such jurisdiction.

## PRELIMINARY OFFICIAL STATEMENT Dated July 26, 2024

NEW ISSUE - BOOK ENTRY ONLY

Enhanced/Unenhanced Ratings: Moody's: "Aaa" / "A1" PSF: "Applied For"

Due: February 15, as shown on page ii herein

(See "THE PERMANENT SCHOOL FUND GUARANTEE PROGRAM" and "OTHER PERTINENT INFORMATION – Municipal Bond Rating" herein)

In the opinion of Bond Counsel, assuming the accuracy of certain representations and certifications, and continuing compliance with certain tax covenants, under existing statutes, regulations, rulings and judicial decisions, interest on the Bonds is excludable from gross income for federal income tax purposes and is not an item of tax preference for purposes of the federal individual alternative minimum tax imposed on individuals. In the case of the federal alternative minimum tax imposed by Section 55(b)(2) of the Code on applicable corporations (as defined in Section 59(k) of the Code), interest on the Bonds is not excluded from the determination of adjusted financial statement income. See "TAX MATTERS" herein for a description of certain other federal tax consequences of ownership of the Bonds.



## \$48,960,000° ROYAL INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT (A political subdivision of the State of Texas located in Waller County, Texas) UNLIMITED TAX SCHOOL BUILDING BONDS, SERIES 2024

Dated Date: August 15, 2024 Interest to Accrue from Date of Delivery (defined below)

**AUTHORITY FOR ISSUANCE AND SECURITY** ... The Royal Independent School District (the "District") is issuing Unlimited Tax School Building Bonds, Series 2024 (the "Bonds") pursuant to the Constitution and general laws of the State of Texas (the "State"), including, particularly, Chapter 1371, Texas Government Code, as amended; Chapter 45, Texas Education Code, as amended; an election held in the District on May 6, 2023 (the "Election") authorizing the issuance of unlimited tax bonds and a bond order (the "Order") adopted by the Board of Trustees (the "Board") of the District on May 13, 2024 in which the Board delegated pricing of the Bonds and certain other matters to a "Pricing Officer" who will approve and execute, on or about August 5,2024, a pricing certificate (the "Pricing Certificate" and, together with the Order, the "Bond Order"), which will complete the sale of the Bonds. The Bonds, when issued, will constitute valid and binding obligations of the District and will be payable from an annual ad valorem tax levied, without legal limit as to the rate or amount, against all taxable property within the District (see "THE BONDS - Authority for Issuance"). The District has applied for and anticipates receiving conditional approval from the Texas Education Agency for the payment of the principal of and interest on the Bonds to be guaranteed under the Permanent School Fund Guarantee Program which guarantee will automatically become effective when the Attorney General of Texas approves the Bonds. See "APPENDIX D - THE PERMANENT SCHOOL FUND GUARANTEE PROGRAM" herein.

PAYMENT TERMS ... Interest on the Bonds will accrue from the Date of Delivery (defined below) and will be payable on February 15 and August 15 of each year, commencing February 15, 2025, until stated maturity or prior redemption and will be calculated on the basis of a 360-day year of twelve 30-day months. The Bonds will be issued as fully registered obligations in the principal denominations of \$5,000 or any integral multiple thereof within a stated maturity. The definitive Bonds will be registered and delivered to Cede & Co., the nominee of The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York ("DTC"), pursuant to the Book-Entry-Only System described herein. DTC will act as securities depository. No physical delivery of the bonds will be made to the beneficial owners thereof. The principal, premium, if any, and interest of the Bonds will be payable by the paying agent/registrar to Cede & Co., which will make distributing of the amounts paid to participating members of DTC for subsequent payment to the beneficial owners of the Bonds. See "BOOK-ENTRY-ONLY SYSTEM" herein. The initial paying agent/registrar is BOKF, NA, Dallas, Texas. See "REGISTRATION, TRANSFER, AND EXCHANGE" herein.

**PURPOSE** ... Proceeds from the sale of the Bonds will be used for the purposes of (i) the construction, acquisition, rehabilitation, renovation, expansion and equipment of school buildings in the District (including, but not limited to, a new ag science expo center, CTE additions for culinary arts and welding, and high school renovations to relocate junior ROTC and cosmetology programs to the CTE facility) and the purchase of the necessary sites for school buildings, and (ii) paying the costs of issuance related to the Bonds. See "PLAN OF FINANCING – Sources and Uses of Funds" herein.

For Stated Maturities and Redemption Provisions for the Bonds, see page ii herein

The Bonds are offered for delivery when, as and if issued and received by the underwriters of the Bonds (the "Underwriters") and are subject to the approving opinion of the Attorney General of the State of Texas and the opinion of Leon Alcala PLLC, Austin, Texas, Bond Counsel (see "APPENDIX C – FORM OF BOND COUNSEL'S OPINION" hereto). Certain matters will be passed upon for the Underwriters by their counsel, Cantu Harden Montoya LLP, San Antonio, Texas. It is expected that the Bonds will be available for delivery through DTC on or about August 29, 2024\* (the "Date of Delivery").

HUNTINGTON CAPITAL MARKETS
HINOJOSA RBC CAPITAL MARKETS

STEPHENS INC.

ESTRADA HINOJOSA

<sup>\*</sup> Preliminary, subject to change.

## STATED MATURITIES, PRINCIPAL AMOUNTS, INTEREST RATES, INITIAL YIELDS, CUSIP NUMBERS, AND REDEMPTION PROVISIONS\*

# \$48,960,000\* ROYAL INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT (A political subdivision of the State of Texas located in Waller County, Texas) UNLIMITED TAX SCHOOL BUILDING BONDS, SERIES 2024

CUSIP No. Prefix 780699 (1)

Maturity Date (2/15)	Principal (\$)	Interest Rate (%)	Initial Yield <sup>(2)</sup> (%)	CUSIP No. Suffix <sup>(1)</sup>
2025	5,000,000	(1.9)	(75)	
2026	760,000			
2027	795,000			
2028	835,000			
2029	880,000			
2030	925,000			
2031	975,000			
2032	1,025,000			
2033	1,075,000			
2034	1,130,000			
2035	1,190,000			
2036	1,250,000			
2037	1,315,000			
2038	1,380,000			
2039	1,450,000			
2040	1,525,000			
2041	1,605,000			
2042	1,685,000			
2043	1,775,000			
2044	1,855,000			
2045	1,930,000			
2046 2047	2,010,000 2,090,000			
2048	2,175,000			
2049	2,265,000			
2050	2,360,000			
2051	2,460,000			
2052	2,565,000			
2053	2,675,000			

(Interest to accrue from the initial Date of Delivery)

The District reserves the option to redeem the Bonds maturing on and after February 15, 2034\* in whole or in part before their respective scheduled maturity dates, in the principal amount of \$5,000 or any integral multiple thereof, on February 15, 2033\*, or on any date thereafter, at a redemption price equal to the principal amount thereof plus accrued interest to the date of redemption. See "THE BONDS – Optional Redemption Provisions." If two or more Bonds of consecutive maturities are combined into one or more "term" bonds (the "Term Bonds") by the Underwriters, such Term Bonds will be subject to mandatory sinking fund redemption in accordance with the provisions of the Bond Order. See "THE BONDS – Mandatory Sinking Fund Redemption."

<sup>\*</sup> Preliminary, subject to change.

<sup>(1)</sup> CUSIP numbers are included solely for the convenience of the owners of the Bonds. CUSIP is a registered trademark of the American Bankers Association. CUSIP data herein is provided by CUSIP Global Services, managed by FactSet Research Systems Inc. on behalf of The American Bankers Association. This data is not intended to create a database and does not serve in any way as a substitute for the CUSIP Services. None of the Underwriters, the District, or the Financial Advisor are responsible for the selection or correctness of the CUSIP numbers set forth herein.

<sup>(2)</sup> The initial yields at which Bonds are priced are established by and are the sole responsibility of the Underwriters and may be changed at any time at the discretion of the Underwriters.

## ROYAL INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 3714 FM 359 Pattison, Texas 77466

## **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	Term Expiration
Scott Hartman	President	November 2026
Rose Jones	Vice President	November 2024
Cori Vahalik	Secretary	November 2026
Jimmy Meader	Trustee	November 2026
Melissa Woods	Trustee	November 2024
Elton Foster	Trustee	November 2024
Adrian Rocha	Trustee	November 2024

## **ADMINISTRATION - FINANCE CONNECTED**

Name	Position

Rick Kershner Superintendent of Schools
Hector Herrera Chief Financial Officer

## **CONSULTANTS AND ADVISORS**

Bond Counsel

Leon Alcala PLLC, Austin, Texas

Financial Advisor

Frost Bank, Round Rock, Texas

Auditors

Belt Harris Pechacek, LLLP, Houston, Texas

## For Additional Information Contact:

Hector Herrera Chief Financial Officer Royal Independent School District 3714 FM 359 Pattison, Texas 77466 (281) 934-6907 hherrera@royal-isd.net Lucas Janda
Senior Vice President
Frost Bank
2710 La Frontera Blvd
Round Rock, Texas 78681
(512) 799-2619
lucas.janda@frostbank.com

## **USE OF INFORMATION IN THE OFFICIAL STATEMENT**

For purposes of compliance with Rule 15c2-12 of the United States Securities and Exchange Commission, as amended (the "Rule") and in effect on the date of this Preliminary Official Statement, this document constitutes an "official statement" of the District with respect to the Bonds that has been "deemed final" by the District as of its date except for the omission of no more than the information permitted by the Rule.

No dealer, broker, salesman, or other person has been authorized by the District to give any information or to make any representation with respect to the Bonds, other than as contained in this Official Statement, and if given or made, such other information or representations must not be relied upon as having been authorized by either of the foregoing.

This Official Statement does not constitute an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy, nor shall there be any sale of the Bonds by any person, in any jurisdiction in which it is unlawful for such person to make such offer, solicitation or sale.

The information and expressions of opinion herein are subject to change without notice, and neither the delivery of this Official Statement nor any sale made hereunder shall under any circumstances create any implication that there has been no change in the information or opinions set forth herein after the date of this Official Statement. See "APPENDIX D - THE PERMANENT SCHOOL FUND GUARANTEE PROGRAM — PSF Continuing Disclosure Undertaking" and "CONTINUING DISCLOSURE" for a description of the undertakings of the Texas Education Agency ("TEA") and the District, respectively, to provide certain information on a continuing basis.

The Underwriters provided the following sentence for inclusion in this Official Statement. The Underwriters reviewed the information in this Official Statement in accordance with, and as part of, its responsibilities to the District and to investors under the federal securities laws as applied to the facts and circumstances of this transaction, but the Underwriters do not guarantee the accuracy or completeness of such information.

THE BONDS ARE EXEMPT FROM REGISTRATION WITH THE UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION AND CONSEQUENTLY HAVE NOT BEEN REGISTERED THEREWITH. THE REGISTRATION, QUALIFICATION, OR EXEMPTION OF THE BONDS IN ACCORDANCE WITH APPLICABLE SECURITIES LAW PROVISIONS OF THE JURISDICTIONS IN WHICH THESE BONDS HAVE BEEN REGISTERED, QUALIFIED, OR EXEMPTED SHOULD NOT BE REGARDED AS A RECOMMENDATION FOR THE PURCHASE THEREOF.

IN CONNECTION WITH THIS OFFERING, THE UNDERWRITERS MAY OVER-ALLOT OR EFFECT TRANSACTIONS WHICH STABILIZE THE MARKET PRICE OF THIS ISSUE AT A LEVEL ABOVE THAT WHICH MIGHT OTHERWISE PREVAIL IN THE OPEN MARKET. SUCH STABILIZING, IF COMMENCED, MAY BE DISCONTINUED AT ANY TIME.

Neither the District, Financial Advisor, nor the Underwriters make any representation or warranty with respect to the information contained in this Official Statement regarding The Depository Trust Company ("DTC") or its book-entry-only system described under the caption "BOOK-ENTRY-ONLY SYSTEM" or the affairs of TEA described within "APPENDIX D - THE PERMANENT SCHOOL FUND GUARANTEE PROGRAM", as such information has been provided by DTC and TEA, respectively.

The agreements of the District and others related to the Bonds are contained solely in the contracts described herein. Neither this Official Statement, nor any other statement made in connection with the offer or sale of the Bonds, is to be construed as constituting an agreement with the purchasers of the Bonds. INVESTORS SHOULD READ THE ENTIRE OFFICIAL STATEMENT, INCLUDING ALL APPENDICES ATTACHED HERETO, TO OBTAIN INFORMATION ESSENTIAL TO MAKING AN INFORMED INVESTMENT DECISION WITH RESPECT TO THE BONDS.

NEITHER THE UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION NOR ANY STATE SECURITIES COMMISSION HAS APPROVED OR DISAPPROVED OF THE BONDS OR PASSED UPON THE ADEQUACY OR ACCURACY OF THIS OFFICIAL STATEMENT. ANY REPRESENTATION TO THE CONTRARY MAY BE A CRIMINAL OFFENSE.

THIS OFFICIAL STATEMENT CONTAINS "FORWARD-LOOKING" STATEMENTS. SUCH STATEMENTS MAY INVOLVE KNOWN AND UNKNOWN RISKS, UNCERTAINTIES, AND OTHER FACTORS WHICH MAY CAUSE THE ACTUAL RESULTS, PERFORMANCE AND ACHIEVEMENTS TO BE DIFFERENT THAN THE FUTURE RESULTS, PERFORMANCE AND ACHIEVEMENTS EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED BY SUCH FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS. INVESTORS ARE CAUTIONED THAT ACTUAL RESULTS COULD DIFFER MATERIALLY FROM THOSE SET FORTH IN THE FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS. SEE "OTHER PERTINENT INFORMATION-FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS" HEREIN.

Neither the United States Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of the Bonds or passed upon the adequacy or accuracy of this document. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

References to website addresses presented herein are for informational purposes only and may be in the form of a hyperlink solely for the reader's convenience. Unless specified otherwise, such websites and the information or hyperlinks contained therein are not incorporated into, and are not part of, this Official Statement for any purpose.

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The cover page hereof, the appendices hereto, and any addenda, supplement or amendment hereto are part of this Official Statement.

## **GPRELIMINARY OFFICIAL STATEMENT SUMMARY**

This summary is subject in all respects to the more complete information and definitions contained or incorporated in this Preliminary Official Statement. The offering of the Bonds to potential investors is made only by means of this entire Preliminary Official Statement. No person is authorized to detach this summary from this Preliminary Official Statement or to otherwise use it without this entire Preliminary Official Statement.

without this entire Preliminary O	official Statement.
THE DISTRICT	The Royal Independent School District (the "District") is a political subdivision located in Waller County, Texas. The District is governed by a seven-member Board of Trustees (the "Board"). Board trustees serve staggered four-year terms with elections being held in November of each even-numbered year. Policy-making and supervisory functions are the responsibility of, and are vested in the Board. The Board delegates administrative responsibilities to the Superintendent of Schools who is the chief administrative officer of the District.
AUTHORITY FOR ISSUANCE	The Bonds are issued pursuant to the Constitution and general laws of the State, including particularly, Chapter 1371, Texas Government Code, as amended; Chapter 45, Texas Education Code, as amended; an election held in the District on May 6, 2023; and a bond order (the "Order") adopted by the Board on May 13, 2024. In the Order, the Board delegated to an officer (the "Pricing Officer") of the District authority to complete the sale of the Bonds. The terms of the sale will be included in a "Pricing Certificate," which will be approved and executed, on or about August 5,2024, by the Pricing Officer, and which will complete the sale of the Bonds (see "THE BONDS – Authority for Issuance").
THE BONDS	The Bonds shall mature on the dates and in the amounts set forth on page ii of this Official Statement (see "PLAN OF FINANCING – Description of the Bonds").
DATED DATE	August 15, 2024.
PAYMENT OF INTEREST	Interest on the Bonds will accrue from the Date of Delivery (as defined herein) and will be payable until stated maturity or prior to redemption on February 15 and August 15 of each year, commencing February 15, 2025 (see "THE BONDS – Description of the Bonds").
OPTIONAL REDEMPTION .	The District reserves the right to redeem the bonds maturing on and after February 15, 2034*, in whole or in part, in the principal amount of \$5,000 or any integral multiple thereof, on February 15, 2033* or any date thereafter, at the redemption price of par plus accrued interest to the date of redemption. See "THE BONDS – Optional Redemption Provisions" herein.
MANDATORY SINKING FUND REDEMPTION	If two or more serial bonds of consecutive maturities are combined into one or more "term" Bonds (the "Term Bonds"), such Term Bonds will be subject to mandatory sinking fund redemption in accordance with the provisions of the Bond Order. See "THE BONDS – Mandatory Sinking Fund Redemption" herein.
SECURITY FOR THE BONDS	The Bonds constitute direct obligations of the District payable from a continuing and direct annual ad valorem tax levied against all taxable property located therein, without legal limitation as to rate or amount. See "THE BONDS -Security and Source of Payment".
PERMANENT SCHOOL FUND GUARANTEE	The District has applied for and anticipates receiving conditional approval from the Texas Education Agency for the payment of principal of and interest on the Bonds to be guaranteed under the Permanent School Fund Guarantee Program, which guarantee will automatically become effective when the Attorney General of Texas approves the Bonds. See "APPENDIX D - THE PERMANENT SCHOOL FUND GUARANTEE PROGRAM" herein.
TAX MATTERS	In the opinion of Bond Counsel, assuming the accuracy of certain representations and certifications, and continuing compliance with certain tax covenants, under existing statutes, regulations, rulings, and judicial decisions, interest on the Bonds is excludable from gross income for federal income tax purposes and is not an item of tax preference item for purposes of the federal individual alternative minimum tax imposed on individuals In the case of the federal alternative minimum tax imposed by Section 55(b)(2) of the Code on applicable corporations (as defined in Section 59(k) of the Code), interest on the Bonds is not excluded from the determination of adjusted financial statement income. See "TAX MATTERS" herein for a description of certain other federal tax consequences of ownership of the Bonds.
PAYING AGENT/REGISTRAR	The initial Paying Agent/Registrar is BOKF, NA, Dallas, Texas.
MUNICIPAL BOND RATING	The presently outstanding unlimited tax-supported debt of the District, including the Bonds, is rated "A1" by Moody's Investors Service ("Moody's") without regard to credit enhancement. The Bonds are also expected to be rated "Aaa" by Moody's by virtue of the guarantee of the Permanent School Fund of the State (see "APPENDIX D - THE PERMANENT SCHOOL FUND GUARANTEE PROGRAM" herein).

to, a new ag science expo center, CTE additions for culinary arts and welding, and high school renovations to relocate junior ROTC and cosmetology programs to the CTE facility) and the

purchase of the necessary sites for school buildings, and (ii) paying the costs of issuance of the

<sup>\*</sup> Preliminary, subject to change.

Bonds. See "PLAN OF FINANCING - Purpose" and "PLAN OF FINANCING - Sources and Uses of Funds".

## **BOOK-ENTRY ONLY SYSTEM**

The definitive Bonds will be initially registered and delivered only to Cede & Co., the nominee of DTC pursuant to the Book-Entry-Only System described herein. Beneficial ownership of the Bonds may be acquired in denominations of \$5,000 principal amount or integral multiples thereof. No physical delivery of the Bonds will be made to the beneficial owners thereof. Principal of, premium, if any, and interest on the Bonds will be payable by the Paying Agent/Registrar to Cede & Co., which will make distribution of the amounts so paid to the participating members of DTC for subsequent payment to the beneficial owners of the Bonds (see "BOOK-ENTRY-ONLY SYSTEM").

DELIVERY ...... When issued, anticipated to occur on or about August 29, 2024\*.

LEGALITY ...... The Bonds are subject to the approval of legality by the Attorney General of the State of Texas and the approval of certain legal matters by Bond Counsel (see "APPENDIX C – FORM OF

BOND COUNSEL'S OPINION" herein).

[Remainder of Page Intentionally Left Blank]

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<sup>\*</sup> Preliminary, subject to change.

## PRELIMINARY OFFICIAL STATEMENT

## Relating to

\$48,960,000°
ROYAL INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
(A political subdivision of the State of Texas located in Waller County, Texas)
UNLIMITED TAX SCHOOL BUILDING BONDS, SERIES 2024

#### INTRODUCTION

This Preliminary Official Statement, which includes APPENDICES A, B, C, and D hereto, provides certain information regarding the issuance of the \$48,960,000\* Royal Independent School District (the "District") Unlimited Tax School Building Bonds, Series 2024 (the "Bonds"). The Bonds are being issued pursuant to the Constitution and general laws of the State, including particularly, Chapter 1371, Texas Government Code, as amended, Chapter 45, Texas Education Code, as amended, an election held in the District on May 6, 2023 (the "Election), and a Bond Order (the "Order") to be adopted by the Board on May 13, 2024. In the Bond Order, the Board delegated to an officer (the "Pricing Officer") of the District authority to complete the sale of the Bonds. The terms of the sale will be included in a pricing certificate (the "Pricing Certificate" and together with the Order, the "Bond Order") which will be approved and executed, on or about July \_\_\_ 2024, by the Pricing Officer and will complete the sale of the Bonds. The Bonds are direct and voted obligations of the District, payable from an annual ad valorem tax levied, without legal limitation as to rate or amount, on all taxable property located within the District (see "THE BONDS – Authority for Issuance").

All financial and other information presented in this Preliminary Official Statement has been provided by the District from its records, except for information expressly attributed to other sources. The presentation of information, including tables of receipts from taxes and other sources, is intended to show recent historic information and is not intended to indicate future or continuing trends in the financial position or other affairs of the District. No representation is made that past experience, as is shown by that financial and other information, will necessarily continue or be repeated in the future (see "OTHER PERTINENT INFORMATION – Forward Looking Statements").

Included in this Preliminary Official Statement are descriptions of the Bonds, the Bond Order and certain other information about the District and its finances. All descriptions of documents contained herein are only summaries and are qualified in their entirety by reference to each such document. Copies of such documents may be obtained upon request from the District and, during the offering period, from the District's Financial Advisor, Frost Bank, 2710 La Frontera Blvd, Round Rock, Texas 78681, by electronic mail or upon payment of reasonable copying, mailing, and handling charges.

This Official Statement speaks only as to its date, and the information contained herein is subject to change. Copies of the Official Statement will be deposited with the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board and will be available through its Electronic Municipal Market Access ("EMMA") System. See "CONTINUING DISCLOSURE" for a description of the District's undertaking to provide certain information on a continuing basis.

The Royal Independent School District (the "District") is a political subdivision located in Waller County, Texas. The District is governed by a seven-member Board of Trustees (the "Board"). Board trustees serve staggered four-year terms with elections being held in November of each even-numbered year. Policy-making and supervisory functions are the responsibility of, and are vested in, the Board. The Board delegates administrative responsibilities to the Superintendent of Schools who is the chief administrative officer of the District.

## PLAN OF FINANCING

## **Purpose**

The Bonds are being issued for the purposes of: (i) the construction, acquisition, rehabilitation, renovation, expansion and equipment of school buildings in the District (including, but not limited to, a new ag science expo center, CTE additions for culinary arts and welding, and high school renovations to relocate junior ROTC and cosmetology programs to the CTE facility) and the purchase of the necessary sites for school buildings, and (ii) paying the costs of issuance of the Bonds.

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<sup>\*</sup> Preliminary, subject to change

## Sources and Uses of Funds

The proceeds from the sale of the Bonds will be applied approximately as follows:

Sources of Funds:	
Par Amount of Bonds	\$
[Net] Reoffering Premium on the Bonds TOTAL SOURCES	\$
Uses of Funds: Deposit to Construction Fund Deposit to Debt Service Fund Underwriters' Discount	\$
Costs of Issuance and Contingency <sup>1</sup> TOTAL USES	\$

<sup>(1)</sup> Includes legal fees of the District, financial advisory fees, rating agency fees, fees of the Paying Agent/Registrar, contingency, and other costs of issuance.

#### THE BONDS

## **Description of the Bonds**

The Bonds will be dated August 15, 2024 (the "Dated Date") and mature on February 15 in each of the years and in the amounts shown on the inside cover page. Interest on the Bonds will accrue from the date of initial delivery to the Underwriters (the "Date of Delivery"), and will be payable commencing on February 15, 2025, and each August 15 and February 15 thereafter until maturity or prior redemption and will be calculated on the basis of a 360-day year consisting of twelve 30-day months. The Bonds will be issued only in fully registered form in the principal denominations of \$5,000 or any integral multiple thereof within a stated maturity.

Interest on the Bonds is payable to the registered owners appearing on the bond registration books kept by the Paying Agent/Registrar (as herein defined) relating to the Bonds (the "Bond Register") on the Record Date (detailed below) and such interest shall be paid by the Paying Agent/Registrar (i) by check sent by United States mail, first class, postage prepaid, to the address of the registered owner recorded in the Bond Register or (ii) by such other method, acceptable to the Paying Agent/Registrar, requested by, and at the risk and expense of, the registered owner. The principal of the Bonds is payable at stated maturity or prior redemption upon their presentation and surrender to the Paying Agent/Registrar. The Bonds will be issued only in fully registered form in any integral multiple of \$5,000 in principal for any one maturity.

The definitive Bonds will initially be registered and delivered only to Cede & Co., the nominee of The Depository Trust Company ("DTC") pursuant to the Book-Entry-Only System described herein. Beneficial ownership of the Bonds may be acquired in denominations of \$5,000 principal amount or integral multiples thereof. No physical delivery of the Bonds will be made to the owners thereof. Debt service on the Bonds will be payable by the Paying Agent/Registrar to Cede & Co., which will make distribution of the amounts so paid to the participating members of DTC for subsequent payment to the Beneficial Owners (as herein defined) of the Bonds. See "BOOK-ENTRY-ONLY SYSTEM" herein.

## **Authority for Issuance**

The Bonds are issued pursuant to the Constitution and general laws of the State of Texas (the "State"), including particularly, Chapter 1371, Texas Government Code, as amended; Chapter 45, Texas Education Code, as amended; the Bond Order; and the Election.

## **Security and Source of Payment**

The Bonds constitute direct obligations of the District payable from a continuing and direct annual ad valorem tax levied, without legal limit as to rate or amount, against all taxable property located within the District (see "STATE AND LOCAL FUNDING OF SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN TEXAS" and "CURRENT PUBLIC SCHOOL FINANCE SYSTEM"). Additionally, the payment of the Bonds is expected to be guaranteed by the corpus of the Permanent School Fund of the State of Texas.

## **Permanent School Fund Guarantee**

The District has submitted an application to the Texas Education Agency, in connection with the sale of the Bonds, and anticipates receiving conditional approval from the Commissioner of Education for the payment of the Bonds to be guaranteed under the Permanent School Fund Guarantee Program pursuant to Chapter 45, Subchapter C of the Texas Education Code. Subject to satisfying certain conditions, the payment of the Bonds will be guaranteed by the corpus of the Permanent School Fund of the State of Texas. In the event of default, registered owners will receive all payments due on the Bonds from the Permanent School Fund, and the Charter District Bond Guarantee Reserve would be the first source to pay debt service if a charter school was unable to make such payment. See "APPENDIX D – THE PERMANENT SCHOOL FUND GUARANTEE PROGRAM" for pertinent information regarding the Permanent School Fund Guarantee Program. The disclosure regarding the Permanent School Fund Guarantee Program in Appendix D is incorporated herein and made a part hereof for all purposes.

The Permanent School Fund Guarantee will terminate with respect to Bonds that are defeased.

## **Optional Redemption Provisions**

The Bonds maturing on and after February 15, 2034\* are subject to redemption prior to maturity, at the option of the District, in whole or from time to time in part, in principal amounts of \$5,000 or any integral multiple thereof, on February 15, 2033\* or any date thereafter, at a redemption price equal to the principal amount thereof plus accrued interest to the date fixed for redemption. If less than all of the Bonds are to be redeemed, the District shall determine the principal amount and maturities to be redeemed and shall direct the Paying Agent/Registrar to select by lot or other customary method that results in a random selection, the Bonds or portions thereof within a maturity, to be redeemed.

## **Mandatory Sinking Fund Redemption**

The Bonds having a stated maturity on February 15, 20\_\_\_ (the "Term Bonds") are subject to mandatory sinking fund redemption prior to maturity on February 15 in each of the years and respective principal amounts set forth below at a redemption price equal to 100% of the principal amount, without premium, plus accrued interest to the date of redemption:

Term Bonds due February 15, 20

Redemption Date Principal (February 15) Amount

\$

The Paying Agent/Registrar will select by lot or by any other customary method that results in a random selection of a principal amount of Term Bonds equal to the aggregate principal amount of such Term Bonds to be redeemed by mandatory redemption.

The principal amount of Term Bonds required to be redeemed on any redemption date pursuant to the foregoing mandatory sinking fund redemption provisions hereof shall be reduced, at the option of the District, by the principal amount of any Term Bonds which, at least forty-five (45) days prior to the mandatory sinking fund redemption date (i) shall have been acquired by the District and delivered to the Paying Agent/Registrar for cancellation or (ii) shall have been redeemed pursuant to the optional redemption provisions of the Bond Order and not previously credited to a mandatory sinking fund redemption.

## **Notice of Redemption**

Not less than 30 days prior to a redemption date for the Bonds, the Paying Agent/Registrar, at the direction of the District, shall cause a notice of redemption to be sent by United States mail, first class, postage prepaid, to the registered owners of the Bonds to be redeemed, in whole or in part, at the address of the registered owner appearing on the Bond Register.

ANY NOTICE SO MAILED SHALL BE CONCLUSIVELY PRESUMED TO HAVE BEEN DULY GIVEN WHETHER OR NOT THE REGISTERED OWNER RECEIVES SUCH NOTICE. UPON THE GIVING OF THE NOTICE OF REDEMPTION AND ANY OTHER CONDITION TO REDEMPTION SATISFIED, THE BONDS CALLED FOR REDEMPTION SHALL BECOME

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<sup>\*</sup> Preliminary, subject to change.

DUE AND PAYABLE ON THE SPECIFIED REDEMPTION DATE, AND INTEREST ON SUCH BONDS OR PORTION THEREOF SHALL CEASE TO ACCRUE, IRRESPECTIVE OF WHETHER SUCH BONDS ARE SURRENDERED FOR PAYMENT.

