

FAQs for High School Athletic Turf & Fields

1. Which schools will receive new artificial turf and upgrades to their sports fields as part of the 2022 Bond?

As part of the 2022 Bond program, the high schools below will receive upgrades to their athletic fields. These projects are primarily used for high school athletics but will also support marching band competitions, physical education activities, middle school competitions, and track meets as required.

2. What projects are included in the High School Turf & Field 2022 Bond?

School	Project
Akins ECHS	Artificial turf, scoreboard, resurface track, lights, seating, at football/soccer and lights at baseball/softball
Anderson HS	Artificial turf, scoreboard, resurface track, lights, seating, at football/soccer and lights at baseball/softball
Austin HS	Artificial turf, scoreboard, resurface track, lights, seating, at football/soccer and lights at baseball/softball
Bowie HS	Artificial turf, scoreboard, resurface track, lights, seating,at football/soccer and lights at baseball/softball
Crockett ECHS	Artificial turf, scoreboard, resurface track, lights, seating, at football/soccer and lights at baseball/softball
Eastside ECHS Yellow Jacket Stadium	Artificial turf, press box, upgrades to fieldhouse, scoreboard, resurface track, lights, seating, concessions, and restrooms at football/soccer
LBJ ECHS	Artificial turf, scoreboard, resurface track, lights, seating, at football/soccer and lights at baseball/softball



School	Project
LASA	Artificial turf, scoreboard, resurface track, lights, seating, at football/soccer and lights at baseball/softball
McCallum HS	Artificial turf, scoreboard, resurface track, lights, seating, at football/soccer and lights at baseball/softball
Navarro ECHS	Artificial turf, scoreboard, resurface track, lights, seating, at football/soccer and lights at baseball/softball
Northeast ECHS/ International HS	Artificial turf, scoreboard, resurface track, lights, seating, at football/soccer and lights at baseball/softball
Travis ECHS	Artificial turf, scoreboard, resurface track, lights, seating, at football/soccer and lights at baseball/softball

3. What is the status of the turf and field projects as of Spring 2025? Designs have been submitted for permitting with the City of Austin for all of the schools listed. We have secured one full permit for the field at LBJ ECHS and are expecting preliminary permits for 8 more this spring. The projected timeline for these projects can be found on the <u>bond page</u> and will be updated as needed. Please note that this timeline is subject to change based on permitting,

4. Why does it take so long for work to begin on these projects?

construction, and bidding processes.

The district has been working diligently to advance these projects since the bond passed in November 2022 and construction on the first fields is expected to begin this semester.

Funds were released in March 2023 for the Construction Management Department to begin solicitation of design teams. The design contracts were executed in October 2023 and the first permit applications for LBJ Early College High School and Northeast Early College High School were submitted for city review in March 2024. While the district originally aimed to complete the first few fields by the end of Summer 2024, installation



of artificial turf is a complex process that requires extensive design and permitting. Each high school site also presents unique challenges including steep topography, floodplain issues, and/or coordination with the design of modernization projects also funded through the 2022 Bond Program.

Austin ISD has been working collaboratively with the City of Austin Development Services Department to ensure the artificial turf and associated drainage and water quality improvements at each campus meet current codes and do not negatively impact the environment or increase flooding.

In July 2024, Austin ISD formed a Campus Architectural Team consisting of principals and athletic coordinators from all high schools as well as athletics department leadership. This team has helped guide the design of each field and make decisions based on site-specific constraints.

Additionally, design codes for floodplains and drainage have become stricter since these campuses were originally built, which has increased complexity in design adding costs, time, and permitting requirements for all the projects. The permitting process can take 8-12 months for a new site plan and 3-6 months for revision, depending on project complexity and City requirements. Challenges such as site limitations, design updates, and the City of Austin's permitting process can further extend timelines.

5. How are turf and field improvement projects prioritized?

Austin ISD strives to complete every HS turf and field project as quickly as we can, but each school campus presents its own challenges. Projects are prioritized based on campus-specific needs and challenges, such as site conditions, permitting requirements, costs, and schedules. In Spring of 2024 we focused with the sites that had the fewest site constraints and we hoped to be able to utilize a site plan correction process which allow for the fastest permitting. This is why LBJ and NECHS are ahead of the others.

6. Will these projects impact school or community use of the fields?

Details on field usage and construction-related impacts are being considered and coordinated. These impacts will be communicated to each campus as project timelines are finalized. Additionally, the Athletic Department has committed to ensuring that each school impacted by construction will have suitable training



fields available and will coordinate with other campus fields to minimize disruptions.

Per Board policy (GKD - Local), all outdoor spaces on Austin ISD campuses, including athletic fields and tracks, should be open to the public outside of school hours. The hours of closure include athletic practices and games. Community members using campus outdoor facilities are required to follow all rules on posted signage. Campuses may close facilities to public use on a case-by-case basis if damage to the facilities occurs during community use hours.

7. Will any of these schools have any other improvements to their athletic spaces as part of the 2022 Bond?

Yes, some schools may have additional athletic space improvements, including upgrades to concessions and restrooms, as part of their school modernization projects. Notably, Travis ECHS, Yellow Jacket Stadium, and Crockett ECHS turf and field projects are included under their respective modernization projects. Specific details about these improvements for each school can be found in the Bond Book.

8. What is the HS Turf and Field Campus Architectural Team (CAT)?

The CAT consists of high school athletic coordinators, principals, central athletics staff, and community members. This group helps establish priorities, provides input during the design process, and serves as advocates for campus-specific needs. It was created to ensure that there is the appropriate balance of equity and equality among our high school turf and field projects. The HS Turf and Field CAT process began in the summer of 2024 to refine project requirements for each campus and since has been actively engaged in ensuring the projects align with both district standards and the unique needs of each school community.

9. How do I get involved with the project and provide input?

CAT meetings are open to the public and up to five minutes of public comment will be allowed per meeting with a limit of one minute per speaker. Those meeting dates and times will be published on the calendar at AISDFuture.com once they are confirmed.

10. Who can I contact with questions or feedback?

For additional information on the 2022 Bond, please reach out to the district using the Comment Form.