.”

Butler does not see this as an immediate problem.

“At the moment, I feel class sizes are manageable, from a clerk perspective,” said Butler.

The possibility of adding classrooms and making classes smaller definitely has its benefits.

“Adding additional classrooms would be beneficial in making smaller classes, which would be easier to manage for teachers,” said Butler. “Also this may open up more one on one help with more students.”

San Marcos currently has six elementary schools, two middle schools, and one high school. San Marcos High School is already large in square footage and population. Some feel that adding a new high school would be more beneficial than adding classrooms.

“I feel adding a new school would be beneficial for the increase of incoming students so class sizes are not overcrowded,” said Butler.

However, with the standing shortage of teachers already, opening a new school may pose an even larger educator deficit.

“With a shortage of new teachers, it may be hard to have appropriate size classrooms per adult,” said Butler.

The proposition will be on the May ballot and is assured not to increase taxes of property holders in San Marcos.