The District reserves the right, in the case of an optional redemption, to give notice of its election or direction to redeem Bonds conditioned upon the occurrence of subsequent events. Such notice may state (i) that the redemption is conditioned upon the deposit of moneys and/or authorized securities, in an amount equal to the amount necessary to effect the redemption, with the Paying Agent/Registrar, or such other entity as may be authorized by law, no later than the redemption date, or (ii) that the District retains the right to rescind such notice at any time on or prior to the scheduled redemption date if the District delivers a certificate of the District to the Paying Agent/Registrar instructing the Paying Agent/Registrar to rescind the redemption notice, and such notice and redemption shall be of no effect if such moneys and/or authorized securities are not so deposited or if the notice is rescinded. The Paying Agent/Registrar shall give prompt notice of any such rescission of a conditional notice of redemption to the affected Owners. Any Bonds subject to conditional redemption where such redemption has been rescinded shall remain outstanding.

The Paying Agent/Registrar and the District, so long as a Book-Entry-Only System is used for the Bonds, will send any notice of redemption, notice of proposed amendment to the Bond Order or other notices with respect to the Bonds only to DTC. Any failure by DTC to advise any DTC participant, or of any DTC participant or indirect participant to notify the beneficial owner, shall not affect the validity of the redemption of the Bonds called for redemption or any other action premised on any such notice. Redemption of portions of the Bonds by the District will reduce the outstanding principal amount of such Bonds held by DTC. In such event, DTC may implement, through its Book-Entry-Only System, a redemption of such Bonds held for the account of DTC participants in accordance with its rules or other agreements with DTC participants and then DTC participants and indirect participants may implement a redemption of such Bonds from the beneficial owners. Any such selection of Bonds to be redeemed will not be governed by the Bond Order and will not be conducted by the District or the Paying Agent/Registrar. Neither the District nor the Paying Agent/Registrar will have any responsibility to DTC participants, indirect participants or the persons for whom DTC participants act as nominees, with respect to the payments on the Bonds or the providing of notice to DTC participants, indirect participants, or beneficial owners of the selection of portions of the Bonds selected for redemption (see "BOOK-ENTRY-ONLY SYSTEM").

#### **Defeasance**

The Bond Order provides that the Bonds may be defeased, refunded or discharged in any manner permitted by applicable law. Under current State law, such discharge may be accomplished by either (i) depositing with the Comptroller of Public Accounts of the State of Texas a sum of money equal to the principal of and all interest to accrue on the Bonds to maturity or prior redemption or (ii) by depositing with a paying agent, or other authorized escrow agent, amounts sufficient to provide for the payment and/or redemption of the Bonds; provided that such deposits may be invested and reinvested in (a) direct, noncallable obligations of the United States of America, including obligations that are unconditionally guaranteed by the United States of America, (b) noncallable obligations of an agency or instrumentality of the United States of America, including obligations that are unconditionally guaranteed or insured by the agency or instrumentality of the United States of America, and that are rated as to investment quality by a nationally recognized investment rating firm not less than "AAA" or its equivalent, and (c) noncallable obligations of a state or an agency or a county, municipality, or other political subdivision of a state that have been refunded and that, on the date the governing body of the District adopts or approves the proceedings authorizing the issuance of refunding obligations to refund the Bonds, are rated as to investment quality by a nationally recognized investment rating firm not less than "AAA" or its equivalent. Authorized District official may limit these eligible securities as deemed necessary, in connection with the sale of the Bonds. The foregoing obligations may be in book-entry-only form, and shall mature and/or bear interest in such amounts as will be sufficient to provide for the scheduled payment and/or redemption of the Bonds. If any such Bonds are to be redeemed prior to their respective dates of maturity, provision must have been made for giving notice of redemption as provided in the Bond Order.

Upon such deposit as described above, such Bonds shall no longer be regarded to be outstanding or unpaid for any purposes. After firm banking and financial arrangements for the discharge and final payment or redemption of the Bonds have been made as described above, all rights of the District to initiate proceedings to call the Bonds for redemption or take any other action amending the terms of the Bonds are extinguished; provided, however, the District may reserve the option, to be exercised at the time of the defeasance of the Bonds, to call for redemption, at an earlier date, those Bonds which have been defeased to their maturity date, if the District: (i) in the proceedings providing for the firm banking and financial arrangements, expressly reserves the right to call the Bonds for redemption; (ii) gives notice of the reservation of that right to the owners of the Bonds immediately following the making of the firm banking and financial arrangements; and (iii) directs that notice of the reservation be included in any redemption notices that it authorizes. Defeasance will automatically cancel the Permanent School Fund Guarantee with respect to those defeased Bonds.

The Bond Order does not contractually limit defeasance investments to those described above. As a result, the holders of the Bonds may be deemed to have consented to other defeasance investments in the event that Texas law is changed to allow for such other defeasance investments.

Notwithstanding the above, the District may contractually limit defeasance investments in connection with the pricing of the Bonds. In such event, the Final Official Statement for the Bonds will provide details regarding the limitations on defeasance investments.

## **Default and Remedies**

The Bond Order does not specify events of default with respect to the Bonds. If the District defaults in the payment of principal, interest, or redemption price on the Bonds when due, or if it fails to make payments into any fund or funds created in the Bond Order, or defaults in the observation or performance of any other covenants, conditions, or obligations set forth in the Bond Order, the registered owners may seek a writ of mandamus to compel District officials to carry out their legally imposed duties with respect to the Bonds, if there is no other available remedy at law to compel performance of the Bonds or Bond Order and the District's obligations are not uncertain or disputed. The issuance of a writ of mandamus is controlled by equitable principles, and rests with the discretion of the court, but may not be arbitrarily refused. There is no acceleration of maturity of the Bonds in the event of default and, consequently, the remedy of mandamus may have to be relied upon from year to year. The Bond Order does not provide for the appointment of a trustee to represent the interest of the Bondholders upon any failure of the District to perform in accordance with the terms of the Bond Order, or upon any other condition and accordingly all legal actions to enforce such remedies would have to be undertaken at the initiative of. and be financed by, the registered owners. The Texas Supreme Court ruled in Tooke v. City of Mexia, 197 S.W. 3d 325 (Tex. 2006), that a waiver of sovereign immunity in a contractual dispute must be provided for by statute in "clear and unambiguous" language. In so ruling, the Court declared that statutory language such as "sue and be sued", in and of itself, did not constitute a clear and unambiguous waiver of sovereign immunity. In Tooke, the Court noted the enactment in 2005 of sections 271.151-.160, Texas Local Government Code (the "Local Government Immunity Waiver Act"), which, according to the Court, waives "immunity from suit for contract claims against most local governmental entities in certain circumstances." The Local Government Immunity Waiver Act covers school districts and relates to contracts entered into by school districts for providing goods or services to school districts. The District is not aware of any State court construing the Local Government Immunity Waiver Act in the context of whether contractual undertakings of local governments that relate to their borrowing powers are contracts covered by the Local Government Immunity Waiver Act. Neither the remedy of mandamus nor any other type of injunctive relief was at issue in Tooke, and it is unclear whether Tooke will be construed to have any effect with respect to the exercise of mandamus, as such remedy has been interpreted by State courts. In general, State courts have held that a writ of mandamus may be issued to require public officials to perform ministerial acts that clearly pertain to their duties. State courts have held that a ministerial act is defined as a legal duty that is prescribed and defined with a precision and certainty that leaves nothing to the exercise of discretion or judgment, though mandamus is not available to enforce purely contractual duties. However, mandamus may be used to require a public officer to perform legally-imposed ministerial duties necessary for the performance of a valid contract to which the State or a political subdivision of the State is a party (including the payment of monies due under a contract). As a result, bondholders may not be able to bring such a suit against the District for breach of the Bonds or Bond Order covenants. Even if a judgment against the District could be obtained, it could not be enforced by direct levy and execution against the District's property. Further, the registered owners cannot themselves foreclose on property within the District or sell property within the District to enforce the tax lien on taxable property to pay the principal of and interest on the Bonds. Furthermore, the District is eligible to seek relief from its creditors under Chapter 9 of the United States Bankruptcy Code ("Chapter 9"). Although Chapter 9 provides for the recognition of a security interest represented by a specifically pledged source of revenues, the pledge of ad valorem taxes in support of a general obligation of a bankrupt entity is not specifically recognized as a security interest under Chapter 9. Chapter 9 also includes an automatic stay provision that would prohibit, without Bankruptcy Court approval, the prosecution of any other legal action by creditors or Bondholders of an entity which has sought protection under Chapter 9. Therefore, should the District avail itself of Chapter 9 protection from creditors, the ability to enforce would be subject to the approval of the Bankruptcy Court (which could require that the action be heard in Bankruptcy Court instead of other federal or state court); and the Bankruptcy Code provides for broad discretionary powers of a Bankruptcy Court in administering any proceeding brought before it. See "APPENDIX D - THE PERMANENT SCHOOL FUND GUARANTEE PROGRAM" herein for a description of the procedures to be followed for payment of the Bonds by the Permanent School Fund in the event the District fails to make a payment on the Bonds when due.

The opinion of Bond Counsel will be qualified with respect to the customary rights of debtors relative to their creditors and general principles of equity that permit the exercise of judicial discretion.

## **Payment Record**

The District has never defaulted on the payment of its bonded indebtedness.

## Legality

The Bonds are offered when, as, and if issued, and subject to the approval of legality by the Attorney General of the State of Texas and the opinion of the District's Bond Counsel.

## **Delivery**

When issued; anticipated to occur on or about August 29, 2024\*.

#### **Future Issues**

On May 6, 2023, the District's voters authorized the District to issue \$138,069,530 in unlimited ad valorem tax bonds (the "Election"). The District expects to apply proceeds of the Bonds (principal and allocated premium) in the aggregate amount of \$50,000,000\* toward voter authorized projects, leaving \$38,069,530\* in authorized but unissued bonds. Aside from the Bonds and any refunding bonds issued for debt service savings, the District does not anticipate the issuance of additional ad valorem tax-supported debt in the next twelve months.

The District also may, without voter approval, enter into other financial obligations, including maintenance tax notes payable from its collection of maintenance taxes, public property finance contractual obligations, delinquent tax notes, and leases for various purposes payable from State appropriations and surplus maintenance taxes.

## REGISTRATION, TRANSFER AND EXCHANGE

## Paying Agent/Registrar

The initial Paying Agent/Registrar is BOKF, NA, Dallas Texas (the "Paying Agent/Registrar"). The Bond Order provides for the District's right to replace the Paying Agent/Registrar. The District covenants to maintain and provide a Paying Agent/Registrar at all times until the Bonds are duly paid and any successor Paying Agent/Registrar shall be a commercial bank or trust company organized under the laws of the State or other entity duly qualified and legally authorized to serve as and perform the duties and services of Paying Agent/Registrar for the Bonds. Upon any changes in the Paying Agent/Registrar for the Bonds, the District agrees to promptly cause a written notice thereof to be sent to each registered owner of the Bonds by United States mail, first class, postage prepaid, which notice shall also give the address of the new Paying Agent/Registrar.

## **Record Date for Interest Payment**

The record date ("Record Date") for determining the registered owner entitled to receive a payment of interest on any Bond shall mean: (a) with respect to an interest payment date that occurs on the fifteenth (15th) day of any month, the close of business on the last business day of the month next preceding such interest payment date, (b) with respect to an interest payment date that occurs on the first (1st) day of any month, the close of business on the fifteenth (15th) day of the month next preceding such interest payment date, and (c) with respect to an interest payment date on any date other than as described in (a) and (b), the close of business on the business day immediately preceding such interest payment date.

In the event of a non-payment of interest on a scheduled payment date, and for 30 days thereafter, a new record date for such interest payment (a "Special Record Date") will be established by the Paying Agent/Registrar, if and when funds for the payment of such interest have been received. Notice of the Special Record Date and of the scheduled payment date of the past due interest (which shall be 15 days after the Special Record Date) shall be sent at least five (5) business days prior to the Special Record Date by United States mail, first class, postage prepaid, to the address of each registered owner of a Bond appearing on the Bond Register at the close of business on the last business day next preceding the date of mailing of such notice.

## Registration, Transferability and Exchange

In the event the Book-Entry-Only System shall be discontinued, printed certificates will be issued to the registered owners of the Bonds and thereafter the Bonds may be transferred, registered, and assigned on the Bond Register only upon presentation and surrender of such printed certificates to the Paying Agent/Registrar, and such registration and transfer shall be without expense or service charge to the registered owner, except for any tax or other governmental charges required to be paid with respect to such registration and transfer. A Bond may be assigned by the execution of an assignment form on the Bond or by other instrument of transfer and assignment acceptable to the Paying Agent/Registrar. A new Bond or Bonds will be delivered by the Paying Agent/Registrar in lieu of the Bonds being transferred or exchanged at the designated office of the Paying Agent/Registrar or sent by United States registered mail to the new registered owner at the registered owner's request, risk and expense. New Bonds issued in an exchange or transfer of Bonds will be delivered to the registered owner or assignee of the registered owner in not more than three (3) business days after the receipt of the Bonds to be canceled in the exchange or transfer and the written instrument of transfer or request for exchange duly executed by the registered owner or his duly authorized agent, in form satisfactory to the Paying Agent/Registrar. New Bonds registered and delivered in an exchange or transfer shall be in authorized denominations and for a like kind and

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<sup>\*</sup> Preliminary, subject to change.

aggregate principal amount and having the same maturity or maturities as the Bond or Bonds surrendered for exchange or transfer. See "BOOK-ENTRY-ONLY SYSTEM" herein for a description of the system to be utilized initially in regard to ownership and transferability of the Bonds.

## **Limitation on Transfer of Bonds**

Neither the District nor the Paying Agent/Registrar are required to transfer or exchange any Bonds so selected for redemption when such redemption is scheduled to occur within 45 calendar days; provided however, that such limitation of transfer is not applicable to an exchange by the registered owner of the uncalled balance of a Bond.

## **BOOK-ENTRY-ONLY SYSTEM**

The following describes how ownership of the Bonds is to be transferred and how the principal of, premium, if any, and interest on the Bonds are to be paid to and credited by DTC (defined below) while the Bonds are registered in its nominee name. The information in this section concerning DTC and the Book-Entry-Only System has been provided by DTC for use in disclosure documents such as this Official Statement. The District, the Underwriters and the Financial Advisor believe the source of such information to be reliable, but take no responsibility for the accuracy or completeness thereof.

The District and the Underwriters cannot and do not give any assurance that (1) DTC will distribute payments of debt service on the Bonds, or redemption or other notices, to DTC Participants, (2) DTC Participants or others will distribute debt service payments paid to DTC or its nominee (as the registered owner of the Bonds), or redemption or other notices, to the Beneficial Owners, or that they will do so on a timely basis, or (3) DTC will serve and act in the manner described in this Official Statement. The current rules applicable to DTC are on file with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission, and the current procedures of DTC to be followed in dealing with DTC Participants are on file with DTC.

The Depository Trust Company ("DTC"), New York, New York, will act as securities depository for the Bonds. The Bonds will be issued as fully registered securities registered in the name of Cede & Co. (DTC's partnership nominee) or such other name as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. One fully-registered security certificate will be issued for each stated maturity of the Bonds, each in the aggregate principal amount of such maturity, and will be deposited with DTC.

DTC, the world's largest depository, is a limited-purpose trust company organized under the New York Banking Law, a "banking organization" within the meaning of the New York Banking Law, a member of the Federal Reserve System, a "clearing corporation" within the meaning of the New York Uniform Commercial Code, and a "clearing agency" registered pursuant to the provisions of Section 17A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. DTC holds and provides asset servicing for over 3.5 million issues of U.S. and non-U.S. equity issues, corporate and municipal debt issues, and money market instruments from over 100 countries that DTC's participants ("Direct Participants") deposit with DTC. DTC also facilitates the post-trade settlement among Direct Participants of sales and other securities transactions in deposited securities, through electronic computerized book-entry transfers and pledges between Direct Participants' accounts. This eliminates the need for physical movement of securities certificates. Direct Participants include both U.S. and non-U.S. securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations, and certain other organizations. DTC is a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Depository Trust & Clearing Corporation ("DTCC"). DTCC is the holding company for DTC, National Securities Clearing Corporation, and Fixed Income Clearing Corporation, all of which are registered clearing agencies. DTCC is owned by the users of its regulated subsidiaries. Access to the DTC system is also available to others such as both U.S. and non-U.S. securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, and clearing corporations that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a Direct Participant, either directly or indirectly ("Indirect Participants"). DTC has a S&P Global Ratings rating of AA+. The DTC Rules applicable to its Participants are on file with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission. More information about DTC can be found at www.dtcc.com.

Purchases of Bonds under the DTC system must be made by or through Direct Participants, which will receive a credit for the Bonds on DTC's records. The ownership interest of each actual purchaser of each Bond ("Beneficial Owner") is in turn to be recorded on the Direct and Indirect Participants' records. Beneficial Owners will not receive written confirmation from DTC of their purchase. Beneficial Owners are, however, expected to receive written confirmations providing details of the transaction, as well as periodic statements of their holdings, from the Direct or Indirect Participant through which the Beneficial Owner entered into the transaction. Transfers of ownership interests in the Bonds are to be accomplished by entries made on the books of Direct and Indirect Participants acting on behalf of Beneficial Owners. Beneficial Owners will not receive certificates representing their ownership interests in Bonds, except in the event that use of the book-entry-only system for the Bonds is discontinued.

To facilitate subsequent transfers, all Bonds deposited by Direct Participants with DTC are registered in the name of DTC's partnership nominee, Cede & Co., or such other name as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. The deposit of Bonds with DTC and their registration in the name of Cede & Co. or such other DTC nominee do not effect any change in beneficial ownership. DTC has no knowledge of the actual Beneficial Owners of the Bonds. DTC's records reflect

only the identity of the Direct Participants to whose accounts such Bonds are credited, which may or may not be the Beneficial Owners. The Direct and Indirect Participants will remain responsible for keeping account of their holdings on behalf of their customers.

Conveyance of notices and other communications by DTC to Direct Participants, by Direct Participants to Indirect Participants, and by Direct Participants and Indirect Participants to Beneficial Owners will be governed by arrangements among them, subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time. Beneficial Owners of Bonds may wish to take certain steps to augment the transmission to them of notices of significant events with respect to the Bonds, such as redemptions, tenders, defaults, and proposed amendments to the Bond documents. For example, Beneficial Owners of Bonds may wish to ascertain that the nominee holding the Bonds for their benefit has agreed to obtain and transmit notices to Beneficial Owners. In the alternative, Beneficial Owners may wish to provide their names and addresses to the registrar and request that copies of notices be provided directly to them.

Redemption notices shall be sent to DTC. If less than all of the Bonds within a maturity are being redeemed, DTC's practice is to determine by lot the amount of the interest of each Direct Participant in such maturity to be redeemed.

Neither DTC nor Cede & Co. (nor any other DTC nominee) will consent or vote with respect to Bonds unless authorized by a Direct Participant in accordance with DTC's MMI Procedures. Under its usual procedures, DTC mails an Omnibus Proxy to the District as soon as possible after the record date. The Omnibus Proxy assigns Cede & Co.'s consenting or voting rights to those Direct Participants to whose accounts Bonds are credited on the record date (identified in a listing attached to the Omnibus Proxy).

Payments on the Bonds will be made to Cede & Co., or such other nominee as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. DTC's practice is to credit Direct Participants' accounts upon DTC's receipt of funds and corresponding detail information from the District or the Paying Agent/Registrar, on the payment date in accordance with their respective holdings shown on DTC's records. Payments by Participants to Beneficial Owners will be governed by standing instructions and customary practices, as is the case with securities held for the accounts of customers in bearer form or registered in "street name," and will be the responsibility of such Participant and not of DTC nor its nominee, the Paying Agent/Registrar, or the District, subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time. Payments to Cede & Co. (or such other nominee as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC) are the responsibility of the District or the Paying Agent/Registrar. Disbursement of such payments to Direct Participants will be the responsibility of DTC, and disbursement of such payments to the Beneficial Owners will be the responsibility of Direct and Indirect Participants.

DTC may discontinue providing its services as depository with respect to the Bonds at any time by giving reasonable notice to the District or the Paying Agent/Registrar. Under such circumstances, in the event that a successor depository is not obtained, physical bond certificates are required to be printed and delivered.

The information in this section concerning DTC and DTC's book-entry system has been obtained from sources that the District believes to be reliable, but neither the District or the Financial Advisor take any responsibility for the accuracy thereof.

## Use of Certain Terms in Other Sections of This Official Statement

In reading this Official Statement it should be understood that while the Bonds are in the Book-Entry-Only System, references in other sections of this Official Statement to registered owners should be read to include the person for which the Participant acquires an interest in the Bonds, but (i) all rights of ownership must be exercised through DTC and the Book-Entry-Only System, and (ii) except as described above, notices that are to be given to registered owners under the Bond Order will be given only to DTC.

## Effect of Termination of Book-Entry-Only System

In the event that the Book-Entry-Only System is discontinued by DTC or the use of the Book-Entry-Only System is discontinued by the District, printed physical Bond certificates will be issued to the respective holders and the Bonds will be subject to transfer, exchange and registration provisions as set forth in the Bond Order and summarized under the caption "REGISTRATION, TRANSFER AND EXCHANGE" above.

## **AD VALOREM TAX PROCEDURES**

The following is a summary of certain provisions of State law as it relates to ad valorem taxation and is not intended to be complete. Prospective investors are encouraged to review Title I of the Texas Tax Code, as amended (the "Property Tax Code"), for identification of property subject to ad valorem taxation, property exempt or which may be exempted from ad valorem taxation if claimed, the appraisal of property for ad valorem tax purposes, and the procedures and limitations applicable to the levy and collection of ad valorem taxes.

## **Valuation of Taxable Property**

The Property Tax Code provides for county-wide appraisal and equalization of taxable property values and establishes in each county of the State an appraisal district and an appraisal review board (the "Appraisal Review Board") responsible for appraising property for all taxing units within the county. The appraisal of property within the District is the responsibility of the Waller County Appraisal District (the "Appraisal District"). Except as generally described below, the Appraisal District is required to appraise all property within the Appraisal District on the basis of 100% of its market value and is prohibited from applying any assessment ratios. In determining market value of property, the Appraisal District is required to consider the cost method of appraisal, the income method of appraisal and the market data comparison method of appraisal, and use the method the chief appraiser of the Appraisal District considers most appropriate. The Property Tax Code requires appraisal districts to reappraise all property in its jurisdiction at least once every three (3) years. A taxing unit may require annual review at its own expense, and is entitled to challenge the determination of appraised value of property within the taxing unit by petition filed with the Appraisal Review Board.

State law requires the appraised value of an owner's principal residence ("homestead" or "homesteads") to be based solely on the property's value as a homestead, regardless of whether residential use is considered to be the highest and best use of the property. State law further limits the appraised value of a homestead to the lesser of (1) the market value of the property, or (2) 110% of the appraised value of the property for the preceding tax year plus the market value of all new improvements to the property. The 10% increase is cumulative, meaning the maximum increase is 10% times the number of years since the property was last appraised.

State law provides that eligible owners of both agricultural land and open-space land, including open-space land devoted to farm or ranch purposes or open-space land devoted to timber production, may elect to have such property appraised for property taxation on the basis of its productive capacity. The same land may not be qualified as both agricultural and open-space land.

On July 13, 2023, during the Second Special Session, the Texas Legislature passed Senate Bill 2, which, among other things, includes provisions that prohibit an appraisal district from increasing the appraised value of real property during the 2024 tax year on non-homestead properties (the "Subjected Property") whose appraised values are not more than \$5 million dollars (the "Maximum Property Value") to an amount exceeding the lesser of: (1) the market value of the subjected property for the most recent tax year that the market value was determined by the appraisal office or (2) the sum of: (a) 20 percent of the appraised value of the subjected property for the preceding tax year; (b) the appraised value of the subjected property for the preceding tax year; and (c) the market value of all new improvements to the subjected property (collectively, the "Appraisal Cap"). After the 2024 tax year, through December 31, 2026, the Appraisal Cap may be increased or decreased by the product of the preceding state fiscal year's increase or decrease in the consumer price index, as applicable, to the Maximum Property Value. The Appraisal Cap took effect on January 1, 2024.

The appraisal values set by the Appraisal District are subject to review and change by the Appraisal Review Board. The appraisal rolls, as approved by the Appraisal Review Board, are used by taxing units, such as the District, in establishing their tax rolls and tax rates (see "AD VALOREM TAX PROCEDURES — District and Taxpayer Remedies").

## **State Mandated Homestead Exemptions**

State law grants, with respect to each school district's taxes that are imposed for general elementary and secondary public school purposes (1) a \$100,000 exemption of the appraised value of all homesteads, (2) an additional \$10,000 exemption of the appraised value of the homesteads of persons sixty-five (65) years of age or older and the disabled, and (3) various exemptions for disabled veterans and their families, surviving spouses of members of the armed services killed in action and surviving spouses of first responders killed or fatally wounded in the line of duty.

## **Local Option Homestead Exemptions**

The governing body of a taxing unit, including a city, county, school district, or special district, at its option may grant: (1) an exemption of up to 20% of the appraised value of all homesteads (but not less than \$5,000) and (2) an additional exemption of at least \$3,000 of the appraised value of the homesteads of persons sixty-five (65) years of age or older and the disabled. Each taxing unit decides if it will offer the local option homestead exemptions and at what percentage or dollar amount, as applicable. The exemption described in (2), above, may also be created, increased, decreased or repealed at an election called by the governing body of a taxing unit upon presentment of a petition for such creation, increase, decrease, or repeal of at least 20% of the number of qualified voters who voted in the preceding election of the taxing unit. Cities, counties and school districts are prohibited from repealing or reducing a general optional homestead exemption that was granted in tax year 2022 through December 31, 2027.

## State Mandated Freeze on School District Taxes

Except for increases attributable to certain improvements, a school district is prohibited from increasing the total ad valorem tax on the homestead of persons sixty-five (65) years of age or older or of disabled persons above the amount of tax imposed in the year such homestead qualified for such exemption. This freeze is transferable to a different homestead if a qualifying taxpayer moves and, under certain circumstances, is also transferable to the surviving spouse of persons sixty-five (65) years of age or older, but not the disabled.

The total amount of ad valorem taxes that may be imposed for general elementary and secondary public school purposes on the residence homestead of a person who is 65 years of age or older or disabled may be adjusted to reflect any statutory reduction from the preceding tax year in the MCR (herein defined) of the M&O taxes imposed for those purposes on the homestead.

## **Personal Property**

Tangible personal property (furniture, machinery, supplies, inventories, etc.) used in the "production of income" is taxed based on the property's market value. Taxable personal property includes income-producing equipment and inventory. Intangibles such as goodwill, accounts receivable, and proprietary processes are not taxable. Tangible personal property not held or used for production of income, such as household goods, automobiles or light trucks, and boats, is exempt from ad valorem taxation unless the governing body of a taxing unit elects to tax such property.

## **Freeport Exemptions**

Certain goods that are acquired in or imported into the State to be forwarded outside the State, and are detained in the State for 175 days or less for the purpose of assembly, storage, manufacturing, processing or fabrication ("Freeport Property") are exempt from ad valorem taxation unless a taxing unit took official action to tax Freeport Property before April 1, 1990 and has not subsequently taken official action to exempt Freeport Property. Decisions to continue taxing Freeport Property may be reversed in the future; decisions to exempt Freeport Property are not subject to reversal.

Certain goods, that are acquired in or imported into the State to be forwarded to another location within or without the State, stored in a location that is not owned by the owner of the goods and are transported to another location within or without the State within 175 days ("Goods-in-Transit"), are generally exempt from ad valorem taxation; however, the Property Tax Code permits a taxing unit, on a local option basis, to tax Goods-in-Transit if the taxing unit takes official action, after conducting a public hearing, before January 1 of the first tax year in which the taxing unit proposes to tax Goods-in-Transit. Goods-in-Transit and Freeport Property do not include oil, natural gas or petroleum products, and Goods-in-Transit does not include aircraft or special inventories such as manufactured housing inventory, or a dealer's motor vehicle, boat, or heavy equipment inventory.

A taxpayer may receive only one of the Goods-in-Transit or Freeport Property exemptions for items of personal property.

## **Other Exempt Property**

Other major categories of exempt property include property owned by the State or its political subdivisions if used for public purposes, property exempt by federal law, property used for pollution control, farm products owned by producers, property of nonprofit corporations used for scientific research or educational activities benefitting a college or university, designated historic sites, solar and wind-powered energy devices, and certain classes of intangible personal property.

## Temporary Exemption for Qualified Property Damaged by a Disaster

The Property Tax Code entitles the owner of certain qualified (i) tangible personal property used for the production of income, (ii) improvements to real property, and (iii) manufactured homes located in an area declared by the governor to be a disaster area following a disaster and is at least 15 percent damaged by the disaster, as determined by the chief appraiser, to an exemption from taxation of a portion of the appraised value of the property. The amount of the exemption ranges from 15 percent to 100 percent based upon the damage assessment rating assigned by the chief appraiser. The governing body of the taxing unit is not required to take any action in order for the taxpayer to be eligible for the exemption. If a taxpayer qualifies for the exemption after the beginning of the tax year, the amount of the exemption is prorated based on the number of days left in the tax year following the day on which the governor declares the area to be a disaster area. Under Section 11.35, Property Tax Code, property is only "damaged" if it has sustained physical damage. For more information on the exemption, reference is made to Section 11.35 of the Property Tax Code, as amended.

## **Tax Increment Reinvestment Zones**

A city or county, by petition of the landowners or by action of its governing body, may create one or more tax increment reinvestment zones ("TIRZ") within its boundaries. At the time of the creation of the TIRZ, a "base value" for the real property in the TIRZ is established and the difference between any increase in the assessed valuation of taxable real property in the TIRZ in excess of the base value is known as the "tax increment." During the existence of the TIRZ, all or a portion of the taxes levied against the tax increment by a city or county, and all other overlapping taxing units that elected to participate, are restricted to paying only planned project and financing costs within the TIRZ and are not available for the payment of other obligations of such taxing units.

Until September 1, 1999, school districts were able to reduce the value of taxable property reported to the State to reflect any taxable value lost due to TIRZ participation by the school district. The ability of the school district to deduct the taxable value of the tax increment that it contributed prevented the school district from being negatively affected in terms of state school funding. However, due to a change in law, local M&O tax rate revenue contributed to a TIRZ created on or after May 31, 1999 will count toward a school district's Tier One entitlement (reducing Tier One State funds for eligible school districts) and will not be considered in calculating any school district's Tier Two entitlement (see "CURRENT PUBLIC SCHOOL FINANCE SYSTEM - State Funding for School Districts").

