

# Comal Independent School District

## NEWS RELEASE

**Contact:** Kari Hutchison  
830-221-2045

**Release Date:** Dec. 13, 2005

### **\$189 million bond package approved by voters in Comal ISD**

Voters today in the Comal Independent School District approved a \$189 million bond package to build five elementary schools and a middle school, convert, renovate or upgrade 15 existing schools, buy 75 school buses, upgrade technology, purchase land for schools, and combine district support facilities under one roof.

Proposition 1 for \$155,230,000 was approved with 2,666 voting for it and 1,635 voting against it. The largest of the two propositions incorporates the majority of the projects — three elementary schools, one middle school, renovations, conversions, and upgrades to existing schools, buses, technology, land, and a support facility.

Proposition 2 for \$34 million was approved with 2,586 voting for it and 1,627 voting against it. Two additional elementary schools can be built under this proposition. It is projected that both propositions together will help the district address enrollment growth for five years.

“We’re pleased that voters approved both propositions so we can address the incredible student growth we’re experiencing in Comal,” says Dr. Marc Walker, superintendent. “The next few years will be critical to our success and we appreciate our patrons’ support. We will be good stewards of the taxpayers’ dollars.”

The projected tax impact for the entire \$189 million bond package is 2 cents on the debt service portion of the tax rate. That translates into about a \$25 a year increase, beginning in 2008, for the homeowner owning the average priced home of \$177,000.

In the past four years, Comal ISD has been the fourth fastest growing school district of its size in the state, according to Texas Education Agency data.

More than 800 new students registered in Comal ISD schools this year. Projected enrollment by 2010 will exceed 16,000 students.

Seven schools will be near or exceeding capacity by 2006 — Specht, Rahe Bulverde, Bill Brown, Arlon Seay, Smithson Valley High, Comal, and Frazier.

The district has saved almost \$9 million over the last couple of years by refinancing bond debt. Projects from the last bond issue, in 1999, are complete with the exception of Canyon Lake High School, which is under construction and will open in 2007.

Detailed information about the projects in the bond issue can be found at [www.comalisd.org](http://www.comalisd.org) under the Bond 2005 link.