## **Tax Limitation Agreements**

The Texas Economic Development Act (former Chapter 313, Texas Tax Code, as amended) previously allowed school districts to grant limitations on appraised property values to certain entites to encourage economic development within the school district. Generally, during the ten-year term of a tax limitation agreement, a school district may only levy and collect M&O taxes on the agreed-to limited appraised property value. For the purposes of calculating its Tier One and Tier Two entitlements, the portion of a school district's property that is not fully taxable is excluded from the school district's taxable property values. Therefore, a school district will not be subject to a reduction in Tier One or Tier Two State funds as a result of lost M&O tax revenues due to entering into a tax limitation agreement. The 87th Texas Legislature did not vote to extend this program, which expired by its terms on December 31, 2022 (see "CURRENT PUBLIC SCHOOL FINANCE SYSTEM - State Funding for School Districts").

During the Regular Session of the 88th Texas Legislature, House Bill 5 ("HB 5") was enacted into law. HB 5 is intended as a replacement of former Chapter 313, Texas Tax Code, but it contains significantly different provisions than the prior program under Chapter 313, Texas Tax Code. Under HB 5, a school district may offer a 50% abatement on taxable value for maintenance and operations property taxes for certain eligible projects, except that projects in a federally designated economic opportunity zone receive a 75% abatement. HB 5 also provides a 100% abatement of maintenance and operations taxes for eligible property during a project's construction period. **Taxable valuation for purposes of the debt services taxes securing the Bonds cannot be abated under HB 5.** Eligible projects are limited and include manufacturing, dispatchable power generation facilities, technology research/development facilities or critical infrastructure projects. Projects must create and maintain jobs, as well as meet certain minimum investment requirements. The District does not expect that HB 5 will have any material adverse effect on its ability to repay the Bonds or its finances or operations more generally.

## **District and Taxpayer Remedies**

Under certain circumstances, taxpayers and taxing units, including the District, may appeal the determinations of the Appraisal District by timely initiating a protest with the Appraisal Review Board. Additionally, taxing units such as the District may bring suit against the Appraisal District to compel compliance with the Property Tax Code.

Owners of certain property with a taxable value in excess of the current year "minimum eligibility amount", as determined by the State Comptroller, and situated in a county with a population of one million or more, may protest the determinations of an appraisal district directly to a three-member special panel of the appraisal review board, appointed by the chairman of the appraisal review board, consisting of highly qualified professionals in the field of property tax appraisal. The minimum eligibility amount is set at \$59,562,331 for the 2024 tax year, and is adjusted annually by the State Comptroller to reflect the inflation rate.

The Property Tax Code sets forth notice and hearing procedures for certain tax rate increases by the District and provides for taxpayer referenda that could result in the repeal of certain tax increases (see "TAX RATE LIMITATIONS — Public Hearing and Voter-Approval Tax Rate"). The Property Tax Code also establishes a procedure for providing notice to property owners of reappraisals reflecting increased property value, appraisals which are higher than renditions, and appraisals of property not previously on an appraisal roll.

## **Levy and Collection of Taxes**

The District is responsible for the collection of its taxes, unless it elects to transfer such functions to another governmental entity. Taxes are due October 1, or when billed, whichever comes later, and generally become delinquent after January 31 of the following year. A delinquent tax incurs a penalty of six percent (6%) of the amount of the tax for the first calendar month it is delinquent, plus one percent (1%) for each additional month or portion of a month the tax remains unpaid prior to July 1 of the year in which it becomes delinquent. If the tax is not paid by July 1 of the year in which it becomes delinquent, the tax incurs a total penalty of twelve percent (12%) regardless of the number of months the tax has been delinquent and incurs an additional penalty of up to twenty percent (20%) if imposed by the District. The delinquent tax also accrues interest at a rate of one percent (1%) for each month or portion of a month it remains unpaid. The Property Tax Code also makes provision for the split payment of taxes, discounts for early payment and the postponement of the delinquency date of taxes for certain taxpayers. Furthermore, the District may provide, on a local option basis, for the split payment, partial payment, and discounts for early payment of taxes under certain circumstances. The Property Tax Code permits taxpayers owning homes or certain businesses located in a disaster area and damaged as a direct result of the declared disaster to pay taxes imposed in the year following the disaster in four equal installments without penalty or interest, commencing on February 1 and ending on August 1. See "AD VALOREM TAX PROCEDURES – Temporary Exemption for Qualified Property Damaged by a Disaster" for further information related to a discussion of the applicability of this section of the Property Tax Code.

## District's Rights in the Event of Tax Delinquencies

Taxes levied by the District are a personal obligation of the owner of the property. On January 1 of each year, a tax lien attaches to property to secure the payment of all state and local taxes, penalties, and interest ultimately imposed for the year on the property. The lien exists in favor of each taxing unit, including the District, having power to tax the property. The District's tax lien is on a parity with tax liens of such other taxing units. A tax lien on real property takes priority over the claim of most creditors and other holders of liens on the property encumbered by the tax lien, whether or not the debt or lien existed before the attachment of the tax lien; however, whether a lien of the United States is on a parity with or takes priority over a tax lien of the District is determined by applicable federal law. Personal property, under certain circumstances, is subject to seizure and sale for the payment of delinquent taxes, penalty, and interest.

At any time after taxes on property become delinquent, the District may file suit to foreclose the lien securing payment of the tax, to enforce personal liability for the tax, or both. In filing a suit to foreclose a tax lien on real property, the District must join other taxing units that have claims for delinquent taxes against all or part of the same property.

Collection of delinquent taxes may be adversely affected by the amount of taxes owed to other taxing units, adverse market conditions, taxpayer redemption rights, or bankruptcy proceedings which restrain the collection of a taxpayer's debt.

Federal bankruptcy law provides that an automatic stay of actions by creditors and other entities, including governmental units, goes into effect with the filing of any petition in bankruptcy. The automatic stay prevents governmental units from foreclosing on property and prevents liens for post-petition taxes from attaching to property and obtaining secured creditor status unless, in either case, an order lifting the stay is obtained from the bankruptcy court. In many cases, post-petition taxes are paid as an administrative expense of the estate in bankruptcy or by order of the bankruptcy court.

## THE PROPERTY TAX CODE AS APPLIED TO THE DISTRICT

The Appraisal District has the responsibility for appraising property in the District as well as other taxing units in Waller County. The Appraisal District is governed by a board of directors appointed by voters of the governing bodies of various political subdivisions in Waller County. The District's taxes are collected by the Waller County Tax Assessor-Collector.

The District does not allow split payments of taxes.

The District does not give discounts for early payment of taxes.

The District does not participate in a TIRZ.

The District does not tax non-business personal property.

The District does not tax freeport property.

The District does tax "goods in transit" without exemption.

The District has granted a tax abatement under the Chapter 313 Property Value Limitations with Goya Foods, Inc. that expired as of the 2022 tax year. The District has not granted any tax abatements under HB 5.

The District grants a State mandated homestead exemption of \$100,000 for taxpayers with general homesteads.

The District has granted a general local homestead exemption of 1% of the market value of residence homesteads with a minimum exemption of \$5,000.

The District grants a State mandated additional exemption of \$10,000 for taxpayers who are at least 65 years of age or disabled.

The District has not granted an additional optional homestead exemption for taxpayers who are at least 65 years of age or disabled over and above the State mandated exemption.

#### STATE AND LOCAL FUNDING OF SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN TEXAS

## Litigation Relating to the Texas Public School Finance System

On seven occasions in the last thirty years, the Texas Supreme Court (the "Court") has issued decisions assessing the constitutionality of the Texas public school finance system (the "Finance System"). The litigation has primarily focused on whether the Finance System, as amended by the Texas Legislature (the "Legislature") from time to time (i) met the requirements of article VII, section 1 of the Texas Constitution, which requires the Legislature to "establish and make suitable provision for the support and maintenance of an efficient system of public free schools," or (ii) imposed a statewide ad valorem tax in violation of article VIII, section 1-e of the Texas Constitution because the statutory limit on property taxes levied by school districts for maintenance and operation purposes had allegedly denied school districts meaningful discretion in setting their tax rates. In response to the Court's previous decisions, the Legislature enacted multiple laws that made substantive changes in the way the Finance System is funded in efforts to address the prior decisions declaring the Finance System unconstitutional.

On May 13, 2016, the Court issued its opinion in the most recent school finance litigation, *Morath v. The Texas Taxpayer & Student Fairness Coal.*, 490 S.W.3d 826 (Tex. 2016) ("*Morath*"). The plaintiffs and intervenors in the case had alleged that the Finance System, as modified by the Legislature in part in response to prior decisions of the Court, violated article VII, section 1 and article VIII, section 1-e of the Texas Constitution. In its opinion, the Court held that "[d]espite the imperfections of the current school funding regime, it meets minimum constitutional requirements." The Court also noted that:

Lawmakers decide if laws pass, and judges decide if those laws pass muster. But our lenient standard of review in this policy-laden area counsels modesty. The judicial role is not to second-guess whether our system is optimal, but whether it is constitutional. Our Byzantine school funding "system" is undeniably imperfect, with immense room for improvement. But it satisfies minimum constitutional requirements.

## Possible Effects of Changes in Law on District Bonds

The Court's decision in *Morath* upheld the constitutionality of the Finance System but noted that the Finance System was "undeniably imperfect". While not compelled by the *Morath* decision to reform the Finance System, the Legislature could enact future changes to the Finance System. Any such changes could benefit or be a detriment to the District. If the Legislature enacts future changes to, or fails adequately to fund the Finance System, or if changes in circumstances otherwise provide grounds for a challenge, the Finance System could be challenged again in the future. In its 1995 opinion in *Edgewood Independent School District v. Meno*, 917 S.W.2d 717 (Tex. 1995), the Court stated that any future determination of unconstitutionality "would not, however, affect the district's authority to levy the taxes necessary to retire previously issued bonds, but would instead require the Legislature to cure the system's unconstitutionality in a way that is consistent with the Contract Clauses of the U.S. and Texas Constitutions" (collectively, the "Contract Clauses"), which prohibit the enactment of laws that impair prior obligations of contracts.

Although, as a matter of law, the Bonds, upon issuance and delivery, will be entitled to the protections afforded previously existing contractual obligations under the Contract Clauses, the District can make no representations or predictions concerning the effect of future legislation, or any litigation that may be associated with such legislation, on the District's financial condition, revenues or operations. While the enactment of future legislation to address school funding in Texas could adversely affect the financial condition, revenues or operations of the District, the District does not anticipate that the security for payment of the Bonds, specifically, the District's obligation to levy an unlimited debt service tax and any Permanent School Fund guarantee of the Bonds would be adversely affected by any such legislation. See "CURRENT PUBLIC SCHOOL FINANCE SYSTEM".

## **CURRENT PUBLIC SCHOOL FINANCE SYSTEM**

## Overview

The following language constitutes only a summary of the public school finance system as it is currently structured. For a more complete description of school finance and fiscal management in the State, reference is made to Chapters 43 through 49 of the Texas Education Code, as amended.

Local funding for school districts is derived from collections of ad valorem taxes levied on property located within each school district's boundaries. School districts are authorized to levy two types of property taxes: (i) a maintenance and operations ("M&O") tax to pay current expenses and (ii) an interest and sinking fund ("I&S") tax to pay debt service on bonds. School districts are prohibited from levying an M&O tax rate for the purpose of creating a surplus in M&O tax revenues to pay the district's debt service. School districts are required to demonstrate their ability to pay debt service on outstanding bonded indebtedness through the levy of an I&S tax at a rate not to exceed \$0.50 per \$100 of taxable value at the time bonds are issued. Once bonds are issued, however, school districts generally may levy an I&S tax sufficient to pay debt service on such bonds unlimited as to rate or amount. See "TAX RATE LIMITATIONS – I&S Tax Rate Limitations" herein. Because property values vary widely among school districts, the amount of local funding generated by school districts with the same I&S tax rate and M&O tax rate is subject to wide variation; however, the public school finance funding formulas are designed to generally equalize local funding generated by a school district's M&O tax rate.

## 2023 Legislative Session

The regular session of the 88th Texas Legislature (the "88th Regular Session") began on January 10, 2023 and adjourned on May 29, 2023. The Texas Legislature (the "Legislature") meets in regular session in odd numbered years for 140 days. When the Legislature is not in session, the Governor may call one or more special sessions, at the Governor's discretion, each lasting no more than 30 days, and for which the Governor sets the agenda. The Governor has called and the Legislature has concluded four special sessions during the 88th Texas Legislature (such special sessions, together with the 88th Regular Session, the "2023 Legislative Sessions").

During the 88th Regular Session, the Legislature considered a general appropriations act and legislation affecting the Finance System and ad valorem taxation procedures and exemptions, and investments, among other legislation affecting school districts and the administrative agencies that oversee school districts. Legislation enacted by the Legislature fully-funded the Foundation School Program for the 2024-2025 State fiscal biennium and increased the State guaranteed yield on the first \$0.08 cents of tax effort beyond a school district's Maximum Compressed Tax Rate (as defined herein) to \$126.21 per penny of tax effort per student in WADA (as defined herein) in 2024 (from \$98.56 in 2023) and \$129.52 per penny of tax effort per student in WADA in 2025. See "— State Funding for School Districts — Tier Two." The Legislature also provided for an increase in funding for the school safety allotment to \$10.00 (from \$9.72 in the prior year) per ADA (as defined herein) and \$15,000 per campus. The Legislature set aside approximately \$4,000,000,000 in additional funding for public education contingent on certain legislation passing in future special sessions. However, the Legislature did not take action on such funding in any of the called special sessions of the 88th Texas Legislature.

During the second called special session, legislation was passed that (i) reduced the Maximum Compressed Tax Rate for school districts by approximately \$0.107 for the 2023-2024 school year; (ii) increased the amount of the mandatory school district general residential homestead exemption from ad valorem taxation from \$40,000 to \$100,000 and to hold districts harmless from certain M&O and I&S tax revenue losses associated with the increase in the mandatory homestead exemption (in connection with the Bonds, the District will be held harmless for I&S tax revenue losses associated with the increased homestead exemption); (iii) adjusted the amount of the limitation on school district ad valorem taxes imposed on the residence homesteads of the elderly or disabled to reflect increases in exemption amounts; (iv) prohibits school districts, cities and counties from repealing or reducing an optional homestead exemption that was granted in tax year 2022 (the prohibition expires on December 31, 2027); (v) established a three-year pilot program limiting growth in the taxable assessed value of non-residence homestead property valued at \$5,000,000 or less to 20 percent (school districts are not held harmless for any negative revenue impacts associated with such limits); (vi) excepted certain appropriations to pay for ad valorem tax relief from the constitutional limitation on the rate of growth of appropriations; and (vii) expanded the size of the governing body of an appraisal district in a county with a population of more than 75,000 by adding elected directors and authorizing the Legislature to provide for a four-year term of office for a member of the board of directors of certain appraisal districts. At an election held on November 7, 2023, voters approved a State constitutional amendment effectuating the legislative changes. The legislation adopted during the second called special session reduces the amount of property taxes paid by homeowners and businesses and increases the State's share of the cost of funding public education.

During any additional called special session, the Legislature may enact laws that materially change current law as it relates to the funding of public schools, including the District. The District can make no representations or predictions regarding the scope of additional legislation that may be considered during any additional called special sessions or the potential impact of such legislation at this time.

## **Local Funding for School Districts**

A school district's M&O tax rate has two distinct parts: the "Tier One Tax Rate," which is the local M&O tax rate required for a school district to receive any part of the basic level of State funding (referred to herein as "Tier One") under the Foundation School Program, as further described below, and the "Enrichment Tax Rate", which is any local M&O tax effort in excess of its Tier One Tax Rate. Formulas for the State Compression Percentage and Maximum Compressed Tax Rate (each as described below) to compress M&O tax rates in response to year-over-year increases in property values across the State and within a school district, respectively. The discussion in this subcaption "Local Funding For School Districts" is generally intended to describe funding provisions applicable to all school districts; however, there are distinctions in the funding formulas for school districts that generate local M&O tax revenues in excess of the school districts' funding entitlements, as further discussed under the subcaption "CURRENT PUBLIC SCHOOL FINANCE SYSTEM – Local Revenue Level In Excess of Entitlement" herein.

<u>State Compression Percentage</u>. The "State Compression Percentage" (the "SCP") is a statutorily defined percentage of the rate of \$1.00 per \$100 that is used to determine a school district's Maximum Compressed Tax Rate (described below). The SCP is the lesser of three alternative calculations: (1) 93% or a lower percentage set by appropriation for a school year; (2) a percentage determined by formula if the estimated total taxable property value of the State (as submitted annually to the State Legislature by the State Comptroller) has increased by at least 2.5% over the prior year; and (3) the prior year SCP. For any year, the maximum SCP is 93%. For the State fiscal year ending in 2024, the SCP is set at 68.80%.

Maximum Compressed Tax Rate. The Maximum Compressed Tax Rate (the "MCR") is the tax rate per \$100 of valuation of taxable property at which a school district must levy its Tier One Tax Rate to receive the full amount of the Tier One funding to which the school district is entitled. The MCR is equal to the lesser of three alternative calculations: (1) the school district's prior year MCR; (2) a percentage determined by formula if the school district experienced a year-over-year increase in property value of at least 2.5%; or (3) the product of the State Compression Percentage for the current year multiplied by \$1.00. However, each year the TEA shall evaluate the MCR for each school district in the State, and for any given year, if a school district's MCR is calculated to be less than 90% of any other school district's MCR for the current year, then the school district's MCR is set to 90% of the maximum MCR until TEA determines that the difference between the school district's MCR and any other school district's MCR is not more than 10%. (These compression formulas are intended to more closely equalize local generation of Tier One funding among districts with disparate tax bases and generally reduce the Tier One Tax Rates of school districts as property values increase. During the 2023 Legislative Sessions, the Legislature took action to reduce the maximum MCR for the 2023-2024 school year, establishing \$0.6880 as the maximum rate and \$0.6192 as the floor. The reduction in MCR was approved by voters at an election held on November 7, 2023. See "- 2023 Legislative Sessions." For the 2024-2025 school year, \$0.6855 is the maximum rate and \$0.6169 is the floor.

<u>Tier One Tax Rate</u>. A school district's Tier One Tax Rate is defined as a school district's M&O tax rate levied that does not exceed the school district's MCR.

<u>Enrichment Tax Rate</u>. The Enrichment Tax Rate is the number of cents a school district levies for M&O in excess of the Tier One Tax Rate, up to an additional \$0.17. The Enrichment Tax Rate is divided into two components: (i) "Golden Pennies" which are the first \$0.08 of tax effort in excess of a school district's Tier One Tax Rate; and (ii) "Copper Pennies" which are the next \$0.09 in excess of a school district's Tier One Tax Rate plus Golden Pennies.

School districts may levy an Enrichment Tax Rate at a level of their choice, subject to the limitations described under "TAX RATE LIMITATIONS – Public Hearing and Voter-Approval Tax Rate"; however to levy any of the Enrichment Tax Rate in a given year, a school district must levy a Tier One Tax Rate equal to the school district's MCR for such year. Additionally, a school district's levy of Copper Pennies is subject to compression if the guaranteed yield (i.e., the guaranteed level of local tax revenue and State aid generated for each cent of tax effort) of Copper Pennies is increased from one year to the next (see "CURRENT PUBLIC SCHOOL FINANCE SYSTEM – State Funding for School Districts – Tier Two").

## **State Funding for School Districts**

State funding for school districts is provided through the two-tiered Foundation School Program, which guarantees certain levels of funding for school districts in the State. School districts are entitled to a legislatively appropriated guaranteed yield on their Tier One Tax Rate and Enrichment Tax Rate. When a school district's Tier One Tax Rate and Enrichment Tax Rate generate tax revenues at a level below the respective entitlement, the State will provide "Tier One" funding or "Tier Two" funding, respectively, to fund the difference between the school district's entitlements and the calculated M&O revenues generated by the school district's respective M&O tax rates.

The first level of funding, Tier One, is the basic level of funding guaranteed to all school districts based on a school district's Tier One Tax Rate. Tier One funding may then be "enriched" with Tier Two funding. Tier Two provides a guaranteed entitlement for each cent of a school district's Enrichment Tax Rate, allowing a school district increase or decrease its Enrichment Tax Rate to supplement Tier One funding at a level of the school district's own choice. While Tier One funding

may be used for the payment of debt service (except for school districts subject to the recapture provisions of Chapter 49 of the Texas Education Code, as amended, as discussed herein), and in some instances is required to be used for that purpose (see "TAX RATE LIMITATIONS – I&S Tax Rate Limitations"), Tier Two funding may not be used for the payment of debt service or capital outlay.

The current public school finance system also provides an Existing Debt Allotment ("EDA") to subsidize debt service on eligible outstanding school district bonds, an Instructional Facilities Allotment ("IFA") to subsidize debt service on newly issued bonds, and a New Instructional Facilities Allotment ("NIFA") to subsidize operational expenses associated with the opening of a new instructional facility. IFA primarily addresses the debt service needs of property-poor school districts. For the 2024-2025 State fiscal biennium, the State Legislature appropriated funds in the amount of \$1,072,511,740 for the EDA, IFA, and NIFA.

Tier One and Tier Two allotments represent the State's share of the cost of M&O expenses of school districts, with local M&O taxes representing the school district's local share. EDA and IFA allotments supplement a school district's local I&S taxes levied for debt service on eligible bonds issued to construct, acquire and improve facilities, provided that a school district qualifies for such funding and that the State Legislature makes sufficient appropriations to fund the allotments for a State fiscal biennium. Tier One and Tier Two allotments and existing EDA and IFA allotments are generally required to be funded each year by the State Legislature.

<u>Tier One</u>. Tier One funding is the basic level of funding guaranteed to a school district, consisting of a State-appropriated baseline level of funding (the "Basic Allotment") for each student in "Average Daily Attendance" (being generally calculated as the sum of student attendance for each State-mandated day of instruction divided by the number of State-mandated days of instruction, defined herein as "ADA"). The Basic Allotment is revised downward if a school district's Tier One Tax Rate is less than the State-determined threshold. The Basic Allotment is supplemented by additional State funds, allotted based upon the unique school district characteristics and demographics of students in ADA, to make up most of a school district's Tier One entitlement under the Foundation School Program.

The Basic Allotment for a school district with a Tier One Tax Rate equal to the school district's MCR, is \$6,160 (or a greater amount as may be provided by appropriation) for each student in ADA and is revised downward for a school district with a Tier One Tax Rate lower than the school district's MCR. The Basic Allotment is then supplemented for all school districts by various weights to account for differences among school districts and their student populations. Such additional allotments include, but are not limited to, increased funds for students in ADA who: (i) attend a qualified special education program, (ii) are diagnosed with dyslexia or a related disorder, (iii) are economically disadvantaged, or (iv) have limited English language proficiency. Additional allotments to mitigate differences among school districts include, but are not limited to: (i) a transportation allotment for mileage associated with transporting students who reside two miles or more from their home campus, (ii) a fast growth allotment (for school districts in the top 25% of enrollment growth relative to other school districts), and (iii) a college, career and military readiness allotment to further the State's goal of increasing the number of students who attain a post-secondary education or workforce credential, and (iv) a teacher incentive allotment to increase teacher compensation retention in disadvantaged or rural school districts. A school district's total Tier One funding, divided by \$6,160, is a school district's measure of students in "Weighted Average Daily Attendance" ("WADA"), which serves to calculate Tier Two funding.

For the 2023-2024 school year, the fast growth allotment weight is 0.48 for districts in the top 40% of school districts for growth, 0.33 for districts in the middle 30% of school districts for growth and 0.18 for districts in the bottom 30% of school districts for growth. The fast growth allotment is limited to \$315 million for the 2023-2024 school year.

<u>Tier Two.</u> Tier Two supplements Tier One funding and provides two levels of enrichment with different guaranteed yields (i.e., Golden Pennies and Copper Pennies) depending on the school district's Enrichment Tax Rate. Golden Pennies generate a guaranteed yield equal to the greater of (i) the local revenue per student in WADA per cent of tax effort available to a school district at the ninety-sixth (96th) percentile of wealth per student in WADA, or (ii) the Basic Allotment (or a greater amount as may be provided by appropriation) multiplied by 0.016. For the 2024-2025 State fiscal biennium, school districts are guaranteed a yield of \$126.21 per student in WADA in 2024 and \$129.52 per student in WADA in 2025 for each Golden Penny levied.

Copper Pennies generate a guaranteed yield per student in WADA equal to the school district's Basic Allotment (or a greater amount as may be provided by appropriation) multiplied by 0.008. For the 2024-2025 State fiscal biennium, school districts are guaranteed a yield of \$49.28 per student in WADA for each Copper Penny levied. For any school year in which the guaranteed yield of Copper Pennies per student in WADA exceeds the guaranteed yield of Copper Pennies per student in WADA for the preceding school year, a school district is required to reduce its Copper Pennies levied so as to generate no more revenue per student in WADA than was available to the school district for the preceding year.

<u>Existing Debt Allotment, Instruction Facilities Allotment, and New Instructional Facilities Allotment.</u> The Foundation School Program also includes facilities funding components consisting of the IFA and the EDA, subject to legislative appropriation

each State fiscal biennium. To the extent funded for a biennium, these programs assist school districts in funding facilities by, generally, equalizing a school district's I&S tax effort. The IFA guarantees each awarded school district a specified amount per student (the "IFA Yield") in State and local funds for each cent of I&S tax levied to pay the principal of and interest on eligible bonds issued to construct, acquire, renovate or improve instructional facilities. The IFA Yield has been \$35 since this program first began in 1997. New awards of IFA are only available if appropriated funds are allocated for such purpose by the State Legislature. To receive an IFA award, in years where new IFA awards are available, a school district must apply to the Education Commissioner in accordance with rules adopted by the TEA before issuing the bonds to be paid with IFA State assistance. The total amount of debt service assistance over a biennium for which a school district may be awarded is limited to the lesser of (1) the actual debt service payments made by the school district in the biennium in which the bonds are issued; or (2) the greater of (a) \$100,000 or (b) \$250 multiplied by the number of students in ADA. The IFA is also available for lease-purchase agreements and refunding bonds meeting certain prescribed conditions. Once a school district receives an IFA award for bonds, it is entitled to continue receiving State assistance for such bonds without reapplying to the Education Commissioner. The guaranteed level of State and local funds per student per cent of local tax effort applicable to the bonds may not be reduced below the level provided for the year in which the bonds were issued. For the 2024-2025 State fiscal biennium, the State Legislature did not appropriate any funds for new IFA awards; however, awards previously granted in years the State Legislature did appropriate funds for new IFA awards will continue to be funded.

State financial assistance is provided for certain existing eligible debt issued by school districts through the EDA program. The EDA guaranteed yield (the "EDA Yield") is the lesser of (i) \$40 per student in ADA or a greater amount for any year provided by appropriation; or (ii) the amount that would result in a total additional EDA of \$60 million more than the EDA to which school districts would have been entitled to if the EDA Yield were \$35. The portion of a school district's local debt service rate that qualifies for EDA assistance is limited to the first \$0.29 of its I&S tax rate (or a greater amount for any year provided by appropriation by the State Legislature). In general, a school district's bonds are eligible for EDA assistance if (i) the school district made payments on the bonds during the final fiscal year of the preceding State fiscal biennium, or (ii) the school district levied taxes to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds for that fiscal year. Each biennium, access to EDA funding is determined by the debt service taxes collected in the final year of the preceding biennium. A school district may not receive EDA funding for the principal and interest on a series of otherwise eligible bonds for which the school district receives IFA funding.

Since future-year IFA awards were not funded by the Legislature for the 2024-2025 State fiscal biennium and debt service assistance on school district bonds that are not yet eligible for EDA is not available, debt service payments during the 2024-2025 State fiscal biennium on new bonds issued by school districts in the 2024-2025 State fiscal biennium to construct, acquire and improve facilities must be funded solely from local I&S taxes, except to the extent that the bonds of a school district are eligible for hold-harmless funding from the State for local tax revenue lost as a result of an increase in the mandatory homestead exemption from \$40,000 to \$100,000. See "— 2023 Legislative Sessions." Hold-harmless applies only to bonds authorized by voters prior to September 1, 2023.

A school district may also qualify for a NIFA allotment, which provides assistance to school districts for operational expenses associated with opening new instructional facilities. During the 2023 Legislative Sessions, the Legislature appropriated funds in the amount of \$100,000,000 for each fiscal year of the 2024-2025 State fiscal biennium for NIFA allotments.

<u>Tax Rate and Funding Equity</u>. The Education Commissioner may proportionally reduce the amount of funding a school district receives under the Foundation School Program and the ADA calculation if the school district operates on a calendar that provides less than the State-mandated minimum instruction time in a school year. The Education Commissioner may also adjust a school district's ADA as it relates to State funding where disaster, flood, extreme weather or other calamity has a significant effect on a school district's attendance.

Furthermore, "property-wealthy" school districts that received additional State funds under the public school finance system prior to the enactment of certain legislation passed during the 86th Texas Legislature are entitled to an equalized wealth transition grant on an annual basis through the 2023-2024 school year in an amount equal to the amount of additional revenue such school district would have received under former Texas Education Code Sections 41.002(e) through (g), as those sections existed on January 1, 2019. This grant is phased out through the 2023-2024 school year. Additionally, school districts and open-enrollment charter schools may be entitled to receive an allotment in the form of a formula transition grant, but they will not be entitled to an allotment beginning with the 2024-2025 school year. This grant is meant to ensure a smooth transition into the funding formulas enacted by the 86th Texas Legislature. If the total amount of allotments to which school districts and open-enrollment charter schools are entitled for a school year exceeds \$400 million, the Education Commissioner shall proportionately reduce each district's or school's allotment. The reduction in the amount to which a district or school is entitled may not result in an amount that is less than zero.

## Local Revenue Level in Excess of Entitlement

A school district that has sufficient property wealth to generate local revenues in excess of the school district's Tier One state and local entitlement and whose Copper Pennies generate local funds in excess of the school district's Tier II guarantee as previously discussed (a "Chapter 49 school district"), is subject to the local revenue reduction provisions contained in Chapter 49 of Texas Education Code, as amended ("Chapter 49"). Additionally, in years in which the amount of State funds appropriated specifically excludes the amount necessary to provide the guaranteed yield for Golden Pennies, local revenues generated on a school district's Golden Pennies in excess of the school district's respective funding entitlement are subject to the local revenue reduction provisions of Chapter 49. To reduce local revenue, Chapter 49 school districts are generally subject to a process known as "recapture", which requires a Chapter 49 school district to exercise certain options to remit local M&O tax revenues collected in excess of the Chapter 49 school district's funding entitlements to the State (for redistribution to other school districts) or otherwise expending the respective M&O tax revenues for the benefit of students in school districts that are not Chapter 49 school districts, as described in the subcaption "Options for Local Revenue Levels in Excess of Entitlement". Chapter 49 school districts receive their allocable share of funds distributed from the constitutionally-prescribed Available School Fund, but are generally not eligible to receive state aid under the Foundation School Program, although they may continue to receive State funds for certain competitive grants and certain programs that remain outside the Foundation School Program.

Options for Local Revenue Levels in Excess of Entitlement. Under Chapter 49, a school district has six (6) options to reduce local revenues to a level that does not exceed the school district's respective entitlements: (1) a school district may consolidate by agreement with one or more school districts to form a consolidated school district; all property and debt of the consolidating school districts vest in the consolidated school district; (2) a school district may detach property from its territory for annexation by a property-poor school district; (3) a school district may purchase attendance credits from the State; (4) a school district may contract to educate nonresident students from a property-poor school district by sending money directly to one or more property-poor school districts; (5) a school district may execute an agreement to provide students of one or more other school districts with career and technology education through a program designated as an area program for career and technology education; or (6) a school district may consolidate by agreement with one or more school districts to form a consolidated taxing school district solely to levy and distribute either M&O taxes or both M&O taxes and I&S taxes. A Chapter 49 school district may also exercise any combination of these remedies. Options (3), (4) and (6) require prior approval by the Chapter 49 school district's voters.

Furthermore, a school district may not adopt a tax rate until its effective local revenue level is at or below the level that would produce its guaranteed entitlement under the Foundation School Program. If a school district fails to exercise a permitted option, the Education Commissioner must reduce the school district's local revenue level to the level that would produce the school district's guaranteed entitlement, by detaching certain types of property from the school district and annexing the property to a property-poor school district or, if necessary, consolidate the school district with a property-poor school district. Provisions governing detachment and annexation of taxable property by the Education Commissioner do not provide for assumption of any of the transferring school district's existing debt.

## THE SCHOOL FINANCE SYSTEM AS APPLIED TO THE DISTRICT

For the 2023-2024 fiscal year, the District was designated as an "excess local revenue" district by the TEA. Accordingly, the District has entered into a wealth equalization agreement with the Commissioner for the purchase of attendance credit for the 2023-2024 school year, for the purpose of implementing a permitted wealth equalization option.

A district's local revenue levels must be tested for each future school year and, if local revenues exceed the district's entitlements, the district must reduce its wealth per student by the exercise of one of the permitted wealth equalization options. Accordingly, if the District's local revenues should exceed its entitlements in future school years, it will be required to exercise one or more of the permitted options to reduce local revenues.

If the District were to consolidate (or consolidate its tax base for all purposes) with a district not designated as an excess local revenue district, the outstanding debt of each district could become payable from the consolidated district's combined property tax base, and the District's ratio of taxable property to debt could become diluted. If the District were to detach property voluntarily, a portion of its outstanding debt (including the Bonds) could be assumed by the district to which the property is annexed, in which case timely payment of the Bonds could become dependent in part on the financial performance of an annexing district (see "CURRENT PUBLIC SCHOOL FINANCE SYSTEM – Local Revenue Level In Excess of Entitlement" herein).

For the State fiscal year ending in 2024 (the 2023-2024 school year), the State Compression Percentage was set at \$0.6880 (after the effect of SB 2) and the MCR for the District is \$0.6192 per \$100 of taxable value. For a detailed discussion of State funding for school districts, see "CURRENT PUBLIC SCHOOL FINANCE SYSTEM – State funding for School Districts" herein.

For a detailed discussion of State funding for school districts, see "CURRENT PUBLIC SCHOOL FINANCE SYSTEM -- State Funding for School Districts" herein.

## **TAX RATE LIMITATIONS**

## **M&O Tax Rate Limitations**

The District is authorized to levy an M&O tax rate pursuant to the approval of the voters of the District at an election held on December 4, 1965 in accordance with the provisions of Article 2784e-1, Texas Revised Civil Statutes, as amended.

The maximum M&O tax rate per \$100 of taxable value that may be adopted by a school district is the sum of \$0.17 and the school district's MCR. A school district's MCR is, generally, inversely proportional to the change in taxable property values both within the school district and the State, and is subject to recalculation annually. For any year, the highest possible MCR for a school district is \$0.93 (see "TAX RATE LIMITATIONS – Public Hearing and Voter-Approval Tax Rate" and "CURRENT PUBLIC SCHOOL FINANCE SYSTEM – Local Funding for School Districts" herein).

Furthermore, a school district cannot annually increase its tax rate in excess of the school district's Voter-Approval Tax Rate without submitting such tax rate to an election and a majority of the voters voting at such election approving the adopted rate. See "TAX RATE LIMITATIONS – Public Hearing and Voter-Approval Tax Rate" herein.

#### **I&S Tax Rate Limitations**

A school district is also authorized to issue bonds and levy taxes for payment of bonds subject to voter approval of one or more propositions submitted to the voters under Section 45.003(b)(1), Texas Education Code, as amended, which provides a tax unlimited as to rate or amount for the support of school district bonded indebtedness (see "THE BONDS – Security and Source of Payment").

Section 45.0031 of the Texas Education Code, as amended, requires a school district to demonstrate to the Texas Attorney General that it has the prospective ability to pay its maximum annual debt service on a proposed issue of bonds and all previously issued bonds, other than bonds approved by voters of a school district at an election held on or before April 1, 1991 and issued before September 1, 1992 (or debt issued to refund such bonds, collectively, "exempt bonds"), from a tax levied at a rate of \$0.50 per \$100 of assessed valuation before bonds may be issued (the "50-cent Test"). In demonstrating the ability to pay debt service at a rate of \$0.50, a school district may take into account EDA and IFA allotments to the school district, which effectively reduces the school district's local share of debt service, and may also take into account Tier One funds allotted to the school district. If a school district exercises this option, it may not adopt an I&S tax until it has credited to the school district's I&S fund an amount equal to all State allotments provided solely for payment of debt service and any Tier One funds needed to demonstrate compliance with the 50-cent Test and which is received or to be received in that year. Additionally, a school district may demonstrate its ability to comply with the 50-cent Test by applying the \$0.50 tax rate to an amount equal to 90% of projected future taxable value of property in the school district, as certified by a registered professional appraiser, anticipated for the earlier of the tax year five (5) years after the current tax year or the tax year in which the final payment for the bonds is due. However, if a school district uses projected future taxable values to meet the 50-cent Test and subsequently imposes a tax at a rate greater than \$0.50 per \$100 of valuation to pay for bonds subject to the 50-cent Test, then for subsequent bond issues, the Texas Attorney General must find that the school district has the projected ability to pay principal and interest on the proposed bonds and all previously issued bonds subject to the 50-cent Test from a tax rate of \$0.45 per \$100 of valuation. Once the prospective ability to pay such tax has been shown and the bonds are issued, a school district may levy an unlimited tax to pay debt service. The Bonds are issued as "new money bonds" and are subject to the 50-cent Test. The District has not utilized projected values, nor it has used State assistance to satisfy the 50-cent Test.

## **Public Hearing and Voter-Approval Tax Rate**

A school district's total tax rate is the combination of the M&O tax rate and the I&S tax rate. Generally, the highest rate at which a school district may levy taxes for any given year without holding an election to approve the tax rate is the "Voter-Approval Tax Rate", as described below.

A school district is required to adopt its annual tax rate before the later of September 30 or the sixtieth (60th) day after the date the certified appraisal roll is received by the taxing unit, except that a tax rate that exceeds the Voter-Approval Tax Rate must be adopted not later than the seventy-first (71st) day before the next occurring November uniform election date. A school district's failure to adopt a tax rate equal to or less than the Voter-Approval Tax Rate by September 30 or the sixtieth (60th) day after receipt of the certified appraisal roll, will result in the tax rate for such school district for the tax year to be the lower of the "no-new-revenue tax rate" calculated for that tax year or the tax rate adopted by the school district for the preceding tax year. A school district's failure to adopt a tax rate in excess of the Voter-Approval Tax Rate on or prior to the seventy-first (71st) day before the next occurring November uniform election date, will result in the school district

adopting a tax rate equal to or less than its Voter-Approval Tax Rate by the later of September 30 or the sixtieth (60th) day after receipt of the certified appraisal roll. "No-new-revenue tax rate" means the rate that will produce the prior year's total tax levy from the current year's total taxable values, adjusted such that lost values are not included in the calculation of the prior year's taxable values and new values are not included in the current year's taxable values.

The Voter-Approval Tax Rate for a school district is the sum of (i) the school district's MCR; (ii) the greater of (a) the school district's Enrichment Tax Rate for the preceding year, less any amount by which the school district is required to reduce its current year Enrichment Tax Rate pursuant to Section 48.202(f), Education Code, as amended, or (b) the rate of \$0.05 per \$100 of taxable value; and (iii) the school district's current I&S tax rate. A school district's M&O tax rate may not exceed the rate equal to the sum of (i) \$0.17 and (ii) the school district's MCR (see "CURRENT PUBLIC SCHOOL FINANCE SYSTEM" herein, for more information regarding the State Compression Percentage, MCR, and the Enrichment Tax Rate).

The governing body of a school district generally cannot adopt a tax rate exceeding the school district's Voter-Approval Tax Rate without approval by a majority of the voters approving the higher rate at an election to be held on the next uniform election date. Further, subject to certain exceptions for areas declared disaster areas, State law requires the board of trustees of a school district to conduct an efficiency audit before seeking voter approval to adopt a tax rate exceeding the Voter-Approval Tax Rate and sets certain parameters for conducting and disclosing the results of such efficiency audit. An election is not required for a tax increase to address increased expenditures resulting from certain natural disasters in the year following the year in which such disaster occurs; however, the amount by which the increased tax rate exceeds the school district's Voter-Approval Tax Rate for such year may not be considered by the school district in the calculation of its subsequent Voter-Approval Tax Rate.

The calculation of the Voter-Approval Tax Rate does not limit or impact the District's ability to set an I&S tax rate in each year sufficient to pay debt service on all of the District's tax-supported debt obligations, including the Bonds.

Before adopting its annual tax rate, a public meeting must be held for the purpose of adopting a budget for the succeeding year. A notice of public meeting to discuss the school district's budget and proposed tax rate must be published in the time, format and manner prescribed in Section 44.004 of the Texas Education Code. Section 44.004(e) of the Texas Education Code provides that a person who owns taxable property in a school district is entitled to an injunction restraining the collection of taxes by the school district if the school district has not complied with such notice requirements or the language and format requirements of such notice as set forth in Section 44.004(b), (c), (c-1), (c-2), and (d), and, if applicable, subsection (i), and if such failure to comply was not in good faith. Section 44.004(e) further provides the action to enjoin the collection of taxes must be filed before the date the school district delivers substantially all of its tax bills. A school district that elects to adopt a tax rate before the adoption of a budget for the fiscal year that begins in the current tax year may adopt a tax rate for the current tax year before receipt of the certified appraisal roll, so long as the chief appraiser of the appraisal district in which the school district participates has certified to the assessor for the school district an estimate of the taxable value of property in the school district. If a school district adopts its tax rate prior to the adoption of its budget, both the no-new-revenue tax rate and the Voter-Approval Tax Rate of the school district shall be calculated based on the school district's certified estimate of taxable value. A school district that adopts a tax rate before adopting its budget must hold a public hearing on the proposed tax rate followed by another public hearing on the proposed budget rather than holding a single hearing on the two items.

A school district must annually calculate and prominently post on its internet website, and submit to the county tax assessor-collector for each county in which all or part of the school district is located its Voter-Approval Tax Rate in accordance with forms prescribed by the State Comptroller.

## EMPLOYEE BENEFITS, RETIREMENT PLAN AND OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

The District contributes to the Teacher Retirement System of Texas (the "System"), a public employee retirement system. It is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan with one exception: all risks and costs are not shared by the District but are the liability of the State of Texas. The System provides service retirement and disability retirement benefits, and death benefits to plan members and beneficiaries. The System operates primarily under the provisions of the Texas Constitution and Texas Government Code, Title 8, Subtitle C. See "NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – H. Pensions" as set out in the audited financial statements of the District for the year ended August 31, 2023 as set forth in APPENDIX B hereto.

The District contributes to the Texas Public School Retired Employees Group Insurance Program ("TRS-Care"), a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit post-employment health care plan administered by the System. TRS-Care provides health care coverage for certain persons (and their dependents) who retired under the System. See "NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – I. Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB)" in the audited financial statements of the District for the year ended August 31, 2023 as set forth in APPENDIX B hereto for information regarding the District's net OPEB liability and related matters.

Government Accounting Standards Board ("GASB") issued Statement No. 68 Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions, which requires reporting entities, such as the District, to recognize their proportionate share of the net pension liability and operating statement activity related to changes in collective pension liability. Reporting entities, such as the District, that contribute to the TRS pension plan will report a liability on the face of their government-wide financial statements. Such reporting began with the District's fiscal year ending August 31, 2015. GASB Statement No. 68 applies only to pension benefits and does not apply to other post-employment benefits or TRS-Care related liabilities. At the conclusion of the 2022-23 fiscal year, the District had a net pension liability as set forth in APPENDIX B hereto.

See the audited financial statements of the District for the year ended August 31, 2023 as set forth in APPENDIX B hereto for information related to the District's adoption of Statement No. 75, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions and the related prior period adjustment.

Formal collective bargaining agreements relating directly to wages and other conditions of employment are prohibited by State law, as are strikes by teachers. There are various local, state and national organized employee groups who engage in efforts to better terms and conditions of employment of school employees. Some districts have adopted a policy to consult with employer groups with respect to certain terms and conditions of employment. Some examples of these groups are the Texas State Teachers Association, the Texas Classroom Teachers Association, the Association of Texas Professional Educators and the National Education Association.

## **INVESTMENT POLICIES**

The District invests its funds in investments authorized by Texas law in accordance with investment policies approved by the Board. Both Texas law and the District's investment policies are subject to change.

## **Legal Investments**

Under State law, the District is authorized to invest in (1) obligations, including letters of credit, of the United States or its agencies and instrumentalities, including the Federal Home Loan Banks; (2) direct obligations of the State or its agencies and instrumentalities; (3) collateralized mortgage obligations directly issued by a federal agency or instrumentality of the United States, the underlying security for which is guaranteed by an agency or instrumentality of the United States; (4) other obligations, the principal and interest of which is guaranteed or insured by or backed by the full faith and credit of, the State or the United States or their respective agencies and instrumentalities, including obligations that are fully guaranteed or insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or by the explicit full faith and credit of the United States; (5) obligations of states, agencies, counties, cities, and other political subdivisions of any state rated as to investment quality by a nationally recognized investment rating firm not less than "A" or its equivalent; (6) bonds issued, assumed or guaranteed by the State of Israel; (7) interest-bearing banking deposits that are guaranteed or insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or its successor, or the National Credit Union Share Insurance Fund or its successor; (8) interest-bearing banking deposits other than those described by clause (7) if (A) the funds invested in the banking deposits are invested through; (i) a broker with a main office or branch office in this State that the District selects from a list the governing body or designated investment committee of the District adopts as required by Section 2256.025, Texas Government Code; or (ii) a depository institution with a main office or branch office in the State that the District selects; (B) the broker or depository institution selected as described by (A) above arranges for the deposit of the funds in the banking deposits in one or more federally insured depository institutions, regardless of where located, for the District's account; (C) the full amount of the principal and accrued interest of the banking deposits is insured by the United States or an instrumentality of the United States; and (D) the District appoints as the District's custodian of the banking deposits issued for the District's account: (i) the depository institution selected as described by (A) above; (ii) an entity described by Section 2257.041(d), Texas Government Code; or (iii) a clearing broker dealer registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") and operating under SEC Rule 15c3-3; (9) (i) certificates of deposit or share certificates meeting the requirements of the Public Funds Investment Act (Chapter 2256, Texas Government Code) (the "PFIA") that are issued by an institution that has its main office or a branch office in the State and are guaranteed or insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (the "FDIC") or the National Credit Union Share Insurance Fund (the "NCUSIF"), or their respective successors, and are secured as to principal by obligations described in clauses (1) through (8) or in any other manner and provided for by law for District deposits, or (ii) certificates of deposits where (a) the funds are invested by the District through (A) a broker that has its main office or a branch office in the State and is selected from a list adopted by the District as required by law, or (B) a depository institution that has its main office or branch office in the State that is selected by the District, (b) the broker or the depository institution selected by the District arranges for the deposit of the funds in certificates of deposit in one or more federally insured depository institutions, wherever located, for the account of the District, (c) the full amount of the principal and accrued interest of each of the certificates of deposit is insured by the United States or an instrumentality of the United States, and (d) the District appoints the depository institution selected under (a) above, a custodian as described by Section 2257.041(d) of the Texas Government Code, or a clearing broker-dealer registered with the SEC and operating pursuant to SEC Rule 15c3-3 (17 C.F.R. Section 240.15c3-3) as custodian for the District with respect to the certificates of deposit; (10) fully collateralized repurchase agreements, as defined in the PFIA, that have a defined termination date, are secured by a combination of cash and obligations described in clause (1) above, clause (12) below, require the securities being purchased by the District or cash held by the District to be pledged to the District, held in the

District's name, and deposited at the time the investment is made with the District or with a third party selected and approved by the District, and are placed through a primary government securities dealer, as defined by the Federal Reserve, or a financial institution doing business in the State; (11) certain bankers' acceptances with the remaining term of 270 days or less, if the short-term obligations of the accepting bank or its parent are rated at least "A-1" or "P-1" or the equivalent by at least one nationally recognized credit rating agency; (12) commercial paper with a stated maturity of 365 days or less that is rated at least "A-1" or "P-1" or the equivalent by either (a) two nationally recognized credit rating agencies or (b) one nationally recognized credit rating agency if the paper is fully secured by an irrevocable letter of credit issued by a U.S. or state bank; (13) no-load money market mutual funds registered with and regulated by the United States SEC that provide the District with a prospectus and other information required by the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or the Investment Company Act of 1940 and that comply with federal SEC Rule 2a-7 (17 C.F.R. Section 270.2a-7), promulgated under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. Section 80a-1 et seq.); and (14) no-load mutual funds registered with the SEC that have an average weighted maturity of less than two years, and either (a) a duration of one year or more and invest exclusively in obligations described in under this heading, or (b) a duration of less than one year and the investment portfolio is limited to investment grade securities, excluding asset-backed securities. In addition, bond proceeds may be invested in quaranteed investment contracts that have a defined termination date and are secured by obligations, including letters of credit, of the United States or its agencies and instrumentalities, other than the prohibited obligations described below, in an amount at least equal to the amount of bond proceeds invested under such contract.

The District may invest in such obligations directly or through government investment pools that invest solely in such obligations provided that the pools are rated no lower than "AAA" or "AAAm" or an equivalent by at least one nationally recognized rating service. The District may also contract with an investment management firm registered under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. Section 80b-1 et seq.) or with the State Securities Board to provide for the investment and management of its public funds or other funds under its control for a term up to two years, but the District retains ultimate responsibility as fiduciary of its assets. In order to renew or extend such a contract, the District must do so by order, ordinance, or resolution.

The District is specifically prohibited from investing in: (1) obligations whose payment represents the coupon payments on the outstanding principal balance of the underlying mortgage-backed security collateral and pays no principal; (2) obligations whose payment represents the principal stream of cash flow from the underlying mortgage-backed security and bears no interest; (3) collateralized mortgage obligations that have a stated final maturity of greater than ten (10) years; and (4) collateralized mortgage obligations the interest rate of which is determined by an index that adjusts opposite to the changes in a market index.

Political subdivisions such as the District are authorized to implement securities lending programs if (i) the securities loaned under the program are 100% collateralized, a loan made under the program allows for termination at any time and a loan made under the program is either secured by (a) obligations that are described in clauses (1) through (8) above, other than the prohibited obligations described above, (b) irrevocable letters of credit issued by a state or national bank that is continuously rated by a nationally recognized investment rating firm at not less than "A" or its equivalent or (c) cash invested in obligations described in clauses (1) through (8) above, clauses (12) through (14) above, or an authorized investment pool; (ii) securities held as collateral under a loan are pledged to the District, held in the District's name and deposited at the time the investment is made with the District or a third party designated by the District; (iii) a loan made under the program is placed through either a primary government securities dealer or a financial institution doing business in the State; and (iv) the agreement to lend securities has a term of one year or less.

## **Investment Policies**

Under State law, the District is required to invest its funds under written investment policies that primarily emphasize safety of principal and liquidity; that address investment diversification, yield, maturity, and the quality and capability of investment management; and that include a list of authorized investments for District funds, the maximum allowable stated maturity of any individual investment, the maximum average dollar-weighted maturity allowed for pooled fund groups, methods to monitor the market price of investments acquired with public funds, a requirement for settlement of all transactions, except investment pool funds and mutual funds, on a delivery versus payment basis, and procedures to monitor rating changes in investments acquired with public funds and the liquidation of such investments consistent with the PFIA. All District funds must be invested consistent with a formally adopted "Investment Strategy Statement" that specifically addresses each fund's investment. Each Investment Strategy Statement will describe its objectives concerning: (1) suitability of investment type, (2) preservation and safety of principal, (3) liquidity, (4) marketability of each investment, (5) diversification of the portfolio, and (6) yield.

Under State law, the District's investments must be made "with judgment and care, under prevailing circumstances, that a person of prudence, discretion, and intelligence would exercise in the management of the person's own affairs, not for speculation, but for investment considering the probable safety of capital and the probable income to be derived." At least quarterly the District's investment officers must submit an investment report to the Board detailing: (1) the investment position of the District, (2) that all investment officers jointly prepared and signed the report, (3) the beginning market value, the ending market value and the fully accrued interest for the reporting period of each pooled fund group, (4) the book value

and market value of each separately listed asset at the beginning and end of the reporting period, (5) the maturity date of each separately invested asset, (6) the account or fund or pooled fund group for which each individual investment was acquired, and (7) the compliance of the investment portfolio as it relates to: (a) adopted investment strategies and (b) State law. No person may invest District funds without express written authority from the Board.

## **Additional Provisions**

Under State law, the District is additionally required to: (1) annually review its adopted policies and strategies; (2) adopt by written instrument a rule, order, ordinance or resolution stating that it has reviewed its investment policy and investment strategies and records any changes made to either its investment policy or investment strategy in the respective rule, order, ordinance or resolution; (3) require any investment officers with personal business relationships or relatives with firms seeking to sell securities to the District to disclose the relationship and file a statement with the Texas Ethics Commission and the Board; (4) require the qualified representative of firms offering to engage in an investment transaction with the District to: (a) receive and review the District's investment policy, (b) acknowledge that reasonable controls and procedures have been implemented to preclude investment transactions conducted between the District and the business organization that are not authorized by the District's investment policy (except to the extent that this authorization is dependent on an analysis of the makeup of the entity's entire portfolio, requires an interpretation of subjective investment standards or relates to investment transactions of the entity that are not made through accounts or other contractual arrangements over which the business organization has accepted discretionary investment authority), and (c) deliver a written statement in a form acceptable to the District and the business organization attesting to these requirements; (5) in conjunction with its annual financial audit, perform a compliance audit of the management controls on investments and adherence to the District's investment policy; (6) provide specific investment training for the Treasurer, chief financial officer and investment officers; (7) restrict reverse repurchase agreements to not more than 90 days and restrict the investment of reverse repurchase agreement funds to no greater than the term of the reverse purchase agreement; (8) restrict the investment in no-load mutual funds in the aggregate to no more than 15% of the District's monthly average fund balance, excluding bond proceeds and reserves and other funds held for debt service; (9) require local government investment pools to conform to the new disclosure, rating, net asset value, yield calculation, and advisory board requirements; and (10) at least annually review, revise and adopt a list of qualified brokers that are authorized to engage in investment transactions with the District.

#### **LEGAL MATTERS**

The District will furnish to the Underwriters a complete transcript of proceedings incident to the authorization and issuance of the Bonds, including the unqualified approving legal opinion of the Attorney General of the State to the effect that the Bonds are valid and legally binding obligations of the District, and based upon examination of such transcript of proceedings, the approving legal opinion of Leon Alcala PLLC, Bond Counsel, in substantially the form attached hereto as APPENDIX C. The legal fees to be paid to Bond Counsel are contingent upon the sale and delivery of the Bonds. Certain legal matters will be passed upon for the Underwriters by their counsel, Cantu Harden Montoya LLP, San Antonio, Texas, whose legal fees are contingent on the sale and delivery of the Bonds.

Bond Counsel was not requested to participate, and did not take part, in the preparation of the Official Statement, and such firm has not assumed any responsibility with respect thereto or undertaken independently to verify any of the information contained therein, except that, in its capacity as Bond Counsel, such firm has reviewed the information under the captions and subcaptions "PLAN OF FINANCING - Purpose". "THE BONDS" (exclusive of the subcaptions "Permanent School Fund Guarantee," "Default and Remedies," "Payment Record," and "Future Issues," as to which no opinion is expressed), "STATE AND LOCAL FUNDING OF SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN TEXAS" (except information appearing under the subcaption "Possible Effects of Changes in Law on District Bonds" as to which no opinion is expressed), "CURRENT PUBLIC SCHOOL FINANCE SYSTEM," "TAX RATE LIMITATIONS" (excluding the last sentence of the second paragraph under the subcaption "I&S Tax Rate Limitations" and the subcaption "Public Hearing and Voter-Approval Tax Rate" as to which no opinion is expressed), "LEGAL MATTERS - Legal Opinions" (only insofar as such subcaption describes the opinions of Bond Counsel), TAX MATTERS," "LEGAL INVESTMENTS AND ELIGIBILITY TO SECURE PUBLIC FUNDS IN TEXAS," "CONTINUING DISCLOSURE" (excluding the information under the subcaption "Compliance with Prior Agreements," as to which no opinion is expressed), and "OTHER PERTINENT INFORMATION - Registration and Qualification of Bonds for Sale" in the Official Statement, excluding any material that may be treated as included under such captions or subcaptions by cross reference or reference to other documents or sources, and such firm is of the opinion that insofar as such statements expressly summarize certain provisions of the Bonds and the Bond Order or set out the content of the Bond Opinion, such statements are accurate in all material respects.

Bond Counsel has been engaged by and only represents the District with respect to the issuance of the Bonds. The legal opinions to be delivered concurrently with the delivery of the Bonds expresses the professional judgment of the attorneys rendering the opinions as to the legal issues expressly addressed therein. In rendering legal opinions, the attorneys do not become an insurer or guarantor of the expression of professional judgment, of the transaction opined upon, or of the future performance of the parties to the transaction. Nor does the rendering of such opinions guarantee the outcome of any legal dispute that may arise from the transaction.

## Litigation

Except as disclosed in this Official Statement, there is no litigation or other proceeding pending against or, to their knowledge, threatened against the District in any court, agency, or administrative body (either state or federal) wherein an adverse decision would materially adversely affect the financial condition of the District.

At the time of the initial delivery of the Bonds, the District will provide the Underwriters with a certificate to the effect that no litigation of any nature has been filed or is then pending challenging the issuance of the Bonds or that affects the payment and security of the Bonds or in any other manner questioning the issuance, sale, or delivery of the Bonds.

#### **TAX MATTERS**

The Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), includes requirements which the District must continue to meet after the issuance of the Bonds in order that the interest on the Bonds be and remain excludable from gross income for federal income tax purposes. The District's failure to meet these requirements may cause the interest on the Bonds to be included in gross income for federal income tax purposes retroactively to the date of issuance of the Bonds. The District has covenanted in the Bond Order to take the actions required by the Code in order to maintain the exclusion from gross income for federal income tax purposes of interest on the Bonds.

In the opinion of Bond Counsel, assuming the accuracy of certain representations and certifications of the District and continuing compliance by the District with the tax covenants referred to above, under existing statutes, regulations, rulings and judicial decisions, interest on the Bonds is excludable from gross income of the holders thereof for federal income tax purposes and is not an item of tax preference for purposes of the federal alternative minimum tax imposed on individuals. In the case of the federal alternative minimum tax imposed by Section 55(b)(2) of the Code on applicable corporations (as defined in Section 59(k) of the Code), interest on the Bonds is not excluded from the determination of adjusted financial statement income. Bond Counsel will express no opinion as to any other federal, state or local tax consequences under present law or any proposed legislation regarding the Bonds. Prospective purchasers of the Bonds should consult their own tax advisors as to the status of interest on the Bonds under the tax laws of any state.

Except as described above, Bond Counsel will express no opinion regarding the federal income tax consequences resulting from the receipt or accrual of the interest on the Bonds, or the ownership or disposition of the Bonds. The accrual or receipt of interest on the Bonds may otherwise affect the federal income tax liability of the owners of the Bonds. The extent of these other tax consequences will depend upon such owner's particular tax status and other items of income or deduction. Purchasers of the Bonds, particularly purchasers that are corporations (including S corporations, foreign corporations operating branches in the United States of America, and certain corporations subject to the alternative minimum tax imposed on corporations), property or casualty insurance companies, banks, thrifts or other financial institutions, certain recipients of social security or railroad retirement benefits, taxpayers entitled to claim the earned income credit, taxpayers entitled to claim the refundable credit in Section 36B of the Code for coverage under a qualified health plan or taxpayers who may be deemed to have incurred or continued indebtedness to purchase or carry tax-exempt obligations, should consult their tax advisors as to the tax consequences of purchasing or owning the Bonds.

Bond Counsel's opinions are based on existing law, which is subject to change. Such opinions are further based on factual representations made to Bond Counsel as of the date thereof. Bond Counsel assumes no duty to update or supplement its opinions to reflect any facts or circumstances that may thereafter come to Bond Counsel's attention, or to reflect any changes in law that may thereafter occur or become effective. Moreover, Bond Counsel's opinions are not a guarantee of a particular result, and are not binding on the Internal Revenue Service ("IRS") or the courts; rather, such opinions represent Bond Counsel's professional judgment based on its review of existing law, and in reliance on the representations and covenants that it deems relevant to such opinion.

The IRS has initiated an expanded program for auditing tax-exempt bond issues, including both random and targeted audits. It is possible that the Bonds will be selected for audit by the IRS. Under existing procedures relating to audits of tax-exempt obligations such as the Bonds by the IRS, owners of the Bonds would have little, if any, right to participate in the audit examination process. It is also possible that the market value of the Bonds might be adversely affected as a result of such an audit of the Bonds (or by an audit of similar bonds). No assurance can be given that in the course of an audit, as a result of an audit, or otherwise, Congress or the IRS might not change the Code (or interpretation thereof) subsequent to the issuance of the Bonds to the extent that it adversely affects the exclusion from gross income of interest on the Bonds or their market value.

## **Original Issue Premium and Discount**

Certain of the Bonds ("Premium Bonds") may be offered and sold to the public at a price in excess of their stated redemption price at maturity (or earlier for certain Premium Bonds callable prior to maturity). That excess constitutes bond premium. For federal income tax purposes, bond premium is amortized over the period to maturity of a Premium Bond, based on the

yield to maturity of that Premium Bond (or, in the case of a Premium Bond callable prior to its stated maturity, the amortization period and yield may be required to be determined on the basis of an earlier call date that results in the lowest yield on that Premium Bond), compounded semiannually (or over a shorter permitted compounding interval selected by the owner). No portion of that bond premium is deductible by the owner of a Premium Bond. For purposes of determining the owner's gain or loss on the sale, redemption (including redemption at maturity), or other disposition of a Premium Bond, the owner's tax basis in the Premium Bond is reduced by the amount of bond premium that accrues during the period of ownership. As a result, an owner may realize taxable gain for federal income tax purposes from the sale or other disposition of a Premium Bond for an amount equal to or less than the amount paid by the owner for that Premium Bond.

Certain of the Bonds ("Discount Bonds") may be offered and sold to the public at an original issue discount ("OID"). OID is the excess of the stated redemption price at maturity over the "issue price" of a Discount Bond determined under Code Section 1273 or 1274 (i.e., for obligations issued for money in a public offering, the initial offering price to the public (other than to bond houses and brokers) at which a substantial amount of the obligation of the same maturity is sold pursuant to that offering). For federal income tax purposes, OID accrues to the owner of a Discount Bond over the period to maturity based on the constant yield method, compounded semiannually (or over a shorter permitted compounding interval selected by the owner). The portion of OID that accrues during the period of ownership of a Discount Bond (i) is interest excludable from the owner's gross income for federal income tax purposes to the same extent, and subject to the same considerations discussed above, as other interest on the Bonds, and (ii) is added to the owner's tax basis for purposes of determining gain or loss on the maturity, redemption, prior sale or other disposition of that Discount Bond.

Owners of Discount and Premium Bonds should consult their own tax advisers as to the determination for federal income tax purposes of the amount of OID or bond premium properly accruable in any period with respect to the Discount or Premium Bonds and as to other federal tax consequences, and the treatment of OID and bond premium for purposes of state and local taxes on, or based on, income.

## Changes in Tax Law

From time to time, there are legislative proposals suggested, debated, introduced or pending that, if enacted into law, could alter or amend one or more of the tax matters, described above including, without limitation, the excludability from gross income of interest on the Bonds, adversely affect the market price or marketability of the Bonds, or otherwise prevent the holders from realizing the full current benefit of the status of the interest thereon. It cannot be predicted whether or in what form any such proposal may be enacted, or whether, if enacted, any such proposal would affect the Bonds. Prospective purchasers of the Bonds should consult their tax advisors as to the impact of any proposed or pending legislation.

## Information Reporting and Backup Withholding

Interest paid on tax-exempt bonds such as the Bonds is subject to information reporting to the IRS in a manner similar to interest paid on taxable obligations. This reporting requirement does not affect the excludability of interest on the Bonds from gross income for federal income tax purposes. However, in conjunction with that information reporting requirement, the Code subjects certain non-corporate owners of Bonds, under certain circumstances, to "backup withholding" at the rates set forth in the Code, with respect to payments on the Bonds and proceeds from the sale of Bonds. Any amount so withheld would be refunded or allowed as a credit against the federal income tax of such owner of Bonds. This withholding generally applies if the owner of Bonds (i) fails to furnish the payor such owner's social security number or other taxpayer identification number ("TIN"), (ii) furnished the payor an incorrect TIN, (iii) fails to properly report interest, dividends, or other "reportable payments" as defined in the Code, or (iv) under certain circumstances, fails to provide the payor or such owner's securities broker with a certified statement, signed under penalty of perjury, that the TIN provided is correct and that such owner is not subject to backup withholding. Prospective purchasers of the Bonds may also wish to consult with their tax advisors with respect to the need to furnish certain taxpayer information in order to avoid backup withholding.

## LEGAL INVESTMENTS AND ELIGIBILITY TO SECURE PUBLIC FUNDS IN TEXAS

Under the Texas Public Security Procedures Act (Texas Government Code, Chapter 1201, as amended), the Bonds (i) are negotiable instruments, (ii) are investment securities to which Chapter 8 of the Texas Uniform Commercial Code applies, and (iii) are legal and authorized investments for (A) an insurance company, (B) a fiduciary or trustee, or (C) a sinking fund of a municipality or other political subdivision or public agency of the State of Texas. The Bonds are eligible to secure deposits of any public funds of the State, its agencies and political subdivisions, and are legal security for those deposits to the extent of their market value. For political subdivisions in Texas which have adopted investment policies and guidelines in accordance with the Public Funds Investment Act (Texas Government Code, Chapter 2256, as amended), the Bonds may have to be assigned a rating of at least "A" or its equivalent as to investment quality by a national rating agency before such obligations are eligible investments for sinking funds and other public funds. See "OTHER PERTINENT INFORMATION – Municipal Bond Rating" herein. In addition, various provisions of the Texas Finance Code provide that, subject to a prudent investor standard, the Bonds are legal investments for state banks, savings banks, trust companies with at least \$1 million of capital and savings and loan associations.

The District has made no investigation of other laws, rules, regulations or investment criteria which might apply to such institutions or entities or which might limit the suitability of the Bonds for any of the foregoing purposes or limit the authority of such institutions or entities to purchase or invest in the Bonds for such purposes. The District has made no review of laws in other states to determine whether the Bonds are legal investments for various institutions in those states.

#### **INFECTIOUS DISEASE OUTBREAK - COVID-19**

In March 2020, the World Health Organization and the President of the United States (the "President") separately declared the outbreak of a respiratory disease caused by a novel coronavirus ("COVID-19") to be a public health emergency. On April 10, 2023, the President signed a resolution terminating the national emergency related to the Pandemic, and on May 5, 2023, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 no longer represented a global health emergency. There are currently no COVID-19 related operating limits imposed by executive order of the Governor for any business or other establishment in the State. The Governor retains the right to impose additional restrictions on activities if needed in order to mitigate the effects of COVID-19. The District has not experienced any decrease in property values or unusual tax delinquencies as a result of COVID-19 and the District's operations and financial position are not currently impacted as a result of COVID-19. However, the District cannot predict the long-term economic effect of COVID-19 or a similar virus should there be a reversal of economic activity and re-imposition of restrictions.

#### **CYBERSECURITY**

The District, like other school districts in the State, utilizes technology in conducting its operations. As a user of technology, the District potentially faces cybersecurity threats (e.g., hacking, phishing, viruses, malware and ransomware) on its technology systems. Accordingly, the District may be the target of a cyber-attack on its technology systems that could result in adverse consequences to the District. The District employs a multi-layered approach to combating cybersecurity threats. While the District deploys layered technologies and requires employees to receive cybersecurity training, as required by State law, among other efforts, cybersecurity breaches could cause material disruptions to the District's finances or operations. The costs of remedying such breaches or protecting against future cyber-attacks could be substantial and there is no assurance that these costs will be covered by insurance. Further, cybersecurity breaches could expose the District to litigation and other legal risks, which could cause the District to incur other costs related to such legal claims or proceedings.

## **CONTINUING DISCLOSURE**

In the Bond Order, the District has made the following agreement for the benefit of the holders and beneficial owners of the Bonds. The District is required to observe the agreement for so long as it remains an "obligated person" with respect to the Bonds, within the meaning of the United States Securities and Exchange Commission's Rule 15c2-12, as amended ("Rule 15c2-12"). Under the agreement, the District is obligated to provide certain updated financial information and operating data annually, and timely notice of certain specified events, to the MSRB. This information will be publicly available on the MSRB's EMMA system at www.emma.msrb.org. See "APPENDIX D - THE PERMANENT SCHOOL FUND GUARANTEE PROGRAM" for a description of the TEA's continuing disclosure undertaking to provide certain updated financial information and operating data annually with respect to the Permanent School Fund and the State, as the case may be, and to provide timely notice of certain specified events related to the guarantee to the MSRB.

## **Annual Reports**

The District shall provide annually to the MSRB, (1) within six months after the end of each fiscal year of the District, financial information and operating data with respect to the District of the general type included in APPENDIX A of this Official Statement (except with respect to any Table that relates to debt of overlapping entities), and (2) if not provided as part of such financial information and operating data, audited financial statements of the District. Any financial statements to be provided shall be (i) prepared in accordance with the accounting principles described in APPENDIX B hereto or such other accounting principles as the District may be required to employ from time to time pursuant to state law or regulation, and in substantially the form included in this Official Statement, and (ii) audited, if the District commissions an audit of such financial statements and the audit is completed within the period during which they must be provided. If the audit of such financial statements is not complete within 12 months after any such fiscal year end, then the District shall file unaudited financial statements within such 12-month period and audited financial statements for the applicable fiscal year, when and if the audit report on such statements becomes available.

The District may provide updated information in full text or may incorporate by reference documents available on EMMA or filed with the SEC.

The District's current fiscal year end is August 31st. Accordingly, it must provide financial information and operating data by the last day of February of the following year and financial statements no later than August 31st of the following year, unless the District changes its fiscal year. If the District changes its fiscal year, it will notify the MSRB of the change (and of the date of the new fiscal year end) prior to the next date by which the District otherwise would be required to provide financial information and operating data as set forth above.

#### **Notices of Certain Events**

The District will provide to the MSRB, in an electronic format as prescribed by the MSRB, in a timely manner not in excess of ten (10) business days after the occurrence of the event, notice of any of the following events with respect to the Bonds: (1) principal and interest payment delinquencies; (2) non-payment related defaults, if material; (3) unscheduled draws on debt service reserves reflecting financial difficulties; (4) unscheduled draws on credit enhancements reflecting financial difficulties; (5) substitution of credit or liquidity providers, or their failure to perform; (6) adverse tax opinions, the issuance by the Internal Revenue Service of proposed or final determinations of taxability, Notices of Proposed Issue (IRS Form 5701-TEB), or other material notices or determinations with respect to the tax status of the Bonds, or other material events affecting the tax status of the Bonds; (7) modifications to rights of holders of the Bonds, if material; (8) Bond calls, if material, and tender offers; (9) defeasances; (10) release, substitution, or sale of property securing repayment of the Bonds, if material; (11) rating changes; (12) bankruptcy, insolvency, receivership, or similar event of the District; (13) the consummation of a merger, consolidation, or acquisition involving the District or the sale of all or substantially all of the assets of the District, other than in the ordinary course of business, the entry into a definitive agreement to undertake such an action or the termination of a definitive agreement relating to any such actions, other than pursuant to its terms, if material; (14) appointment of a successor or additional paying agent/registrar or the change of name of a paying agent/registrar, if material; (15) incurrence of a financial obligation of the District, if material, or agreement to covenants, events of default, remedies, priority rights, or other similar terms of a financial obligation of the District, any of which affect security holders, if material; and (16) default, event of acceleration, termination event, modification of terms, or other similar events under the terms of a financial obligation of the District, any of which reflect financial difficulties. Neither the Bonds nor the Bond Order make any provision for debt service reserves, credit enhancement (except with respect to the Permanent School Fund guarantee), or liquidity enhancement. In addition, the District will provide timely notice to the MSRB of any failure by the District to provide annual financial information, in accordance with its agreement described under "- Annual Reports," above.

For these purposes, (A) any event described in clause (12) in the immediately preceding paragraph is considered to occur when any of the following occur: the appointment of a receiver, fiscal agent, or similar officer for the District in a proceeding under the United States Bankruptcy Code or in any other proceeding under state or federal law in which a court or governmental authority has assumed jurisdiction over substantially all of the assets or business of the District, or if such jurisdiction has been assumed by leaving the existing governing body and officials or officers in possession but subject to the supervision and orders of a court or governmental authority, or the entry of an order confirming a plan of reorganization, arrangement, or liquidation by a court or governmental authority having supervision or jurisdiction over substantially all of the assets or business of the District, (B) as used in clauses (15) and (16) in the immediately preceding paragraph, "financial obligation" means a (i) debt obligation, (ii) derivative instrument entered into in connection with, or pledged as security or a source of payment for, an existing or planned debt obligation, or (iii) guarantee of a debt obligation or any such derivative instrument; provided that "financial obligation" shall not include municipal securities as to which a final official statement (as defined in Rule 15c2-12) has been provided to the MSRB consistent with Rule 15c2-12, and (C) the District intends the words used in clauses (15) and (16) and the definition of financial obligation to have the meanings ascribed to them in SEC Release No. 34-83885 dated August 20, 2018 (the "2018 Release") and any further written guidance provided by the SEC or its staff with respect to the amendments to Rule 15c2-12 effected by the 2018 Release.

## **Availability of Information from MSRB**

The District has agreed to provide the foregoing information only as described above. Investors will be able to access continuing disclosure information filed with the MSRB free of charge at www.emma.msrb.org.

## **Limitations, Disclaimers and Amendments**

The District has agreed to update information and to provide notices of certain specified events only as described above and only for so long as the District remains an "obligated person" with respect to the Bonds within the meaning of Rule 15c2-12. The District has not agreed to provide other information that may be relevant or material to a complete presentation of its financial results, operations, condition, or prospects or agreed to update any information that is provided, except as described above. The District makes no representation or warranty concerning such information or concerning its usefulness to a decision to invest in or sell Bonds at any future date. The District disclaims any contractual or tort liability for damages resulting in whole or in part from any breach of its continuing disclosure agreement or from any statement made pursuant to its agreement, although holders of Bonds may seek a writ of mandamus to compel the District to comply with its

agreement. Nothing in this paragraph is intended or shall act to disclaim, waive or limit the District's duties under federal securities laws.

The District may amend its continuing disclosure agreement from time to time to adapt to changed circumstances that arise from a change in legal requirements, a change in law, or a change in the identity, nature, status, or type of operations of the District, if (i) the agreement, as amended, would have permitted an underwriter to purchase or sell Bonds in the primary offering of the Bonds in compliance with Rule 15c2-12, taking into account any amendments or interpretations of Rule 15c2-12 to the date of such amendment, as well as such changed circumstances, and (ii) either (a) the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding Bonds consent to the amendment or (b) any person unaffiliated with the District (such as nationally recognized bond counsel) determines that the amendment will not materially impair the interests of the registered and beneficial owners of the Bonds. The District may also repeal or amend the provisions of its continuing disclosure agreement if the SEC amends or repeals the applicable provisions of Rule 15c2-12 or any court of final jurisdiction enters judgment that such provisions of Rule 15c2-12 are invalid, and the District also may amend the provisions of its continuing disclosure agreement in its discretion in any other manner or circumstance, but in either case only if and to the extent that the provisions of this sentence would not have prevented an underwriter from lawfully purchasing or selling the Bonds in the primary offering of the Bonds, giving effect to (a) such provisions as so amended and (b) any amendments or interpretations of Rule 15c2-12. If the District so amends the continuing disclosure agreement, it has agreed to include with the next financial information and operating data provided in accordance with its continuing disclosure agreement described above under "- Annual Reports" an explanation, in narrative form, of the reasons for the amendment and of the impact of any change in the type of financial information and operating data so provided.

## **Compliance with Prior Agreements**

In the past five years, the District has complied, in all material respects, with its prior continuing disclosure agreements.

#### OTHER PERTINENT INFORMATION

## **Authenticity of Financial Information**

The financial data and other information contained herein have been obtained from the District's records, audited financial statements and other sources, which are believed to be reliable. All of the summaries of the statutes, documents and orders contained in this Official Statement are made subject to all of the provisions of such statutes, documents and orders. These summaries do not purport to be complete statements of such provisions and reference is made to such documents for further information. Reference is made to original documents in all respects.

## Registration and Qualification of Bonds for Sale

No registration statement relating to the Bonds has been filed with the SEC under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, in reliance upon the exemption provided thereunder by Section 3(a)(2). The Bonds have not been approved or disapproved by the SEC, nor has the SEC passed upon the accuracy or adequacy of the Official Statement. The Bonds have not been registered or qualified under the Securities Act of Texas in reliance upon various exemptions contained therein, nor have the Bonds been registered or qualified under the securities act of any other jurisdiction. The District assumes no responsibility for registration or qualification of the Bonds under the securities laws of any jurisdiction in which the Bonds may be sold, assigned, pledged, hypothecated or otherwise transferred. This disclaimer of responsibility for registration or qualification for sale or other disposition of the Bonds shall not be construed as an interpretation of any kind with regard to the availability of any exemption from securities registration or qualification provisions.

## **Municipal Bond Rating**

The Bonds are expected to be rated "Aaa" by Moody's by virtue of the guarantee of the Permanent School Fund of the State of Texas. The presently outstanding debt of the District, including the Bonds, is rated "A1" by Moody's without regard to credit enhancement.

An explanation of the significance of any rating may be obtained from the company furnishing the rating. The rating reflects only the view of such organization and the District makes no representation as to the appropriateness of the rating. There is no assurance that such rating will continue for any given period of time or that it will not be revised downward or withdrawn entirely by such rating company, if in the judgment of such company, circumstances so warrant. Any such downward revision or withdrawal of such rating may have an adverse effect on the market price of the Bonds.

## **Financial Advisor**

Frost Bank (the "Financial Advisor") is employed as the Financial Advisor to the District in connection with the issuance of the Bonds. The Financial Advisor's fee for services rendered with respect to the sale of the Bonds is contingent upon the

issuance and delivery of the Bonds. Frost Bank, in its capacity as Financial Advisor, has relied on the opinion of Bond Counsel and has not verified and does not assume any responsibility for the information, covenants, and representations contained in any of the bond documentation with respect to the federal income tax status of the Bonds.

The Financial Advisor has provided the following sentence for inclusion in this Official Statement. The Financial Advisor has reviewed the information in this Official Statement in accordance with its responsibilities to the District and, as applicable, to investors under the federal securities laws as applied to the facts and circumstances of this transaction, but the Financial Advisor does not guarantee the accuracy or completeness of such information.

#### **Audited Financial Statements**

The report of Belt Harris Pechacek, LLLP relating to the District's audited financial statements for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2023 is included in this Official Statement in APPENDIX B; however, Belt Harris Pechacek, LLLP has not performed any procedures on such financial statements since the date of such report, and has not performed any procedures on any other financial information of the District contained in this Official Statement.

#### Underwriting

The Underwriters have agreed, subject to certain conditions, to purchase the Bonds from the District at the price equal to the initial offering prices to the public, as shown on page -ii- herein, plus a [net] reoffering premium of \$\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, less an Underwriters' discount of \$\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (and no accrued interest). The Underwriters' obligation is subject to certain conditions precedent. The Underwriters will be obligated to purchase all of the Bonds, if any of the Bonds are purchased. The Bonds may be offered and sold to certain dealers and others at prices lower than such public offering prices, and such public prices may be changed, from time to time, by the Underwriters.

The Underwriters have provided the following sentence for inclusion in this Official Statement. The Underwriters have reviewed the information in this Official Statement pursuant to their respective responsibilities to investors under the federal securities laws, but the Underwriters do not guarantee the accuracy or completeness of such information.

The Underwriters and their respective affiliates are full service financial institutions engaged in various activities, which may include sales and trading, commercial and investment banking, advisory, investment management, investment research, principal investment, hedging, market making, brokerage and other financial and non-financial activities and services. Certain Underwriters and their respective affiliates have provided, and may in the future provide, a variety of these services to the District and to persons and entities with relationships with the District, for which they received or will receive customary fees and expenses.

In the ordinary course of their various business activities, the Underwriters and their respective affiliates, officers, directors and employees may purchase, sell or hold a broad array of investments and actively trade securities, derivatives, loans, commodities, currencies, credit default swaps and other financial instruments for their own account and for the accounts of their customers, and such investment and trading activities may involve or relate to assets, securities and/or instruments of the District (directly, as collateral securing other obligations or otherwise) and/or persons and entities with relationships with the District. The Underwriters and their respective affiliates may also communicate independent investment recommendations, market color or trading ideas and/or publish or express independent research views in respect of such assets, securities or instruments and may at any time hold, or recommend to clients that they should acquire, long and/or short positions in such assets, securities and instruments.

Huntington Capital Markets® is a trade name under which securities and investment banking products and services of Huntington Bancshares Incorporated and its subsidiaries, including Huntington Securities, Inc., are marketed. Municipal sales, trading and underwriting services are provided through Huntington Securities, Inc., which is a broker-dealer registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

The Underwriters and their respective affiliates also may communicate independent investment recommendations, market advice, or trading ideas and/or publish or express independent research views in respect of such assets, securities or other financial instruments and at any time may hold, or recommend to clients that they should acquire, long and/or short positions in such assets, securities and other financial instruments.

#### Miscellaneous

The financial data and other information contained herein have been obtained from the District's records, audited financial statements and other sources which are believed to be reliable. There is no guarantee that any of the assumptions or estimates contained herein will be realized. All of the summaries of the statutes, documents and resolutions contained in this Official Statement are made subject to all of the provisions of such statutes, documents and resolutions. These

summaries do not purport to be complete statements of such provisions and reference is made to such documents for further information. Reference is made to original documents in all respects.

#### **Forward Looking Statements**

The statements contained in this Official Statement, and in any other information provided by the District, that are not purely historical, are forward-looking statements, including statements regarding the District's expectations, hopes, intentions, or strategies regarding the future. Readers should not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements. All forward looking statements included in this Official Statement are based on information available to the District on the date hereof, and the District assumes no obligation to update any such forward-looking statements. It is important to note that the District's actual results could differ materially from those in such forward-looking statements.

The forward-looking statements herein are necessarily based on various assumptions and estimates and are inherently subject to various risks and uncertainties, including risks and uncertainties relating to the possible invalidity of the underlying assumptions and estimates and possible changes or developments in social, economic, business, industry, market, legal and regulatory circumstances and conditions and actions taken or omitted to be taken by third parties, including customers, suppliers, business partners and competitors, and legislative, judicial and other governmental authorities and officials. Assumptions related to the foregoing involve judgments with respect to, among other things, future economic, competitive, and market conditions and future business decisions, all of which are difficult or impossible to predict accurately and many of which are beyond the control of the District. Any of such assumptions could be inaccurate and, therefore, there can be no assurance that the forward-looking statements included in this Official Statement would prove to be accurate.

#### **Authorization of the Official Statement**

No person has been authorized to give any information or to make any representations other than those contained in this Official Statement, and if given or made, such other information or representations must not be relied upon as having been authorized by the District.

In the Bond Order, the Board authorized the Pricing Officer to approve, for and on behalf of the District, (i) the form and content of this Official Statement, and any addenda, supplement or amendment thereto, and (ii) the Underwriters' use of this Official Statement in connection with the public offering and the sale of the Bonds.

Pricing Officer	

# APPENDIX A

SELECTED FINANCIAL INFORMATION REGARDING THE DISTRICT

## Table 1 ASSESSED VALUATION

2023/24 Total Assessed Valuation.	\$ 5,866,099,213
2023/24 Taxable Assessed Valuation	3,495,585,741
Exemptions	<u>Total</u>
Residential Homestead	\$ 211,039,472
10% Residential Homestead Cap.	110,807,149
Over Age 65	6,502,081
Disabled Persons	463,761
Disabled / Deceased Veterans	10,266,207
Productivity Value Loss	1,919,385,799
Freeport	111,042,723
Pollution Control.	937,090
Solar	 69,190
Total (40.41% of Total Assessed Valuation)	\$ 2,370,513,472

Source: Waller County Appraisal District. Certified values are subject to change throughout the year as contested values are resolved and the Waller County Appraisal District updates records. Certified values as of this posting is \$4,182,738,230.

# Table 2 **TAX DEBT OUTSTANDING**

Unlimited Tax Obligations: (A)		
Unlimited Tax Debt Outstanding (As of August 1, 2024)	\$ 135,729,994 <sup>(E</sup>	B)
Less: Interest & Sinking Fund Balance (As of August 31, 2023)	6,419,451	
NET UNLIMITED TAX DEBT OUTSTANDING	\$ 129,310,543	B)
Limited Tax Obligaitons: (C)		
Limited Tax Debt Outstanding (As of February 15, 2024)	\$ 8,486,000	
NET LIMITED TAX DEBT OUTSTANDING	\$ 8,486,000	

<sup>(</sup>A) Does not include any limited tax obligations payable from the District's Maintenance & Operations tax rate (see "Table 15 - Outstanding Limited Tax Debt Service", "Table 16 - Notes Payable" and "Table 17 - Leases").

(B) Excludes the interest accreted on outstanding capital appreciation bonds.

<sup>(</sup>c) Represents the District's maintenance tax notes payable from the District's Maintenance & Operations tax rate (See "Table 15 - Outstanding Limited Tax Debt Service"). Does note include other limited tax obligations payable from the District's Maintenance & Operations tax rate (see "Table 16 - Notes Payable" and "Table 17 - Leases").

2024 Population Estimate	14,955	Per Capita Total Assessed Valuation	\$ 392,250
2023/24 Enrollment	2,729	Per Capita Taxable Assessed Valuation	\$ 233,740
Area (square miles)	157	Per Capita Total Unlimited Tax Debt	\$ 9,076

Table 3 **ESTIMATED GENERAL OBLIGATION OVERLAPPING DEBT STATEMENT** 

Taying Pady	Gross Percent g Body Dollar Amount As Of Overlap					Dollar
Taxing Body	_		<u>As Of</u>	<u>Overlap</u>	Φ.	Overlap 575 000
Brookshire MWD	\$	575,000	05/31/24	100.00%	\$	575,000
Harris-Waller Counties MUD No. 4		223,503	05/31/24	3.25%		7,264
Katy, City of		25,095,000	05/31/24	2.77%		695,132
Waller County		67,875,000	05/31/24	30.10%		20,430,375
Waller County MUD No. 18		7,315,000	05/31/24	100.00%		7,315,000
Waller County MUD No. 19		20,275,000	05/31/24	100.00%		20,275,000
Waller County MUD No. 35		9,425,000	05/31/24	100.00%		9,425,000
Waller County MUD No. 9B		14,665,000	05/31/24	100.00%		14,665,000
Waller County RID No. 1		68,940,000	05/31/24	82.70%		57,013,380
Royal ISD*	\$	135,729,994 (A)(B)	05/31/24	100.00%	\$	135,729,994 (A)(B)
Total Direct and Overlapping Debt	\$	266,131,144				
Ratio of Direct Debt to Taxable Assesse		3.88%				
Ratio of Direct and Overlapping Debt to			7.61%			
Ratio of Direct and Overlapping Debt to			4.54%			
Per Capita Direct and Overlapping Debt	\$	17,795				

<sup>(</sup>A) Does not include any limited tax obligations payable from the District's Maintenance & Operations tax rate (see "Table 15 - Outstanding Limited Tax Debt Service", "Table 16 - Notes Payable" and "Table 17 - Leases").

Table 4 2023/24 TOTAL TAX RATES OF OVERLAPPING POLITICAL ENTITIES

Brookshire MUD	\$ 0.009000
Brookshire, City of	0.594000
Katy, City of	0.430000
Harris-Waller Counties MUD No. 4.	1.500000
Waller County	0.522930
Waller County MUD No. 18.	0.900000
Waller County MUD No. 19.	0.750000
Waller County MUD No. 35.	1.500000
Waller County MUD No. 9B.	0.740000
Waller County RID No. 1	1.050000

Source: Waller County Appraisal District.

 $<sup>^{\</sup>mbox{\scriptsize (B)}}$  Excludes the interest accreted on outstanding capital appreciation bonds.

Source: The Municipal Advisory Council of Texas.

\* Includes the Bonds, preliminary subject to change.

Table 5
PROPERTY TAX RATES AND COLLECTIONS

	Ta	xable Assessed		Total	Percent Collections (A)		Fiscal Year	
Tax Year		<u>Valuation</u>	]	Tax Rate	Current	<u>Total</u>	Ended	
2018	\$	1,246,188,736	\$	1.528817	94.72%	98.06%	08/31/19	
2019		1,527,654,739		1.427167	97.52%	102.03%	08/31/20	
2020		1,815,972,985		1.321817	97.29%	99.74%	08/31/21	
2021		2,185,575,077		1.319117	98.30%	100.09%	08/31/22	
2022		2,861,805,469		1.301717	<u>97.52%</u>	98.24%	08/31/23	
	Five	e Year Average			<u>97.07%</u>	<u>99.63%</u>		
2023	\$	3,495,585,741	\$	1.116317	(In Process o	of Collection)	08/31/24	

<sup>(</sup>A) Excludes penalties and interest.

Source: District's Audited Financial Statements and Waller County Appraisal District. Certified values are subject to change throughout the year as contested values are resolved and the Waller County Appraisal District updates records.

Table 6
TAX RATE DISTRIBUTION

	2023/24	2022/23	2021/22	2020/21	2019/20
Local Maintenance	\$0.757500	\$0.942900	\$0.960300	\$0.963000	\$1.068350 <sup>(A)</sup>
Interest and Sinking	0.358817	0.358817	0.358817	0.358817	0.358817
Total	<u>\$1.116317</u>	<u>\$1.301717</u>	<u>\$1.319117</u>	<u>\$1.321817</u>	<u>\$1.427167</u>

<sup>(</sup>A) Beginning in year 2019/20, the District's maintenance and operations tax rate became subject to compression pursuant to House Bill 3 that was enacted during the 2019 legislative session.

Source: District's Audited Financial Statements and District records.

Table 7
VALUATION AND UNLIMITED TAX DEBT HISTORY

		Percent Increase/		Principal		
		(Decrease) In		Amount Of	Ratio Of	
		Taxable		Unlimited	Unlimited Tax	
	Taxable	Assessed		Tax Debt	Debt To Taxable	е
	Assessed	Valuation	C	utstanding	Assessed	
Fiscal Year	<u>Valuation</u>	Over Prior Year	<u> </u>	t Year End (A)(B)	<u>Valuation</u> (A)(I	B)
2019/20	\$ 1,527,654,739	22.59%	\$	59,199,994	3.88%	
2020/21	1,815,972,985	18.87%		56,014,994	3.08%	
2021/22	2,185,575,077	20.35%		50,734,994	2.32%	
2022/23	2,861,805,469	30.94%		48,960,000	1.71%	
2023/24	3,495,585,741	22.15%		135,729,994 <sup>(C)</sup>	3.88%	(C)

<sup>(</sup>A) Does not include any limited tax obligations payable from the District's Maintenance & Operations tax rate (see "Table 15 - Outstanding Limited Tax Debt Service", "Table 16 - Notes Payable" and "Table 17 - Leases").

Source: Waller County Appraisal District and District records.

<sup>(</sup>B) Excludes the interest accreted on outstanding capital appreciation bonds.

<sup>(</sup>C) Projected, as of August 31, 2024, subject to change.

# Table 8 HISTORICAL TOP TEN TAXPAYERS

#### PRINCIPAL TAXPAYERS AND THEIR 2023/24 TAXABLE ASSESSED VALUATIONS

		Taxable		Percent Of
Name of Taxpayer	Type of Property	<b>Assessed Valuation</b>		<u>T.A.V.</u>
Ross Dress For Less Inc.	Distribution Warehouse	\$	321,415,903	9.35%
SRPF B/Empire West Phase II LP	Distribution Warehouse		171,918,500	2.25%
Igloo Partners #11 LP	Commercial Manufacturing		94,150,534	2.03%
Lois Houston Associates LLC	Warehouse Showroom Store		80,019,110	1.90%
SRPF B/Spartan West X LP	Distribution Warehouse		74,373,200	1.82%
Mirabaud Re Katy Logistics LLC	Distribution Warehouse		67,900,000	1.80%
Costco Wholesale Corporation	Distribution Warehouse		66,355,442	1.58%
Goya Foods Inc.	Food Manufacturing Complex		60,520,452	1.43%
RTG Furniture of Texas LP	Distribution Warehouse		51,521,640	1.25%
Cole IG Katy TX LLC	Distribution Warehouse		51,404,000	1.22%
Totals		\$	1,039,578,781	<u>29.74%</u>

#### PRINCIPAL TAXPAYERS AND THEIR 2022/23 TAXABLE ASSESSED VALUATIONS

			Taxable	Percent Of
Name of Taxpayer	Type of Property	Asse	essed Valuation	<u>T.A.V.</u>
Ross Dress For Less Inc.	Distribution Warehouse	\$	326,998,530	11.43%
Lois Houston Associates LLC	Warehouse Showroom		78,485,990	2.74%
Mirabaud Re Katy Logistics LLC	Distribution Warehouse		70,891,670	2.48%
Costco Wholesale Corporation	Distribution Warehouse		66,475,269	2.32%
SRPF B/Spartan West X LP	Distribution Warehouse		63,661,200	2.22%
Igloo Partners #11 LP	Commercial Manufacturing		62,822,529	2.20%
Amazon Services Inc.	Distribution Warehouse		55,198,821	1.93%
Cole IG Katy TX LLC	Distribution Warehouse		50,000,000	1.75%
Exeter Twinwood Land LP	Distribution Warehouse		43,866,220	1.53%
SRPF B/Empire West Phase II LP	Distribution Warehouse		42,773,520	<u>1.49%</u>
Totals		\$	861,173,749	<u>30.09%</u>

#### PRINCIPAL TAXPAYERS AND THEIR 2021/22 TAXABLE ASSESSED VALUATIONS

			Taxable	Percent Of
Name of Taxpayer	Type of Property	Assessed Valuatio		<u>T.A.V.</u>
Ross Dress For Less Inc.	Distribution Warehouse	\$	151,837,700	6.95%
Lois Houston Associates LLC	Warehouse Showroom		76,659,600	3.51%
Amazon Services Inc.	Distribution Warehouse		63,742,632	2.92%
Mirabaud Re Katy Logistics LLC	Distribution Warehouse		60,719,350	2.78%
SRPF B/Spartan West X LP	Distribution Warehouse		58,571,950	2.68%
Costco Wholesale Corporation	Distribution Warehouse		56,916,768	2.60%
lgloo Partners #11 LP	Commercial Manufacturing		54,952,159	2.51%
Cole IG Katy TX LLC	Distribution Warehouse		46,505,930	2.13%
Seaway Crude Pipeline Co. LP	Oil & Gas Pipeline		36,074,450	1.65%
Goya Foods Inc.	Food Manufacturing Complex		28,391,077	1.30%
Totals		\$	634,371,616	<u>29.03%</u>

Source: Waller County Appraisal District.

Table 9 CLASSIFICATION OF ASSESSED VALUATION BY USE CATEGORY

Property Use Category		2023/24	2022/23		2022/23	2021/22		2020/21		2019/20		
Real Property:												
Single-Family Residential	\$	833,461,935		\$	650,440,151		\$	525,027,679	\$	434,679,658	\$	349,998,348
Multi-Family Residential		18,125,180			17,456,760			13,629,220		13,175,090		12,473,030
Vacant Lots/Tracts		165,570,634			110,347,236			78,305,699		81,943,232		54,794,927
Acreage		1,945,474,189			1,652,794,279			1,301,202,980		1,123,122,612		903,322,414
Farm and Ranch Improvements		491,738,944			473,240,019			316,525,351		297,088,756		258,282,679
Commercial and Industrial		1,565,207,829			1,192,970,258			831,909,368		529,709,107		441,745,242
Oil, Gas and Minerals		6,414,592			6,739,095			3,275,162		3,532,473		8,044,123
Inventory		8,695,079			8,939,000			5,471,073		8,509,830		1,238,390
Tangible Personal Property:												
Commercial and Industrial		701,962,975			528,056,556			482,531,089		521,658,362		460,456,765
Other		36,038,806			33,166,481			22,346,997		17,333,543		14,657,040
Real and Tangible Personal Property:												
Utilities	_	93,409,050			90,589,370		_	86,686,230		79,466,090	_	69,445,510
Total Assessed Valuation	\$	5,866,099,213		\$	4,764,739,205		\$	3,666,910,848	\$	3,110,218,753	\$	2,574,458,468
Less Exemptions:												
Residential Homestead	\$	211,039,472	(A)	\$	91,598,416	(B)	\$	58,215,666	\$	52,281,841	\$	47,273,765
10% Residential Cap Adjustment		110,807,149			61,205,800			32,595,886		21,419,437		13,234,809
Over Age 65		6,502,081			7,598,708			7,199,712		6,712,355		6,075,416
Disabled Persons		463,761			499,165			637,125		630,814		634,629
Disabled / Deceased Veterans		10,266,207			9,363,576			7,704,580		5,970,600		4,288,531
Productivity Value Loss		1,919,385,799			1,627,398,427			1,277,725,782		1,100,364,153		880,764,441
Freeport		111,042,723			104,468,684			96,440,910		106,079,018		93,767,558
Pollution Control		937,090			735,490			749,890		764,580		764,580
Solar	_	69,190			65,470			66,220		22,970	_	
Total Exemptions	\$	2,370,513,472		\$	1,902,933,736		\$	1,481,335,771	\$	1,294,245,768	\$	1,046,803,729
Taxable Assessed Valuation	\$	3,495,585,741		\$	2,861,805,469		\$	2,185,575,077	<u>\$</u>	1,815,972,985	\$	1,527,654,739

<sup>(</sup>A) Increase in "Residential Homestead" is primarily due to the increase in the State-mandated general residence homestead exemption from \$40,000 to \$100,000 pursuant to a constitutional amendment approved at a statewide election held on November 7, 2023.

Table 10 PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL ASSESSED VALUATION BY CATEGORY

Property Use Category	2023/24	2022/23	2021/22	2020/21	2019/20
Real Property:					
Single-Family Residential	14.21%	13.65%	14.32%	13.98%	13.60%
Multi-Family Residential	0.31%	0.37%	0.37%	0.42%	0.48%
Vacant Lots/Tracts	2.82%	2.32%	2.14%	2.63%	2.13%
Acreage	33.16%	34.69%	35.48%	36.11%	35.09%
Farm and Ranch Improvements	8.38%	9.93%	8.63%	9.55%	10.03%
Commercial and Industrial	26.68%	25.04%	22.69%	17.03%	17.16%
Oil, Gas and Minerals	0.11%	0.14%	0.09%	0.11%	0.31%
Inventory	0.15%	0.19%	0.15%	0.27%	0.05%
Tangible Personal Property:					
Commercial and Industrial	11.97%	11.08%	13.16%	16.77%	17.89%
Other	0.61%	0.70%	0.61%	0.56%	0.57%
Real and Tangible Personal Property:					
Utilities	<u>1.59%</u>	<u>1.90%</u>	2.36%	2.56%	2.70%
Total	<u>100.00%</u>	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

Source: Waller County Appraisal District.

<sup>(©)</sup> Increase in "Residential Homestead" is primarily due to the increase in the State-mandated general residence homestead exemption from \$25,000 to \$40,000 pursuant to a constitutional amendment approved at a statewide election held on May 7, 2022. Source: Waller County Appraisal District. Certified values are subject to change throughout the year as contested values are resolved and the Waller County Appraisal District update records.

Table 11
PRO-FORMA OF OUTSTANDING UNLIMITED TAX DEBT SERVICE

							Total	Percent
		 	onds*			ebt Service	Of Principal	
<u>Year</u>		nt Debt Service	<u>Principal</u>		Interest	_	equirements	Retired
2023/24	\$	11,177,023	\$ -	\$	-	\$	11,177,023	
2024/25		7,880,728	5,000,000		2,021,241		14,901,969	
2025/26		6,692,928	760,000		1,970,556		9,423,484	
2026/27		6,701,400	795,000		1,931,681		9,428,081	
2027/28		6,725,570	835,000		1,890,931		9,451,501	20.97%
2028/29		6,759,968	880,000		1,848,056		9,488,024	
2029/30		6,781,478	925,000		1,802,931		9,509,409	
2030/31		6,788,940	975,000		1,755,431		9,519,371	
2031/32		6,112,430	1,025,000		1,705,431		8,842,861	
2032/33		6,111,196	1,075,000		1,652,931		8,839,127	38.59%
2033/34		6,327,153	1,130,000		1,597,806		9,054,959	
2034/35		6,328,860	1,190,000		1,539,806		9,058,666	
2035/36		5,690,531	1,250,000		1,478,806		8,419,337	
2036/37		4,656,247	1,315,000		1,414,681		7,385,928	
2037/38		4,599,697	1,380,000		1,347,306		7,327,003	56.12%
2038/39		2,948,900	1,450,000		1,276,556		5,675,456	
2039/40		2,948,400	1,525,000		1,202,181		5,675,581	
2040/41		2,943,900	1,605,000		1,123,931		5,672,831	
2041/42		2,940,275	1,685,000		1,041,681		5,666,956	
2042/43		2,927,525	1,775,000		955,181		5,657,706	67.77%
2043/44		2,920,650	1,855,000		873,706		5,649,356	
2044/45		2,920,050	1,930,000		798,006		5,648,056	
2045/46		2,921,150	2,010,000		719,206		5,650,356	
2046/47		2,918,850	2,090,000		637,206		5,646,056	
2047/48		2,918,050	2,175,000		551,906		5,644,956	82.26%
2048/49		2,915,538	2,265,000		461,691		5,642,229	
2049/50		2,915,881	2,360,000		366,300		5,642,181	
2050/51		2,916,656	2,460,000		266,888		5,643,544	
2051/52		2,917,650	2,565,000		163,247		5,645,897	
2052/53		2,869,713	 2,675,000		55,172		5,599,885	100.00%
	\$	143,177,335	\$ 48,960,000	\$	34,450,452	\$	226,587,787	

Note: Table 11 does not include any potential funding the District may receive from the State of Texas. The District has budgeted for the receipt of State financial assistance for debt service in the amount of \$588,205 for year 2023/24 and received State financial assistance for debt service in the amount of \$79,217 for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2023. The amount of State aid for debt service may substantially differ from year to year, depending on a number of factors, including amounts, if any, appropriated for that purpose by the Texas Legislature. Table 11 does not include any limited tax obligations payable from the District's Maintenance & Operations tax rate (see "Table 15 - Outstanding Limited Tax Debt Service", "Table 16 - Notes Payable" and "Table 17 - Leases").

\* Preliminary, subject to change.

# Table 12 AUTHORIZED BUT UNISSUED BONDS

After the issuance of the Bonds, the District shall have \$38,069,530 of authorized but unissued bonds remaining from an election held within the District on May 6, 2023. Except for possible refundings for debt service savings, the District does not anticipate the issuance of additional unlimited tax bonds within the next 12 months (probably sale in September 2025).

In addition to unlimited tax bonds, the District may incur other financial obligations payable from its collection of taxes and other sources of revenue, including maintenance tax notes payable from its collection of maintenance taxes, public property finance contractual obligations, delinquent tax notes, and leases for various purposes payable from State appropriations and surplus maintenance taxes.

Table 13
INTEREST & SINKING FUND BUDGET INFORMATION

Tax Supported Debt Service Requirements, Fiscal Year Ending August 31, 2024	\$ 11,177,023 <sup>(A)</sup>	
Interest and Sinking Fund Balance at August 31, 2023	\$ 6,419,451	
Estimated State Assistance	588,205	
Local Taxes and Other Revenues	12,283,562	\$ 19,291,218
Projected Interest and Sinking Fund Balance at August 31, 2024	 	\$ 8,114,195

<sup>(</sup>A) Does not include estimated paying agent/registrar fees and other bond related expenses.

# Table 14 TAX ADEQUACY - UNLIMITED TAX DEBT SERVICE REQUIREMENTS

Year 2023/24 Principal And Interest Requirements	\$ 11,177,023
\$0.3263 Tax Rate At 98.00% Collections Produces	11,177,974 <sup>(A)</sup>
Maximum Principal And Interest Requirements, Year 2024/25	\$ 14,901,969
\$0.3307 Tax Rate At 98.00% Collections Produces	11,328,704 <sup>(A)</sup>

<sup>(</sup>A) Based upon 2023/24 taxable assessed valuation of \$3,495,585,741.

Note: Table 14 does not include any potential funding the District may receive from the State of Texas. The District has budgeted for the receipt of State financial assistance for debt service in the amount of \$588,205 for year 2023/24 and received State financial assistance for debt service in the amount of \$79,217 for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2023. The amount of State aid for debt service may substantially differ from year to year, depending on a number of factors, including amounts, if any, appropriated for that purpose by the Texas Legislature. Table 14 does not include any limited tax obligations payable from the District's Maintenance & Operations tax rate (see "Table 15 - Outstanding Limited Tax Debt Service", "Table 16 - Notes Payable" and "Table 17 - Leases").

Table 15
OUTSTANDING LIMITED TAX DEBT SERVICE (A)

					D	Total ebt Service	Percent Of Principal
Year		Principal		Interest	Re	quirements	<u>Retired</u>
2023/24	\$	632,000	\$	199,567	\$	831,567	
2024/25		651,000		184,496		835,496	
2025/26		666,000		168,539		834,539	
2026/27		682,000		152,212		834,212	
2027/28		697,000		135,493		832,493	38.38%
2028/29		713,000		118,404		831,404	
2029/30		734,000		100,566		834,566	
2030/31		520,000		85,712		605,712	
2031/32		532,000		74,272		606,272	
2032/33		543,000		62,568		605,568	73.46%
2033/34		555,000		50,622		605,622	
2034/35		567,000		38,412		605,412	
2035/36		580,000		25,938		605,938	
2036/37		599,000	_	6,589		605,589	100.00%
	\$	8,671,000	\$	1,403,388	\$	10,074,388	

<sup>(</sup>A) Payable from the District's Maintenance & Operations tax rate. Does not include other limited tax obligations payable from the District's Maintenance & Operations tax rate (see "Table 16 - Notes Payable" and "Table 17 - Leases").

# Table 16 NOTES PAYABLE

The District entered into an agreement with Huntington National Bank for the purchase of a scoreboard in the amount of \$239,245 to be paid over five years with annual payments of \$49,800. It is interest free financing and the imputed interest would be immaterial and is not recognized by the District. The first payment was paid on December 13, 2022.

Outstanding debt service payments on the agreement as of August 31, 2023 are as follows:

Fi	scal
Year	Ended

August 31	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>		<u>Total</u>
2024	\$ 45,763	\$ 4,037	\$	49,800
2025	46,959	2,841		49,800
2026	47,888	1,912		49,800
2027	 48,835	 965		49,800
	\$ 189,445	\$ 9,755	\$	199,200

Source: District's Audited Financial Statements.

# Table 17 LEASES

During the prior fiscal years, the District entered into copier and printer lease agreements with three to four year terms. As of August 31, 2023, the value of the lease liability was \$158,687. The District is required to make monthly principal and interest payments ranging from \$2,474 to \$9,870. An estimated borrowing rate of 3.50% was used by the District. The value of the right-to-use lease assets as of the end of the current fiscal year was \$433,996 and had accumulated amortization of \$278,793.

The future principal and interest payments as of August 31, 2023 were as follows:

Fiscal						
Year Ended						
August 31	August 31 Principal		Interest	<u>Total</u>		
2024	\$	120,141	\$ 3,248	\$	123,389	
2025		38,546	 172		38,718	
	\$	158,687	\$ 3,420	\$	162,107	

Source: District's Audited Financial Statements.

Table 18
TAX ADEQUACY - LIMITED TAX DEBT SERVICE REQUIREMENTS

Year 2023/24 Principal And Interest Requirements	\$ 1,004,756
\$0.0294 Tax Rate At 98.00% Collections Produces	\$ 1,007,148 <sup>(A)</sup>
Maximum Principal And Interest Requirements, Year 2023/24	\$ 1,004,756
\$0.0294 Tax Rate At 98.00% Collections Produces	\$ 1,007,148 <sup>(A)</sup>

<sup>(</sup>A) Based upon 2023/24 taxable assessed valuation of \$3,495,585,741.

Note: Table 18 includes all obligations described in Tables 15, 16 and 17. Table 18 does not include any unlimited tax obligations payable from the District's Interest & Sinking tax rate (see "Table 14 - Tax Adequacy - Outstanding Unlimited Tax Debt Service").

Table 19
COMBINED GENERAL FUND BALANCE SHEET

Fiscal Years Ended August 31, 2019 - 2023 2019 2023 2022 2021 2020 Assets: 422,693 \$ 192,920 Cash and Cash Equivalents 567.594 \$ 46.014 \$ 767,121 \$ Current Investments 17,977,435 21,392,516 11,912,149 9,130,753 6,279,047 Property Taxes Receivable 1,672,714 1,189,704 1,206,595 1,163,359 1,484,230 Allowance for Uncollectible Taxes (525, 183)(454,311)(420,538)(356,097)(384,631)Due from Other Governments 79,391 135,330 78,499 154,662 52,229 Due from Other Funds 3,058,157 1,023,440 820,093 1,176,234 301,170 Other Receivables 2.969 20 56.080 185 17,739 6,207 34,210 Prepaid Items 22,694,383 \$ 23,854,293 \$ 13,698,892 12,041,893 7,971,238 **Total Assets** Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources and Fund Balances: Liabilities: Accounts Payable \$ 821,427 \$ 526.725 \$ 10.378 \$ 41,335 \$ 76,639 Payroll Deductions and Withholdings Payable 4,281 12.694 35.067 238 Due to Other Funds 91,677 91,677 Due to Other Governments 833,345 251,664 5,417,854 1,930,084 1,049,610 **Unearned Revenues Total Liabilities** 1,186,732 874,918 328,303 6,243,562 2,561,180 Deferred Inflows of Resources: 735,393 778,728 Unavailable Revenue - Property Taxes 1,147,531 786,057 \$ 1,128,133 **Total Deferred Inflows of Resources** 1,147,531 \$ 735,393 \$ 786,057 \$ 778,728 1,128,133 Fund Balance: Non-spendable Fund Balance: Prepaid Items \$ 6,207 \$ - \$ 34,210 \$ Restricted Fund Balance: Capital Acquisitions and Contractual Obligations 5.978.782 15,297,083 14,578,938 11,726,103 10,354,037 6,514,802 Unassigned Fund Balance \$ 11,726,103 10,388,247 **Total General Fund Balance** \$ 15,303,290 20,557,720 \$ \$ 6,514,802 Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources and Fund Balances 22,694,383 \$ 23,854,293 \$ 13,698,892 \$ 12,041,893 7,971,238

Source: District's Audited Financial Statements.

Table 20

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF GENERAL FUND REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES

Fiscal Years Ended August 31, 2019 - 2023 2023 2022 2021 2019 2020 20,557,720 11,726,103 10,388,247 6,514,802 5,243,093 **Beginning General Fund Balance** Revenues: Local and Intermediate Sources 28,256,363 20,935,340 \$ 17,390,404 \$ 16,438,794 14,862,506 State Program Revenues 3,013,059 8,986,123 11,896,229 12,013,191 9,242,214 Federal Program Revenues 800,204 499,977 605,461 316,723 906,735 32,069,626 29,892,094 28,768,708 **Total Revenues** 30,421,440 25,011,455 **Expenditures:** Instruction 16,526,687 12,475,149 \$ 15,286,803 \$ 13,542,231 13,254,657 Instructional Resources and Media Services 156,512 176,134 154,338 171,964 117,581 Curriculum and Staff Development 987,086 477,179 433,991 535,614 620,396 Instructional Leadership 648,542 599,624 410,462 471,253 516,280 School Leadership 1,743,640 1,793,949 1,764,300 1,484,407 1,421,962 Guidance, Counseling and Evaluation Services 797,160 741,056 678.022 615.406 602,840 Social Work Services 156,868 127,740 88,314 72,612 63,036 Health Services 291,015 295,994 307,353 300,608 247,918 Student Transportation 1,476,932 1,363,404 1,419,615 1,591,168 1,207,794 Food Services 72 365 196 169 Cocurricular / Extracurricular Activities 1,582,471 1,172,658 970,660 860,261 841,365 General Administration 1,721,819 1,551,994 1,205,195 1,160,407 957,561 Facilities Maintenance and Operations 6.664.560 8.776.224 3.678.820 2.739.334 2.632.151 Security and Monitoring Services 411,607 263,720 142,437 104,857 203,629 **Data Processing Services** 634.945 605.586 583.698 602.918 439.931 Community Services 13,253 12,558 2,459 1,112 3,692 Principal on Long-term Debt 812,014 842,096 175,000 175,000 160,000 221,262 139,898 55,238 58,483 Interest on Long-term Debt 51,738 Bond Issuance Costs and Fees 750 70,870 400 1,900 400 Capital Outlay 855,215 95,500 486,650 387,769 343,553 338,521 294,401 Other Intergovernmental Charges **Total Expenditures** 37,445,437 29,762,010 28,554,238 24,823,507 23,739,746 Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues 1,337,856 Over (Under) Expenditures (5,375,811) \$ 659,430 \$ \$ 3,945,201 Other Financing Sources and (Uses): Other Sources \$ 239,245 \$ 8,200,000 \_ \$ 4,785 Other Uses (117,864)(27,813)(76,541)8,172,187 121,381 (71,756) \$ **Total Other Resources (Uses)** \$ 15,303,290 20,557,720 \$ 11,726,103 \$ 10,388,247 6,514,802 Ending General Fund Balance (A)

<sup>(</sup>A) Ending General Fund Balance includes Nonspendable, Restricted and Unassigned Fund Balance. Source: District's Audited Financial Statements.

Table 21
CHANGE IN NET POSITION

Fiscal Years Ended August 31, 2019 - 2023 2023 2021 Revenues: 2022 2020 2019 **Program Revenues** \$ Charges for Services 218,195 \$ 176,495 \$ 89,153 \$ 135,430 \$ 24,448 10,583,060 9,112,073 5,928,542 6,129,969 4,430,026 Operating Grants and Contributions Total Program Revenues 10,801,255 \$ 9,288,568 \$ 6,017,695 \$ 6,265,399 \$ 4,454,474 **General Revenues** Maintenance and Operations Taxes 27,229,530 \$ 20,501,568 \$ 16,825,527 \$ 15,794,990 \$ 14,592,046 **Debt Service Taxes** 10,347,330 7,659,962 6,256,112 5,354,282 4,486,620 Investment Earnings 1,542,320 167,939 15,435 109,814 211,558 Grants and Contributions Not Restricted 7,649,339 10,774,022 10,586,428 9,370,379 State Aid - Formula Grants 1,465,718 613,483 Miscellaneous Local and Intermediate Revenue 458,621 253,641 603,009 200,477 **Total General Revenues** 41,043,519 36,232,449 34,474,105 32,045,991 29,274,086 Total Revenues..... 51,844,774 45,521,017 40,491,800 38,311,390 33,728,560 Expenses Instruction 19,825,581 \$ 16,932,518 \$ 18,581,618 \$ 18,125,087 \$ 17,019,778 Instructional Resources and Media Services 358,021 362.187 354,576 376,111 332,235 Curriculum and Staff Development 1,348,542 1,003,183 682,440 618,147 788,848 Instructional Leadership 896,696 774,342 492,346 525,761 594,166 School Leadership 1,898,674 1,793,239 1,833,277 1,703,619 1,580,442 Guidance, Counseling and Evaluation Services 1,115,798 1,013,792 928,032 918,651 855,669 Social Work Services 210,214 156,168 124,427 116,709 106,708 Health Services 396,059 343,748 359,840 365,675 312,090 1,645,661 1,380,366 Student Transportation 1,510,340 1,403,504 1,341,262 **Food Services** 1,526,529 1,612,570 2,222,736 1,890,501 1,484,891 Cocurricular / Extracurricular Activities 1,853,358 1,536,189 1,298,210 1,224,755 1,204,528 General Administration 1,791,355 1,562,757 1,309,474 1,352,272 1,092,104 Facilities Maintenance and Operations 3,703,588 5,342,912 3,798,133 2,857,846 2,860,672 Security and Monitoring Services 404,346 248,464 197,257 158,496 198,099 **Data Processing Services** 584,137 582,233 577,984 564,656 464,720 Community Services 29,678 13,831 16,550 10,781 7,305 Interest on Long-Term Debt 1,874,863 1,849,175 1,947,654 2,586,603 2,331,382 Bond Issuance Cost and Fees 433,430 90,217 151,269 4,000 102,990 Payments Related to Shared Services Arrangements 7,014 15,294 61,839 33,943 26,543 Other Intergovernmental Charges 486,650 387,769 343,553 338,521 294,401 Total Expenses..... 41,086,401 37,408,859 35,988,512 34,746,890 33,126,512 Increase/(Decrease) in Net Position 10,758,373 \$ 8,112,158 \$ 4,503,288 \$ 3,564,500 \$ 602,048 Beginning Net Position 2 329 501 (5,782,657)(10,291,776)(13,856,276)(14,458,324)780,939 Prior Period Adjustment 5,831

Ending Net Position.....

13,868,813

2,329,501

(5,782,657)

(10,291,776)

<sup>(</sup>A) Beginning and Endin Net Position may differ due to rounding. Source: District's Audited Financial Statements.

#### **APPENDIX B**

# **AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The information contained in this appendix consists of the Royal Independent School District Audited Financial Statements (the "Report") for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2023.

The information presented represents only a part of the Report and does not purport to be a complete statement of the District's financial condition. Reference is made to the complete Annual Audit Report for additional information.

# ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2023

# Royal Independent School District Annual Financial Report For The Year Ended August 31, 2023

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Introductory Section

# CERTIFICATE OF BOARD

Royal Independent School District Name of School District	<u>Waller</u> County	<u>237-905</u> CoDist. Number
We, the undersigned, certify that the att	ached appual financial reports of the	a shove named school district
we, the undersigned, certify that the atta	ached annual linancial reports of the	above named school district
were reviewed and (check one)	approveddisapproved for the	year ended August 31, 2023,
at a meeting of the board of trustees of suc	ch school district on the $23$ day of	January, 2024.
Signature of Board Secretary	Signature o	H Wmman f Board President

If the board of trustees disapproved of the auditors' report, the reason(s) for disapproving it is (are): (attach list as necessary)

Financial Section



#### INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Board of Trustees of Royal Independent School District:

# Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

#### **Opinions**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Royal Independent School District (the "District"), as of and for the year ended August 31, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the District as of August 31, 2023, and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### **Basis for Opinions**

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the District, and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

# Responsibility of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the District's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.



### Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and Government Auditing Standards, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the District's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

## **Required Supplementary Information**

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the Management's Discussion and Analysis, budgetary comparison schedule, schedules of the District's proportionate share of the net pension and other postemployment benefits liability, and schedules of contributions, identified as Required Supplementary Information on the table of contents, be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the Required Supplementary Information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

# **Supplementary Information**

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements. The accompanying combining statements and schedules and schedule of expenditures of federal awards, as required by Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards, are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not required parts of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the combining statements and schedules and the schedule of expenditures of federal awards are fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

#### **Other Information**

Management is responsible for the other information included in the annual report. The other information comprises the introductory section and the schedule of required responses to selected school first indicators, but does not include the basic financial statements and our auditors' report thereon. Our opinions on the basic financial statements do not cover the other information, and we do not express an opinion or any form of assurance thereon.

In connection with our audit of the basic financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and consider whether a material inconsistency exists between the other information and the basic financial statements, or the other information otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work performed, we conclude that an uncorrected material misstatement of the other information exists, we are required to describe it in our report.

# Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued our report dated January 18, 2024 on our consideration of the District's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards in considering the District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

BELT HARRIS PECHACEK, LLLP

Belt Harris Pechacek, LLLP Certified Public Accountants Houston, Texas January 18, 2024 Management's Discussion and Analysis

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2023

This discussion and analysis of Royal Independent School District's (the "District") financial performance provides an overview of the District's financial activities for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2023. It should be read in conjunction with the District's financial statements.

#### **FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS**

- The District's total combined net position at August 31, 2023 was \$13,868,813.
- For the fiscal year ended August 31, 2023, the District's general fund reported a total fund balance of \$15,303,290 of which \$6,207 is for prepaid items and \$15,297,083 is unassigned. The debt service fund reported a fund balance of \$6,419,451, which is restricted. The capital projects fund reported a fund balance of \$50,172,057.
- At the end of the fiscal year, the District's governmental funds (the general fund plus all state and federal grant funds and the debt service fund) reported a combined ending fund balance of \$73,082,891.

#### **OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The annual report consists of three parts – *Management's Discussion and Analysis* (this section), the *Basic Financial Statements*, and *Required Supplementary Information*. The basic financial statements include two kinds of statements that present different views of the District.

- The first two statements are *government-wide financial statements* that provide both *long-term* and *short-term* information about the District's overall financial status.
- The remaining statements are *fund financial statements* that focus on *individual parts* of the government, reporting the District's operations in more detail than the government-wide statements.
- The governmental funds statements tell how general government services were financed in the short-term as well as what remains for future spending.
- Fiduciary fund statements provide information about the financial relationships in which the District acts solely as a trustee or custodian for the benefit of others, to whom the fiduciary resources belong. This fund includes student activity funds.

The financial statements also include notes that explain some of the information in the financial statements and provide more detailed data. The notes to the financial statements are followed by a section entitled *Required Supplementary Information* that further explains and supports the information in the financial statements.

#### **GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The government-wide statements report information about the District as a whole using accounting methods similar to those used by private-sector companies. The Statement of Net Position includes all of the District's assets, liabilities, and deferred outflows of resources. All of the current period's revenues and expenses are accounted for in the Statement of Activities regardless of when cash is received or paid.

The government-wide statements report the District's net position and how it has changed. Net position is the difference between the District's assets, deferred outflows/inflows of resources, and liabilities and is one way to measure the District's financial health or position.

- Over time, increases or decreases in the District's net position is an indicator of whether its financial health is improving or deteriorating, respectively.
- To assess the overall health of the District, one needs to consider additional nonfinancial factors such as changes in the District's tax base, staffing patterns, enrollment, and attendance.

The government-wide financial statements of the District include the *governmental activities*. The District's basic services such as instruction, extracurricular activities, curriculum and staff development, health services, general administration, and plant operations and maintenance are included in *governmental activities*. Locally assessed property taxes, together with State foundation program entitlements, which are based upon student enrollment and attendance, finance most of the governmental activities.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2023

#### **FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The fund financial statements provide more detailed information about the District's most significant funds – not the District as a whole. Funds are simply accounting devices that are used to keep track of specific sources of funding and spending for particular purposes.

- Some funds are required by State law and other funds are mandated by bond agreements or bond covenants.
- The Board of Trustees (the "Board") establishes other funds to control and manage money set aside for particular purposes or to show that the District is properly using certain taxes and grants.
- Other funds are used to account for assets held by the District in a custodial capacity these assets do not belong to the District, but the District is responsible to properly account for them.

The District has the following kinds of funds:

- Governmental funds Most of the District's basic services are included in governmental funds, which focus on (1) how cash and other financial assets that can readily be converted to cash flow in and out and (2) the balances left at year end that are available for spending. Consequently, the governmental fund statements provide a detailed short-term view that helps you determine whether there are more or fewer financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance the District's programs. Because this information does not encompass the additional long-term focus of the government-wide statements, we provide additional information at the bottom of the governmental funds statement, or on the subsequent page, that explains the relationship (or differences) between them.
- Fiduciary funds The District serves as the trustee, or fiduciary, for certain funds such as student activity funds. The District is responsible for ensuring that the assets reported in these funds are used for their intended purposes. All of the District's fiduciary activities are reported in a separate statement of fiduciary net position and a statement of changes in fiduciary net position. We exclude these activities from the District's government-wide financial statements because the District cannot use these assets to finance its governmental operations.

#### FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE DISTRICT AS A WHOLE

The District's combined net position was \$13,868,813 at August 31, 2023. Table 1 focuses on net position while Table 2 shows the revenues and expenses that changed the net position balance during the fiscal year ended August 31, 2022. The District reported an increase of \$10,758,373 in net position from the prior year. Current assets increased due to an increase in cash as a result of issuance of Unlimited Tax School Building Bonds, Series 2023 (the "Series 2023 Bonds"). Capital assets increased due to current year additions purchased during the year. Deferred outflows of resources increased for the pension plan due to the differences between expected and actual economic experience, changes in actuarial assumptions, and differences between projected and actual investment earnings. In addition, there were decreases in deferred outflows for the other postemployment benefits (OPEB) plan due to changes in actuarial assumptions, changes in proportion and difference between the District's contributions, and the proportionate share of contributions. Current liabilities increased due to an increase in unearned revenue from an overpayment for state foundation payments. Long-term liabilities increased due to the series 2023 bonds and due to the net increase in the net pension liability. Deferred inflows related to pensions decreased due to differences between expected and actual economic experience, changes in actuarial assumptions, difference between projected and actual investment earnings, and differences between the District's contributions and the proportionate share of contributions. Deferred inflows related to OPEB increased due to differences between expected and actual economic experience, changes in actuarial assumptions, and differences between the District's contributions and the proportionate share of contributions.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2023

Table 1 Net Position

Description		Govern	nmenta	I		Total
		Activities			Change	
		2023		2022		2023-2022
Current assets	\$	81,181,234	\$	28,406,744	\$	52,774,490
Capital assets		61,314,577		56,080,824		5,233,753
Total Assets		142,495,811		84,487,568		58,008,243
Deferred charges on refunding		748,825		1,080,344		(331,519)
Deferred outflows related to pensions		4,088,395		3,086,100		1,002,295
Deferred outflows related to OPEB		2,015,572		2,357,735		(342, 163)
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources		6,852,792		6,524,179		328,613
Current liabilities		6,691,021		2,955,347		3,735,674
Long-term liabilities		119,896,197		74,779,942		45,116,255
Total Liabilities		126,587,218		77,735,289		48,851,929
Deferred charges on refunding		36,045		-		36,045
Deferred inflows related to pensions		1,400,210		4,673,196		(3,272,986)
Deferred inflows related to OPEB		7,456,317		5,492,822		1,963,495
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources		8,892,572		10,166,018		(1,273,446)
Net Position:						
Net investment in capital assets		5,182,188		(208,762)		5,390,950
Restricted		7,603,699		3,958,349		3,645,350
Unrestricted		1,082,926		(639,147)		1,722,073
Total Net Position	\$	13,868,813	\$	3,110,440	\$	10,758,373

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2023

Table 2
Changes in Net Position

	Governmental			Total			
		Acti	vities			Change	
	2	2023		2022		2023-2022	
Revenues							
Program revenues:							
Charges for services	\$	218,195	\$	176,495	\$	41,700	
Operating grants and contributions		10,583,060		9,112,073		1,470,987	
General revenues:							
Property taxes		37,576,860		28,161,530		9,415,330	
State aid - formula grants		1,465,718		7,649,339		(6,183,621)	
Investment earnings		1,542,320		167,939		1,374,381	
Miscellaneous		458,621		253,641		204,980	
Total Revenues		51,844,774		45,521,017		6,323,757	
Expenses							
Instruction		19,825,581		16,932,518		2,893,063	
Instructional resources and media services		358,021		362,187		(4, 166)	
Curriculum and staff development		1,348,542		1,003,183		345,359	
Instructional leadership		896,696		774,342		122,354	
School leadership		1,898,674		1,793,239		105,435	
Guidance, counseling, and evaluation services		1,115,798		1,013,792		102,006	
Social work/health services		606,273		499,916		106,357	
Student transportation		1,645,661		1,510,340		135,321	
Food services		2,222,736		1,890,501		332,235	
Cocurricular/extracurricular activities		1,853,358		1,536,189		317,169	
General administration		1,791,355		1,562,757		228,598	
Plant maintenance and operations		3,703,588		4,561,973		(858,385)	
Security and monitoring		404,346		248,464		155,882	
Data processing services		584,137		582,233		1,904	
Community services		29,678		13,831		15,847	
Interest on long-term debt		1,874,863		1,849,175		25,688	
Bond issuance costs		433,430		90,217		343,213	
Payments related to shared services arrangements		7,014		15,294		(8,280)	
Other intergovernmental charges		486,650		387,769		98,881	
Total Expenses		41,086,401		36,627,920		4,458,481	
Change in Net Position		10,758,373		8,893,097		1,865,276	
Beginning net position		3,110,440		(5,782,657)		8,893,097	
Ending Net Position	\$	13,868,813	\$	3,110,440	\$	10,758,373	

Revenues for the District increased significantly in property tax, as a result of an increase in the assessed values of properties within the District. Operating grants and contributions increased due to receiving federal grant money, specifically Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) III grants, while grants and contributions not restricted decreased significantly due to receiving less State foundation payments. Expenses experienced a net increase from the prior year as a result of an increase in instruction, curriculum and staff development, food services, and bond issuance costs due to an increase in payroll costs and the issuance of Unlimited Tax School Building Bonds, Series 2023 (the "Series 2023 Bonds"), offset by a decrease in plant maintenance and operations due to completion of miscellaneous repairs throughout the District.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2023

#### FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE DISTRICT'S FUNDS

At the close of the fiscal year ending August 31, 2023, the District's governmental funds reported a combined fund balance of \$73,082,891. This compares to a combined fund balance of \$24,521,666 at August 31, 2022. The District's combined governmental funds revenue increased by \$4,008,023. This consisted of an increase in local revenue due to more property tax revenue as a result of higher appraised values within the District. The total combined revenue was \$50,558,231 this year compared to \$46,550,208 last year. The District's combined governmental funds expenditures increased by \$9,756,656. This increase is primarily due to increases in facilities maintenance and operations for ongoing construction projects for HVAC improvements, electric system upgrades, and building automation systems (BAS) upgrades and increases in bond issuance costs as a result of the Unlimited Tax School Building Bond Series, 2023. The total combined expenditures were \$52,693,558 compared to \$42,936,902. The fund balance in the general fund decreased primarily due to a decrease in State foundation payments as a result of an overpayment. There was an increase in total revenues and expenditures for the American Recovery Plan (ARP) ESSER III grants which netted against expenditures causing no fund balance at fiscal year end. The fund balance in the debt service fund increased due to the partial cash defeasance of Series 2015 Unlimited Tax Refunding Bonds coupled with an increase in property tax revenue. The capital projects fund increased due to the issuance of Unlimited Tax School Building Bonds, Series 2023.

#### **GENERAL FUND BUDGETARY HIGHLIGHTS**

In accordance with State law and generally accepted accounting principles, the District prepares an annual budget for the general fund, the food service special revenue fund, and the debt service fund. Special revenue funds have budgets approved by the funding agency and are amended throughout the year as required.

During the period ended August 31, 2023, the District amended its budget as required by State law and to reflect current levels of revenue and anticipated expenditures. There were no material changes between the original budget and the final amended budget. The general fund's actual revenues exceeded budgeted revenues by a net \$362,301 primarily due to receiving more in local revenues. Budgeted expenditures exceeded actual expenditures by \$2,413,373 primarily due to spending less in instruction and plant maintenance and operations.

#### **CAPITAL ASSETS**

Capital assets are generally defined as those items that have useful lives of two years or more and have an initial cost of an amount determined by the Board. Donated capital assets are recorded at acquisition value at the date of donation. During the fiscal year ended August 31, 2023, the District used a capitalization threshold of \$5,000, which means that all capital type assets, including library books, with a cost or initial value of less than \$5,000 were not included in the capital assets inventory.

At August 31, 2023, the District had a total of \$61,314,577 invested in capital assets (net of accumulated depreciation) such as land, vehicles, buildings, and District equipment. This total includes \$516,026 invested in vehicles and equipment, and \$7,394,488 in construction in progress during the fiscal year ended August 31, 2023.

Major capital asset events during the year included the following:

- Purchase of Chevrolet suburban for \$44,922
- Purchase of a Chevrolet express 3500 van for \$61,210
- Purchase of a Chevrolet Tahoe with patrol uplift for \$45,246
- Purchase and installation of a safety fence of \$50,000
- Construction in progress for HVAC improvements, electric system upgrades, and BAS upgrades of \$7,394,488

More detailed information about the District's capital assets can be found in the notes to the financial statements.

#### **LONG-TERM DEBT**

At August 31, 2023, the District had \$103,384,126 in general obligation bonds, note payable, tax notes, and leases payable outstanding versus \$60,326,895 last year. The District issued Unlimited Tax School Building Bonds, Series 2023 of \$49,340,000 during the year.

More detailed information about the District's long-term liabilities can be found in the notes to the financial statements.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2023

#### **ECONOMIC FACTORS AND NEXT YEAR'S BUDGET AND RATES**

 The District's management takes into consideration all aspects that influence school district budgets during the budget development process. This includes instructional improvements, student enrollment, property values, facility needs, economy, location, and new legislative mandates. The District encompasses 161 square miles located 35 miles west of Houston in southern Waller County along the West I-10 Corridor.

The prime location of commercial land along and near I-10 and the District's approved freeport exemption attracts major manufacturing and distribution centers such as Amazon, Costco, Goya Foods, Grundfos, Houston Executive Airport, Igloo, Man Diesel & Turbo SE's North American headquarters, Rooms-to-Go, Ross Distribution, and Twinwood business park that provide additional jobs, extend the tax base, and attract housing developments.

- The District has seven subdivisions actively under construction that include Freeman Ranch with 1,124 total lots, Bluestem Signorelli with 1,300 potential lots, Riverway Farms with 1,000 potential lots, Sandell MH Park with 175 potential lots, Sunterra with 2,000 potential lots, Sports Flyer Estates with 85 lots, and Oak Meadows with 45 lots. We are also anticipating developments from Woodmore Pattison Farms, Maple Grove, Rosebrook Holding Tract, Bold Fox, Sofi Lakes, Greenland Tract Ersa Grae, LGI, Sun Lantana Ranch South, Gamal Enterprise, Jasek Tract, and a local developer. When fully developed, we anticipate around 22,000 homes.
- Since 2014-15, the total student population increased 20.3% from 2,202 to 2,648 in 2022-23, averaging 2.5% per year during this period. In October of the 2023-24 school year, enrollment increased to 2,729. The District anticipates an enrollment increase through 2024-25 as the housing developments continue to build homes.
- Since tax year 2015, the assessed certified property values of \$1,028,343,859, after freeze, increased 166.083%, averaging 20.760% per year. From tax year 2021 to 2022, values increased by 31.615% from \$2,078,979,264 to \$2,736,256,448. At the beginning of 2023-24, values again increased by 25.469% to \$3,433,176,855. These spikes are mainly contributed to the commercial growth along I-10.
- The District continues its partnership with the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Houston with its location on the District's
  premises, to provide sports and quality after-school programs and activities for the students. Except during the
  altered COVID-19 schedule, the average daily attendance for the Royal Boys and Girls Club is typically 150 students.
- In 2022, the District authorized the issuance, sale, and delivery of Maintenance Tax Note, Series 2022 (the "Note") in the amount of \$8,200,000. The proceeds from the Note are for HVAC improvement projects and for energy efficiency improvements. This includes HVAC system upgrades at all five campus locations, electrical system upgrades at the high school, and building automation system (BAS) upgrades at all five campuses, the field house, administration, and DAEP location. Projects are expected to be completed in 2023-24.
- In August of 2023, the District used \$3,003,012 in Interest and Sinking (I&S) funds for the Series 2015 defeasance to pay down outstanding debt, saving taxpayers \$1,518,075.36 net present value savings. The I&S tax rate for 2022-23 was \$0.358817, as well as for 2023-24.

#### COVID-19

In March 2020, COVID-19 was recognized as a pandemic both worldwide and in the United States with local stay-athome orders going into effect. The District suspended in-classroom learning for the remainder of the school year.
While changes to operations caused a significant hardship, the overall impact to the financial operations for the 20202021 and 2021-22 school years of the overall budget was nominal. Areas impacted the most were teaching and
learning, technology, and facilities. Under the federal CARES Act, the District was awarded multiple year ESSER
Grants, which helped to offset Foundation School Program hold harmless funding from the State, to mitigate the
financial impact of school closure. These grants include:

ESSER I, \$606,929, grant period 7/20/2020 to 9/30/2022 CRRSA ESSER II, \$2,474,932, grant period 9/10/2021 to 9/30/2023 ARP ESSER III, \$5,560,142, grant period 7/26/2021 to 9/30/2023 TCLAS-ESSER III, \$850,700, grant period 11/12/2021 to 8/31/2024 TCLAS-GR, \$725,526, grant period 11/12/2021 to 5/31/2024

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2023

The District used these funds to pay teacher salaries during virtual learning in 2020; provided staff raises to help compete with neighboring districts to help retain employees; to mitigate learning loss by addressing the social, emotional, mental health, and academic needs of students; for HVAC renovations and repairs to improve ventilation and air quality at all the campuses; and to purchase additional buses for social distancing.

- In May 2023 election, the District successfully passed Proposition A for \$138,069,530. Bond projects include the following:
  - o New Pre-K 5<sup>th</sup> Elementary #2
  - o New Ag Science Expo Center
  - Land acquisition
  - o Design for future new junior high and high school
  - Renovations and remodels to existing campuses and facilities
  - Safety and security
  - Technology infrastructure

In August of 2023, the District had its first bond sale in the amount of \$50 million to begin work on the bond projects.

#### CONTACTING THE DISTRICT'S FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, and creditors with a general overview of the District's finances and to show the District's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact the District's business office at P.O. Box 489, Pattison, Texas 77466 or by calling (281) 934-1330.

**Basic Financial Statements** 

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION AUGUST 31, 2023

		1
Data		0
Control		Governmental
Codes	ASSETS:	Activities
1110	Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 2,067,526
1120	Current Investments	74,434,317
1220	Property Taxes Receivable (Net)	2,323,151
1230	Allowance for Uncollectible Taxes	(742,234)
1240	Due from Other Governments	3,068,564
1290	Other Receivables (Net)	19,858
1300	Inventories	3,845
1410	Prepaid Items	6,207
	Capital Assets:	
1510	Land	816,227
1520	Buildings and Improvements, Net	49,035,508
1530	Furniture and Equipment, Net	448,190
1531	Vehicles, Net	573,286
1550	Right-to-Use Assets, Net	155,203
1580	Construction in Progress Total Assets	10,286,163
1000	Total Assets	142,495,811
	DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES:	
1701	Deferred Charges on Refunding	748,825
1705	Deferred Outflows Related to Pensions	4,088,395
1706	Deferred Outflows Related to OPEB	2,015,572
1700	Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	6,852,792
	LIABILITIES:	
2110	Accounts Payable	973,556
2140	Interest Payable	173,595
2165	Accrued Liabilities	4,307
2300	Unearned Revenue	5,539,563
0504	Noncurrent Liabilities:	0.000.004
2501 2502	Due Within One Year Due in More Than One Year	8,392,904 98,624,323
2540	Net Pension Liability	8,172,879
2545	Net OPEB Liability	4,706,091
2000	Total Liabilities	126,587,218
2000	Total Elabilitios	
	DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES:	
2601	Deferred Charges on Refunding	36,045
2605	Deferred Inflows Related to Pensions	1,400,210
2606	Deferred Inflows Related to OPEB	7,456,317
2600	Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	8,892,572
	NET POOLTION	
2000	NET POSITION:	E 100 100
3200	Net Investment in Capital Assets	5,182,188
3820	Restricted For: Federal and State Programs	1,151,933
3850	Debt Service	6,419,451
3890	Other Purposes	32,315
3900	Unrestricted	1,082,926
3000	Total Net Position	\$ 13,868,813

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2023

			1		3 Progran	n Reven			Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position
Data					Obavasa fav		Operating		O
Control Codes	Functions/Programs		Expenses		Charges for Services	(	Grants and Contributions	(	Governmental Activities
00003	Governmental Activities:	_	Ехрепаса	_	OCIVICCS	_	Jonanda	_	Activities
11	Instruction	\$	19,825,581	\$		\$	3,882,146	\$	(15,943,435)
12	Instructional Resources and Media Services	Ψ	358,021	Ψ		Ψ	15,431	Ψ	(342,590)
13	Curriculum and Staff Development		1,348,542				1,361,794		13,252
21	Instructional Leadership		896,696				1,190,237		293,541
23	School Leadership		1,898,674				280,182		(1,618,492)
31	Guidance, Counseling, and Evaluation Services		1,115,798				730,384		(385,414)
32	Social Work Services		210,214				36,646		(173,568)
33	Health Services		396,059				98,302		(297,757)
34	Student Transportation		1,645,661				128,558		(1,517,103)
35	Food Service		2,222,736		123,180		2,252,893		153,337
36	Cocurricular/Extracurricular Activities		1,853,358		95,015		75,192		(1,683,151)
41	General Administration		1,791,355				156,637		(1,634,718)
51	Facilities Maintenance and Operations		3,703,588				172,007		(3,531,581)
52	Security and Monitoring Services		404,346				44,042		(360,304)
53	Data Processing Services		584,137				43,437		(540,700)
61	Community Services		29,678				16,469		(13,209)
72	Interest on Long-term Debt		1,874,863				91,704		(1,783,159)
73	Bond Issuance Costs and Fees		433,430						(433,430)
93	Payments Related to Shared Services Arrangement	ents	7,014				6,999		(15)
99	Other Intergovernmental Charges		486,650						(486,650)
TG	Total Governmental Activities	_	41,086,401	_	218,195	_	10,583,060		(30,285,146)
TP	Total Primary Government	\$_	41,086,401	\$_	218,195	\$_	10,583,060		(30,285,146)
		General Re				_			
MT			venues: axes, Levied for (	Gonoral E	Purposos				27,229,530
DT			axes, Levied for I						10,347,330
ΙΕ		Investmen	•	Debt Serv	rice				1,542,320
SF			Formula Grants						1,465,718
MI		Miscellane							458,621
TR			neral Revenues					_	41,043,519
CN			in Net Position					_	10,758,373
NB			n - Beginning						2,329,501
PA			I Adjustment						780,939
			n - Beginning, as I	Restated					3,110,440
NE		Net Position		.5014104				\$	13,868,813
			9					Ψ=	70,000,010

BALANCE SHEET - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS AUGUST 31, 2023

			10		OMF
Data					American
Contro	l		General		Rescue
Codes	5		Fund	Pla	an ESSER III
	ASSETS:		-		
1110	Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$	422,693	\$	352,630
1120	Current Investments		17,977,435		
1220	Property Taxes Receivable		1,672,714		
1230	Allowance for Uncollectible Taxes		(525,183)		
1240	Due from Other Governments		79,391		1,930,830
1260	Due from Other Funds		3,058,157		
1290	Other Receivables		2,969		
1300	Inventories				
1410	Prepaid Items		6,207		
1000	Total Assets	\$	22,694,383	\$	2,283,460
		=	<del></del>		
	LIABILITIES:				
	Current Liabilities:				
2110	Accounts Payable	\$	821,427	\$	144,865
2150	Payroll Deductions and Withholdings		4,281		
2170	Due to Other Funds				2,020,731
2300	Unearned Revenue		5,417,854		117,864
2000	Total Liabilities	_	6,243,562		2,283,460
	DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES:				
2600	Unavailable Revenue for Property Taxes		1,147,531		
2600	Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	_	1,147,531		
	FUND BALANCES:				
	Nonspendable Fund Balances:				
3410	Inventories				
3430	Prepaid Items		6,207		
	Restricted Fund Balances:				
3450	Federal/State Funds Grant Restrictions				
3470	Capital Acquistions and Contractual Obligations				
3480	Retirement of Long-Term Debt				
3490	Other Restrictions of Fund Balance				
3600	Unassigned		15,297,083		
3000	Total Fund Balances		15,303,290		
		_			
	Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows				
4000	of Resources, and Fund Balances	\$	22,694,383	\$	2,283,460
			<del></del>		

50 Debt Service Fund	60 Capital Projects Fund	ONMF Nonmajor Governmental Funds	98 Total Governmental Funds
\$ 87,420 6,301,470 650,437 (217,051) 30,561     \$ 6,852,837	\$ 50,155,412    16,645   \$ 50,172,057	\$ 1,204,783 1,027,782 244 3,845 \$ 2,236,654	\$ 2,067,526 74,434,317 2,323,151 (742,234) 3,068,564 3,058,157 19,858 3,845 6,207 \$ 84,239,391
433,386	\$   	\$ 7,264 26 1,037,426 3,845 1,048,561	\$ 973,556 4,307 3,058,157 5,539,563 9,575,583 1,580,917
   6,419,451  6,419,451	   50,172,057   50,172,057	3,845  1,151,933   32,315  1,188,093	1,580,917 3,845 6,207 1,151,933 50,172,057 6,419,451 32,315 15,297,083 73,082,891
\$6,852,837_	\$50,172,057	\$2,236,654	\$84,239,391

RECONCILIATION OF THE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS BALANCE SHEET TO THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION AUGUST 31, 2023

Total fund balances - governmental funds balance sheet	\$	73,082,891
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Net Position (SNP) are different because:		
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not reported in the funds.		61,314,577
Property taxes receivable unavailable to pay for current period expenditures are deferred in the funds.		1,580,917
Payables for bond principal which are not due in the current period are not reported in the funds.		(94,364,994)
Payables for tax note principal which are not due in the curent period are not reported in the funds.		(8,671,000)
Payables for right-to-use leases which are not due in the current period are not reported in the funds.		(158,687)
Payables for debt interest which are not due in the current period are not reported in the funds.		(173,595)
Payables for notes which are not due in the current period are not reported in the funds.		(189,445)
Payables for premiums which are not due in the current period are not reported in the funds.		(2,991,653)
Net of deferred loss/(gain) is not reported in the funds.		712,780
The accumulated accretion of interest on capital appreciation bonds is not reported in the funds.		(641,448)
Recognition of the District's proportionate share of the net pension liability is not reported in the funds.		(8,172,879)
Deferred inflows of resources related to the pension plan are not reported in the funds.		(1,400,210)
Deferred outflows of resources related to the pension plan are not reported in the funds.		4,088,395
Recognition of the District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability is not reported in the funds.		(4,706,091)
Deferred inflows of resources related to the OPEB plan are not reported in the funds.		(7,456,317)
Deferred outflows of resources related to the OPEB plan are not reported in the funds.	_	2,015,572
Net position of governmental activities - Statement of Net Position	\$	13,868,813

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2023

			10	OMF
Data				American
Contro			General	Rescue
Codes		_	Fund	Plan ESSER III
	REVENUES:			
5700	Local and Intermediate Sources	\$	28,256,363	\$
	State Program Revenues		3,013,059	
5900	Federal Program Revenues		800,204	2,630,371
5020	Total Revenues	_	32,069,626	2,630,371
	EXPENDITURES:			
	Current:			
0011	Instruction		16,526,687	11,070
0012	Instructional Resources and Media Services		156,512	
0013	Curriculum and Staff Development		987,086	197,200
0021	Instructional Leadership		648,542	186,739
0023	School Leadership		1,743,640	
0023	Guidance, Counseling, and Evaluation Services		797,160	72,774
0031	Social Work Services		156,868	
0032	Health Services		291,015	
0033				
0034	Student Transportation Food Service		1,476,932 	
0035	Cocurricular/Extracurricular Activities			
			1,582,471	
0041	General Administration		1,721,819	
0051	Facilities Maintenance and Operations		8,776,224	2,230,452
0052	Security and Monitoring Services		411,607	
0053	Data Processing Services		634,945	
0061	Community Services		13,253	
	Principal on Long-term Debt		812,014	
	Interest on Long-term Debt		221,262	
	Bond Issuance Costs and Fees		750	
	Capital Outlay			50,000
	Payments to Shared Service Arrangements			
	Other Intergovernmental Charges		486,650	
6030	Total Expenditures	_	37,445,437	2,748,235
1100	Fuence (Deficiency) of Devenues Over (Hader)			
	Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under)		/F 07F 011)	(117.004)
1100	Expenditures	_	(5,375,811)	(117,864)
	Other Financing Sources and (Uses):			
7911	Capital-Related Debt Issued (Regular Bonds)			
7914	Issuance of Non-Current Debt		239,245	
7915	Transfers In			117,864
7916	Premium or Discount on Issuance of Bonds			
8911	Transfers Out		(117,864)	
	Total Other Financing Sources and (Uses)	_	121,381	117,864
	Net Change in Fund Balances	_	(5,254,430)	
			(-,,)	
0100	Fund Balances - Beginning		20,557,720	
3000	Fund Balances - Ending	\$	15,303,290	\$
	<del>-</del>	=		

	50 60 Debt Capital Service Projects		ONMF Nonmajor Governmental		C	98 Total Governmental		
	Fund	Fur	nd		Funds		Funds	
\$	10,496,810 91,704 	\$ 10  	65,412	\$	309,546 507,428 4,287,334	\$	39,228,131 3,612,191 7,717,909	
	10,588,514	10	65,412		5,104,308		50,558,231	
					1,960,710		18,498,467	
							156,512	
					155,574		1,339,860	
					54,213		889,494	
					82,266		1,825,906	
					214,669		1,084,603	
					20,941		177,809	
					59,088		350,103	
					5,868		1,482,800	
					1,993,186		1,993,186	
					54,750		1,637,221	
					9,510		1,731,329	
							11,006,676	
					21,640		433,247	
							634,945	
					16,425		29,678	
	2,740,000						3,552,014	
	1,668,340						1,889,602	
	2,985,030	4	50,662				3,436,442	
							50,000	
					7,014		7,014	
							486,650	
	7,393,370	4:	50,662		4,655,854		52,693,558	
	2 105 144	(2)	DE 250\		448,454		(0.105.007)	
_	3,195,144	(20	85,250)		440,404		(2,135,327)	
		49,3	40,000				49,340,000	
			•				239,245	
							117,864	
		1,1	17,307				1,117,307	
		, 	,				(117,864)	
_		50,4	57,307				50,696,552	
_	3,195,144		72,057		448,454		48,561,225	
	0.004.007				700 600		04 504 000	
φ	3,224,307	φ <u></u>	70.057	Φ	739,639	Φ	24,521,666	
\$	6,419,451	\$50,1	72,057	\$	1,188,093	\$	73,082,891	

RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2023

Net change in fund balances - total governmental funds

\$ 48,561,225

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Activities (SOA) are different because:

Change in net position of governmental activities - Statement of Activities

\$ 10,758,373

STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION FIDUCIARY FUND AUGUST 31, 2023

A00001 01, 2020	 Custodial Fund
Data	
Control	Student
Codes	Activity
ASSETS:	
1110 Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 70,497
1000 Total Assets	70,497
NET POSITION:	
3800 Restricted for Individuals and Organizations	70,497
3000 Total Net Position	\$ 70,497

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION FIDUCIARY FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2023

	 Custodial Fund	
	Student Activity	
ADDITIONS:		
Concession Stand Sales	\$ 17,527	
Student Fees and Dues	21,416	
Fundraising Activities	68,675	
Miscellanous Revenues	50,343	
Gifts and Bequests	70,122	
Investment Income	1,115	
Total Additions	 229,198	
DEDUCTIONS:		
Fees and Dues	11,340	
Fundraising Expenses	137,332	
Student Activities	41,504	
Scholarships	11,675	
Total Deductions	 201,851	
Change in Fiduciary Net Position	27,347	
Net Position-Beginning of the Year	43,150	
Net Position-End of the Year	\$ 70,497	

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2023

#### I. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### A. Reporting Entity

Royal Independent School District (the "District") is a public educational agency operating under the applicable laws and regulations of the State of Texas (the "State"). It is governed by a seven-member Board of Trustees (the "Board") elected by registered voters of the District. The District prepares its basic financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles promulgated by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) and it complies with the requirements of the appropriate version of Texas Education Agency's (TEA) Financial Accountability System Resource Guide (the "Resource Guide") and the requirements of contracts and grants of agencies from which it receives funds.

The District is an independent political subdivision of the State governed by a board elected by the public, and it has the authority to make decisions, appoint administrators and managers, and significantly influence operations, and is considered a primary government. As required by generally accepted accounting principles, these basic financial statements have been prepared based on considerations regarding the potential for inclusion of other entities, organizations, or functions as part of the District's financial reporting entity. No other entities have been included in the District's reporting entity. Additionally, as the District is considered a primary government for financial reporting purposes, its activities are not considered a part of any other governmental or other type of reporting entity.

#### **B.** Government-Wide Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements (i.e., the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities) report information on all of the nonfiduciary activities of the primary government. All fiduciary activities are reported only in the fund financial statements. *Governmental activities*, which normally are supported by taxes, intergovernmental revenues, and other nonexchange transactions, are reported separately.

#### C. Basis of Presentation - Government-Wide Financial Statements

While separate government-wide and fund financial statements are presented, they are interrelated. The governmental activities column incorporates data from governmental funds. Separate financial statements are provided for governmental and fiduciary funds, even though the latter are excluded from the government-wide financial statements.

As a general rule, the effect of interfund activity has been eliminated from the government-wide financial statements. Exceptions to this general rule are payments in lieu of taxes where the amounts are reasonably equivalent in value to the interfund services provided and other charges. Elimination of these charges would distort the direct costs and program revenues reported for the various functions concerned.

# D. Basis of Presentation - Fund Financial Statements

The fund financial statements provide information about the District's funds, including its fiduciary fund. Separate statements for each fund category – governmental and fiduciary – are presented. The emphasis of fund financial statements is on major governmental funds, each displayed in a separate column. All remaining governmental funds are aggregated and reported as nonmajor funds. Major individual governmental funds are reported as separate columns in the fund financial statements.

The District reports the following governmental funds:

#### **General Fund**

The general fund is the District's primary operating fund. It accounts for all financial resources of the general government, except those required to be accounted for in another fund. The general fund is always considered a major fund for reporting purposes.

#### **Debt Service Fund**

The debt service fund is used to account for and report financial resources that are restricted, committed, or assigned to expenditures for principal and interest on all long-term debt of the District. The primary source of revenue for debt service is local property taxes. The debt service fund is considered a major fund for reporting purposes.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2023

## **Capital Projects Fund**

The capital projects fund is used to account for and report financial resources that are restricted, committed, or assigned to expenditures for capital outlay, including the acquisition or construction of capital facilities and other capital assets. The capital projects fund is considered a major fund for reporting purposes.

#### **Special Revenue Funds**

The special revenue funds are used to account for the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are restricted to expenditures for specific purposes other than debt service or capital projects. The restricted proceeds of specific revenue sources comprise a substantial portion of the inflows of these special revenue funds. Most federal and some state financial assistance is accounted for in a special revenue fund. American Rescue Plan (ARP) ESSER III, is a special revenue fund used to account for revenues and expenditures related to the ESSER III grant awards and entitlements. This fund is primarily on a reimbursement basis and has a program year that does not coincide with the District's fiscal year. This special revenue fund is considered a major fund for reporting purposes.

#### **Fiduciary Fund**

The fiduciary fund accounts for assets held by the District in a trustee capacity or as a custodian on behalf of others. The fiduciary fund is not reflected in the government-wide financial statements because the resources of this fund are not available to support the District's own programs.

The District has the following types of fiduciary fund:

#### **Custodial Fund**

The custodial fund reports resources, not in a trust, that are held by the District for other parties outside of the District. The custodial fund is accounted for using the accrual basis of accounting. This fund is used to account for the District's student activity funds.

During the course of operations, the District has activity between funds for various purposes. Any residual balances outstanding at year end are reported as due from/to other funds and advances to/from other funds. While these balances are reported in fund financial statements, certain eliminations are made in the preparation of the government-wide financial statements. Balances between the funds included in governmental activities (i.e., the governmental funds) are eliminated so that only the net amount is included as internal balances in the governmental activities column.

Further, certain activity occurs during the year involving transfers of resources between funds. In fund financial statements, these amounts are reported at gross amounts as transfers in/out. While reported in fund financial statements, certain eliminations are made in the preparation of the government-wide financial statements. Transfers between the funds included in governmental activities are eliminated so that only the net amount is included as transfers in the governmental activities column.

#### E. Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting

The accounting and financial reporting treatment is determined by the applicable measurement focus and basis of accounting. Measurement focus indicates the type of resources being measured such as *current financial resources* or *economic resources*. The basis of accounting indicates the timing of transactions or events for recognition in the financial statements.

The government-wide and fiduciary fund financial statements are reported using the *economic resources* measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Property taxes are recognized as revenues in the year for which they are levied. Grants and similar items are recognized as revenue as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met.

The governmental fund financial statements are reported using the *current financial resources measurement focus* and the *modified accrual basis of accounting*. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Revenues are considered to be available when they are collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the District considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 60 days of the end of the current fiscal period.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2023

Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. However, debt service expenditures, as well as expenditures related to compensated absences and claims and judgments, are recorded only when payment is due. General capital asset acquisitions are reported as expenditures in governmental funds. Issuance of long-term debt and acquisitions under leases are reported as other financing sources.

Property taxes and interest associated with the current fiscal period are all considered to be susceptible to accrual and so have been recognized as revenues of the current fiscal period. Entitlements are recorded as revenues when all eligibility requirements are met, including any time requirements, and the amount is received during the period or within the availability period for this revenue source (within 60 days of year end). Expenditure-driven grants are recognized as revenue when the qualifying expenditures have been incurred and all other eligibility requirements have been met, and the amount is received during the period or within the availability period for the revenue source (within 60 days of year end). All other revenue items are considered measurable and available only when cash is received by the District.

# F. Assets, Liabilities, Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources, and Net Position/Fund Balance

#### 1. Cash and Cash Equivalents

The District's cash and cash equivalents are considered to be cash on hand, demand deposits, and short-term investments with original maturities of three months or less from the date of acquisition.

#### 2. Investments

Investments, except for certain investment pools, commercial paper, money market funds, and investment contracts, are reported at fair value. The investment pools operate in accordance with appropriate state laws and regulations and are reported at amortized cost. Money market funds, which are short-term highly liquid debt instruments that may include U.S. Treasury and agency obligations and commercial paper that have a remaining maturity of one year or less upon acquisition, are reported at amortized cost. Investments in nonparticipating interest-earning contracts, such as certificates of deposit are reported at cost.

The District has adopted a written investment policy regarding the investment of its funds as defined in the Public Funds Investment Act, Chapter 2256, Texas Government Code. In summary, the District is authorized to invest in the following:

Direct obligations of the U.S. Government Fully collateralized certificates of deposit and money market accounts Government investment pools and commercial paper

#### 3. Inventories and Prepaid Items

The costs of governmental fund type inventories are recorded as expenditures when the related liability is incurred (i.e., the purchase method). Certain payments to vendors reflect costs applicable to the future accounting period (prepaid expenditures) are recognized as expenditures when utilized.

#### 4. Restricted Assets

Certain proceeds of bonds, as well as other resources set aside for specific purposes, are classified as restricted assets on the balance sheet because their use is limited by applicable bond covenants or contractual agreements.

#### 5. Capital Assets

Capital assets, which include land, buildings, furniture, and equipment, are reported in the applicable governmental activities columns in the government-wide financial statements. Capital assets are defined by the government as assets with an initial, individual cost of more than \$5,000 and an estimated useful life in excess of two years. Such assets are recorded at historical cost or estimated historical cost if purchased or constructed. Donated capital assets are recorded at acquisition value at the date of donation. Major outlays for capital assets and improvements are capitalized as projects are constructed.

The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend assets' lives are not capitalized.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2023

Property, plant, and equipment of the primary government are depreciated using the straight-line method over the following estimated useful lives:

	Estimated
Asset Description	Useful Life
Buildings and improvements	7 to 39 years
Vehicles	5 years
Equipment	1 to 7 years

#### 6. Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources

In addition to assets, the statement of net position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, *deferred outflows of resources*, represents a consumption of net position that applies to a future period(s) and so will *not* be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense/expenditure) until then. In addition to liabilities, the statement of net position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, *deferred inflows of resources*, represents an acquisition of net position that applies to a future period(s) and so will *not* be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time.

Deferred outflows/inflows of resources are amortized as follows:

- Deferred outflows/inflows from pension/other postemployment benefits (OPEB) activities are amortized
  over the average of the expected service lives of pension/OPEB plan members, except for the net
  differences between the projected and actual investment earnings on the pension/OPEB plan assets,
  which are amortized over a period of five years.
- For employer pension/OPEB plan contributions that were made subsequent to the measurement date through the end of the District's fiscal year, the amount is deferred and recognized as a reduction to the net pension/OPEB liability during the measurement period in which the contributions were made.
- A deferred charge on refunding results from the difference in the carrying value of refunded debt and
  its reacquisition price. This amount is deferred and amortized over the shorter of the life of the
  refunded or refunding debt.

At the fund level, the District has only one type of item, which arises only under a modified accrual basis of accounting, that qualifies for reporting in this category. Accordingly, the item, *unavailable revenue*, is reported only in the governmental funds balance sheet. The governmental funds report unavailable revenues from property taxes. This amount is deferred and recognized as an inflow of resources in the period that the amount becomes available.

## 7. Receivable and Payables Balances

The District believes that sufficient detail of receivable and payable balances is provided in the financial statements to avoid the obscuring of significant components by aggregation. Therefore, no disclosure is provided which disaggregates those balances.

There are no significant receivables which are not scheduled for collection within one year of year end.

## 8. Interfund Activity

Interfund activity results from loans, services provided, reimbursements, or transfers between funds. Loans are reported as interfund receivables and payables as appropriate and are subject to elimination upon consolidations. Services provided, deemed to be at market or near market rates, are treated as revenues and expenditures or expenses. Reimbursements occur when one fund incurs a cost, charges the appropriate benefiting fund, and reduces its related cost as a reimbursement. All other interfund transactions are treated as transfers. Transfers in and transfers out are netted and presented as a single "Transfers" line on the government-wide Statement of Activities. Similarly, interfund receivables and payables are netted and presented as a single "Internal Balances" line of the government-wide Statement of Net Position.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2023

# 9. Long-Term Obligations

In the government-wide financial statements, long-term debt and other long-term obligations are reported as liabilities in the applicable governmental activities Statement of Net Position. Bond premiums and discounts are deferred and amortized over the life of the bonds using the effective interest method, if material. Bonds payable are reported net of the applicable bond premium or discount.

Long-term debt for governmental funds is not reported as a liability in the fund financial statements until due. The debt proceeds are reported as other financing sources, net of the applicable premium or discount and payment of principal and interest is reported as expenditures. In the governmental fund types, issuance costs, even if withheld from the actual net proceeds received, are reported as debt service expenditures. However, claims and judgments paid from governmental funds are reported as a liability in the fund financial statements only for the portion expected to be financed from expendable, available financial resources.

The property tax rate is allocated each year between the general and debt service funds. The full amount estimated to be required for debt service on general obligation debt is provided by the tax along with the interest earned in the debt service fund.

#### 10. Leases

The District is a lessee for various noncancellable leases of equipment. The District recognizes a lease liability and an intangible, right-to-use lease asset (the "lease asset") in the government-wide financial statements. At the commencement of a lease, the District initially measures the lease liability at the present value of payments expected to be made during the lease term. Subsequently, the lease liability is reduced by the principal portion of lease payments made. The lease asset is initially measured as the initial amount of the lease liability, adjusted for lease payments made at or before the lease commencement date, plus certain initial direct costs. Subsequently, the lease asset is amortized on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Key estimates and judgments related to leases include how the District determines (1) the discount rate it uses to discount the expected lease payments to present value, (2) lease term, and (3) lease payments.

- The District uses the interest rate charged by the lessor as the discount rate. When the interest rate
  charged by the lessor is not provided, the District generally uses its estimated incremental borrowing
  rate as the discount rate for leases.
- The lease term includes the noncancellable period of the lease.
- Lease payments included in the measurement of the lease liability are composed of fixed payments and the purchase option price that the District is reasonably certain to exercise.

The District monitors changes in circumstances that would require a remeasurement of its lease and will remeasure the lease asset and liability if certain changes occur that are expected to significantly affect the amount of the lease liability.

Lease assets are reported with other capital assets and lease liabilities are reported with long-term debt on the Statement of Net Position.

# 11. Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements

The District has noncancellable subscription-based technology arrangements (SBITAs) to finance the use of information technology software. The District would recognize a liability (the "subscription liability") and an intangible, right-to-use subscription asset (the "subscription asset") in the government-wide financial statements. The District SBITAs to report are immaterial to the financial statements as a whole and are not recognized as a subscription liability or a subscription asset.

#### 12. Fund Balance Policies

Fund balances of governmental funds are reported in various categories based on the nature of any limitations requiring the use of resources for specific purposes. The District itself can establish limitations on the use of resources through either a commitment (committed fund balance) or an assignment (assigned fund balance).

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2023

Amounts that cannot be spent because they are either not in spendable form or legally or contractually required to be maintained intact are classified as nonspendable fund balance. Amounts that are externally imposed by creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments or imposed by law through constitutional provisions are classified as restricted fund balance.

The committed fund balance classification includes amounts that can be used only for the specific purposes determined by a formal action of the District's highest level of decision-making authority. The District's Board is the highest level of decision-making authority for the District that can, by adoption of an ordinance prior to the end of the fiscal year, commit fund balance. Once adopted, the limitation imposed by the ordinance remains in place until a similar action is taken (the adoption of another ordinance) to remove or revise the limitation.

Amounts in the assigned fund balance classification are intended to be used by the District for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as committed. The District's Board may also assign fund balance as it does when appropriating fund balance to cover a gap between estimated revenue and appropriations in the subsequent year's appropriated budget. Unlike commitments, assignments generally only exist temporarily. In other words, an additional action does not normally have to be taken for the removal of an assignment. Conversely, as discussed above, an additional action is essential to either remove or revise a commitment.

#### 13. Net Position Flow Assumption

Sometimes the District will fund outlays for a particular purpose from both restricted (e.g., restricted bond or grant proceeds) and unrestricted resources. In order to calculate the amounts to report as restricted net position and unrestricted net position in the government-wide fund financial statements, a flow assumption must be made about the order in which the resources are considered to be applied. It is the District's policy to consider restricted net position to have been depleted before unrestricted net position is applied.

# 14. Fund Balance Flow Assumptions

Sometimes the District will fund outlays for a particular purpose from both restricted and unrestricted resources (the total of committed, assigned, and unassigned fund balance). In order to calculate the amounts to report as restricted, committed, assigned, and unassigned fund balance in the governmental fund financial statements, a flow assumption must be made about the order in which the resources are considered to be applied. It is the District's policy to consider restricted fund balance to have been depleted before using any of the components of unrestricted fund balance. Further, when the components of unrestricted fund balance can be used for the same purpose, committed fund balance is depleted first, followed by assigned fund balance. Unassigned fund balance is applied last.

#### 15. Estimates

The preparation of financial statements, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles, requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenditures/expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

#### 16. Data Control Codes

The data control codes refer to the account code structure prescribed by TEA in the Resource Guide. The TEA requires school districts to display these codes in the financial statements filed with the TEA in order to ensure accuracy in building a statewide database for policy development and funding plans.

#### 17. Pensions

The fiduciary net position of the Teacher Retirement System of Texas (TRS) has been determined using the flow of economic resources measurement focus and full accrual basis of accounting. This includes for purposes of measuring the net pension liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions, pension expense, and information about assets, liabilities, and additions to/deductions from TRS's fiduciary net position. Benefit payments (including refunds of employee contributions) are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. Investments are reported at fair value.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2023

#### 18. Other Postemployment Benefits

The fiduciary net position of the TRS Texas Public School Retired Employees Group Insurance Program ("TRS-Care") has been determined using the flow of economic resources measurement focus and full accrual basis of accounting. This includes for purposes of measuring the net OPEB liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB, OPEB expense, and information about assets, liabilities, and additions to/deductions from TRS-Care's fiduciary net position. Benefit payments are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. There are no investments as this is a pay-as-you-go plan and all cash is held in a cash account.

# G. Revenues and Expenditures/Expenses

#### 1. Program Revenues

Amounts reported as *program revenues* include 1) charges to customers or applicants who purchase, use, or directly benefit from goods, services, or privileges provided by a given function or segment and 2) grants and contributions (including special assessments) that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function or segment. All taxes, including those dedicated for specific purposes, and other internally dedicated resources are reported as general revenues rather than as program revenues.

#### 2. Property Taxes

All taxes due to the District on real or personal property are payable at the Office of the Tax Assessor-Collector and may be paid at any time after the tax rolls for the year have been completed and approved, which is no later than October 1. Taxes are due by January 31, and all taxes not paid prior to this date are deemed delinquent and are subject to such penalty and interest.

Property taxes attach as an enforceable lien on property as of January 1 each year. Taxes are levied on October 1 and are payable prior to the next February 1. District property tax revenues are recognized when collected.

# II. STEWARDSHIP, COMPLIANCE, AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Annual budgets are adopted on a basis consistent with generally accepted accounting principles. The original budget is adopted by the District prior to the beginning of the year. The legal level of control is the function code stated in the approved budget. Appropriations lapse at the end of the year.

In accordance with State law and generally accepted accounting principles, the District prepares an annual budget for the general fund, the national school breakfast and lunch program special revenue fund, and the debt service fund. Special revenue funds have budgets approved by the funding agency and are amended throughout the year as required.

During the year, the District amended its budget as required by State law and to reflect current levels of revenue and anticipated expenditures. There were no material changes between the original budget and the final amended budget.

#### A. Expenditures in Excess of Appropriations

For the year, expenditures exceeded appropriations at the legal level of control as follows:

General Fund

Extracurricular Activities \$ 150,049

Debt Service Fund

Bond Issuance Costs and Fees \$ 2,439

#### **III. DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS**

# A. Deposits and Investments

The District's funds are required to be deposited and invested under the terms of a depository contract. The depository bank deposits for safekeeping and trust with the District's agent bank approved pledged securities in an amount sufficient to protect District funds on a day-to-day basis during the period of the contract. The pledge

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2023

of approved securities is waived only to the extent of the depository bank's dollar amount of Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) insurance.

#### 1. Cash Deposits

At August 31, 2023, the carrying amount of the District's deposits (cash, certificates of deposit, and interest-bearing savings accounts included in temporary investments) was \$2,138,023, and the bank balance was \$2,702,617. The District's cash deposits at August 31, 2023 were entirely covered by FDIC insurance or by pledged collateral held by the District's agent bank in the District's name.

#### 2. Investments

The District is required by Government Code Chapter 2256, the Public Funds Investment Act (the "Act"), to adopt, implement, and publicize an investment policy. That policy must address the following areas: (1) safety of principal and liquidity, (2) portfolio diversification, (3) allowable investments, (4) acceptable risk levels, (5) expected rates of return, (6) maximum allowable stated maturity of portfolio investments, (7) maximum average dollar-weighted maturity allowed based on the stated maturity date for the portfolio, (8) investment staff quality and capabilities, and (9) bid solicitation preferences for certificates of deposit.

The Act determines the types of investments which are allowable for the District. These include, with certain restrictions: 1) obligations of the U.S. Treasury, U.S. agencies, and the State; 2) certificates of deposit; 3) certain municipal securities; 4) securities lending program; 5) repurchase agreements; 6) bankers' acceptances; 7) mutual funds; 8) investment pools; 9) guaranteed investment contracts; and 10) commercial paper.

As of August 31, 2023, the District had the following investments:

Investments		Amount	Rating	Weighted AverageMaturity (Years)
TexSTAR	\$	6,314,553	AAAm*	0.07
TexPool Texas CLASS		5,661,054 57,607,889	AAAm* AAAm*	0.07 0.11
LOGIC		4,850,821	AAA*	0.09
	\$	74,434,317		
Portfolio weighted ave	•	•		0.10

Interest rate risk. In accordance with its investment policy, the District manages its exposure to declines in fair values by structuring the investment portfolio so that securities mature to meet cash requirements for ongoing operations and invest operating funds primarily in short-term securities.

*Credit risk.* The District's policy requires that investment pools must be rated no lower than 'AAA' or 'AAAm'. Bankers' acceptances must be issued in the United States and carry a rating of 'A1'/'P1' as provided by two of the nationally recognized rating agencies. As of August 31, 2023, the District's investments in investment pools were rated 'AAAm' or 'AAA' by Standard and Poor's.

Custodial credit risk – deposits. In the case of deposits, this is the risk that the District's deposits may not be returned in the event of a bank failure. The District's investment policy requires funds on deposit at the depository bank to be collateralized by securities. As of August 31, 2023, fair market values of pledged securities and FDIC coverage exceeded bank balances.

Custodial credit risk – investments. For an investment, this is the risk that the District will not be able to recover the value of its investments or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party in the event of the failure of the counterparty. The District's investment policy requires that it will seek to safekeep securities at financial institutions, avoiding physical possession. Further, all trades, where applicable, shall be conducted on a delivery versus payment basis or commercial book entry system as utilized by the Federal Reserve and shall be protected through the use of a third-party custody/safekeeping agent.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2023

## **TexSTAR**

The Texas Short-Term Asset Reserve Fund (TexSTAR) is a local government investment pool organized under the authority of the Interlocal Cooperation Act, Chapter 791, Texas Government Code, and the Public Funds Investment Act, Chapter 2256, Texas Government Code. TexSTAR was created in April 2002 by contract among its participating governmental units and is governed by a board of directors. JPMorgan Fleming Asset Management (USA), Inc. and First Southwest Asset Management, Inc. act as co-administrators, providing investment management services, participant services, and marketing. JPMorgan Chase Bank and/or its subsidiary, J.P. Morgan Investor Services, Inc., provide custodial, transfer agency, fund accounting, and depository services.

TexSTAR is measured at amortized cost. TexSTAR's strategy is to seek preservation of principal, liquidity, and current income through investment in a diversified portfolio of short-term marketable securities. The District has no unfunded commitments related to TexSTAR. TexSTAR has a redemption notice period of one day and may redeem daily. TexSTAR's authorities may only impose restrictions on redemptions in the event of a general suspension of trading on major securities markets, general banking moratorium, or national state of emergency that affects TexSTAR's liquidity.

## **TexPool**

TexPool was established as a trust company with the Treasurer of the State as trustee, segregated from all other trustees, investments, and activities of the trust company. The State Comptroller of Public Accounts exercises oversight responsibility over TexPool. Oversight includes the ability to significantly influence operations, designation of management, and accountability for fiscal matters. Additionally, the State Comptroller has established an advisory board composed of both participants in TexPool and other persons who do not have a business relationship with TexPool. The advisory board members review the investment policy and management fee structure. Finally, Standard and Poor's rates TexPool 'AAAm'. As a requirement to maintain the rating, weekly portfolio information must be submitted to Standard and Poor's, as well as to the office of the Comptroller of Public Accounts for review.

TexPool is an external investment pool measured at amortized cost. In order to meet the criteria to be recorded at amortized cost, TexPool must transact at a stable net asset value per share and maintain certain maturity, quality, liquidity, and diversification requirements within TexPool. TexPool transacts at a net asset value of \$1.00 per share, has weighted average maturities of 60 days or less, and weighted average lives of 120 days or less. Investments held are highly rated by nationally recognized statistical rating organizations, have no more than five percent of portfolio with one issuer (excluding U.S. government securities), and can meet reasonably foreseeable redemptions. TexPool has a redemption notice period of one day and may redeem daily. TexPool's authority may only impose restrictions on redemptions in the event of a general suspension of trading on major securities markets, general banking moratorium, or national state of emergency that affects TexPool's liquidity.

# **Texas CLASS**

The Texas Cooperative Liquid Assets Securities System Trust – Texas (CLASS) is a public funds investment pool under Section 2256.016 of the Public Funds Investment Act, Texas Government Code, as amended. CLASS is created under an amended and restated trust agreement, dated as of December 14, 2011 (the "Agreement"), among certain Texas governmental entities investing in CLASS (the "Participants"), with Cutwater Investor Services Corporation as program director and Wells Fargo Bank Texas, NA as custodian. CLASS is not SEC registered and is not subject to regulation by the State. Under the Agreement, however, CLASS is administered and supervised by a seven-member Board of Trustees (the "Board"), whose members are investment officers of the Participants, elected by the Participants for overlapping two-year terms. In the Agreement and by resolution of the Board, CLASS has contracted with Cutwater Investors Service Corporation to provide for the investment and management of the public funds of CLASS. Separate financial statements for CLASS may be obtained from CLASS' website at www.texasclass.com.

# **LOGIC**

The District invests in the Local Government Investment Cooperative (LOGIC), which is a local government investment pool organized in conformity with the Interlocal Cooperation Act, Chapter 791 of the Texas Government Code, and the Public Funds Investment Act, Chapter 2256 of the Texas Government Code. LOGIC's governing body is a five-member Board of Directors comprised of employees, officers, or elected officials of participant government entities or individuals who do not have a business relationship with LOGIC and are qualified to advise it. A maximum of two advisory board members represent the co-administrators of

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2023

LOGIC. The co-administrators of the day-to-day administration of LOGIC are First Southwest Company and J.P. Morgan Investment Management, Inc. LOGIC is rated at 'AAA' or equivalent rating from at least one nationally recognized rating agency and operates in a manner consistent with the SEC's Rule 2A7 of the Investment Company Act of 1940. LOGIC seeks to maintain a net asset value of \$1.00 per unit and is designated to be used for investment of funds which may be needed at any time.

# **B.** Capital Assets

A summary of changes in capital assets for governmental activities at year end is as follows:

Governmental Activities:	I	Beginning Balance*		Increases	(Dec	creases)		Ending Balance
Capital assets not being depreciated/amortized		Dalarice		ilici e a 3e 3	(Dec	oreases <sub>j</sub>	-	Dalarice
Land	\$	816.227	\$	_	\$	_	\$	816,227
Construction in Progress	Ψ	2,891,675	Ψ	7,394,488	Ψ	_	Ψ	10,286,163
Total capital assets not being depreciated/amortized		3,707,902		7,394,488		-		11,102,390
Capital assets being depreciated/amortized								
Buildings and improvements		99,904,004		50,000		-		99,954,004
Equipment		1,689,100		314,647		-		2,003,747
Vehicles		3,411,905		151,379		-		3,563,284
Right-to-use assets - equipment		433,996		-		-		433,996
Total capital assets being depreciated/amortized		105,439,005		516,026		-		105,955,031
Less accumulated depreciation/amortization for:								
Buildings and improvements		(48,695,930)		(2,222,566)		-		(50,918,496)
Equipment		(1,478,402)		(77,155)		-		(1,555,557)
Vehicles		(2,752,826)		(237,172)		-		(2,989,998)
Right-to-use assets - equipment		(138,925)		(139,868)		-		(278,793)
Total accumulated depreciation/amortization		(53,066,083)		(2,676,761)				(55,742,844)
Total capital assets being depreciated/amortized, net		52,372,922		(2,160,735)				50,212,187
Governmental Activities Capital Assets, Net	\$	56,080,824	\$	5,233,753	\$	-		61,314,577
*Beginning balances have been restated					Less ass	ociated debt		(107,017,227)
				Plus u	nspent bor	nd proceeds		50,172,057
				Plus net deferre	•	•		712,781
				Net Investm	•	•	\$	5,182,188

Depreciation/amortization was charged to governmental functions as follows:

		overnmental Activities
11	Instruction	\$ 1,207,764
12	Instructional resources/media services	196,173
13	Curriculum and staff development	18,268
21	Instructional leadership	4,565
23	School leadership	73,743
31	Guidance, counseling, and evaluation services	22,359
32	Social work services	37,517
33	Health services	45,420
34	Student (pupil) transportation	198,117
35	Food service	229,550
36	Extracurricular activities	352,377
41	General administration	72,343
51	Plant maintenance and operations	190,600
52	Security and monitoring services	23,450
53	Data processing services	 4,515
	Total Depreciation/Amortization Expense	\$ 2,676,761

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2023

# C. Long-Term Debt

The following is a summary of changes in the District's total governmental long-term liabilities for the year. In general, the District uses the debt service fund to liquidate governmental long-term liabilities.

Governmental Activities:	I	Beginning Balance		Additions	(I	Reductions)	Ending Balance		D	Amounts ue Within One Year
Bonds payable:								-		
Refunding Bonds, Series 2013	\$	709,994	\$	-	\$	(55,000)	\$ 654,994		\$	55,000
Refunding Bonds, Series 2014		1,510,000		-		(495,000)	1,015,000			505,000
Refunding Bonds, Series 2015		3,420,000		-		(2,970,000)	450,000			-
Maintenance Tax Notes, 2015		1,620,000		-		(185,000)	1,435,000			185,000
Refunding Bonds, Series 2016		7,945,000		-		(240,000)	7,705,000			240,000
Refunding Bonds, Series 2017		30,020,000		-		(1,305,000)	28,715,000			1,375,000
Refunding Bonds, Series 2018		1,885,000		-		(445,000)	1,440,000			470,000
Refunding Bonds, Series 2021		5,245,000		-		(195,000)	5,050,000			200,000
Building Bonds, Series 2023		-		49,340,000		(5,000)	49,335,000			4,750,000
Note Payable		-		239,245		(49,800)	189,445			45,763
Direct Borrowings/Placements										
Maintenance Tax Notes, 2022		7,673,000		-		(437,000)	7,236,000			447,000
Lease payable		298,901				(140,214)	158,687			120,141
		60,326,895		49,579,245		(6,522,014)	103,384,126	*		8,392,904
Other liabilities:										
Issuance premiums/discount		2,418,582		1,117,307		(544,236)	2,991,653	*		-
Accreted interest		603,235		38,213		-	641,448	*		-
Net pension liability		3,744,897		4,427,982		-	8,172,879			-
Net OPEB liability		7,686,333		<u>-</u>		(2,980,242)	4,706,091	_		
Total Governmental										
Activities	\$	74,779,942	\$	55,162,747	\$	(10,046,492)	\$ 119,896,197		\$	8,392,904
		Long-te	rm lia	bilities due in r	nore	than one year	\$ 111,503,293	=		
			*D	ebt associated	with	capital assets	\$ 107,017,227			

Long-term liabilities applicable to the District's governmental activities are not due and payable in the current period and, accordingly, are not reported as fund liabilities in the governmental funds. Interest on long-term debt is not accrued in governmental funds, but rather is recognized as an expenditure when due.

Current requirements for principal and interest expenditures are accounted for in the general fund and the debt service fund. These bonds were issued as refunding bonds, maintenance tax notes, and building bonds. The refunding bond interest rate on the Series 2013 bonds is 2.00% to 4.00%, Series 2014 bonds is 2.50% to 3.00%, Series 2015 bonds is 3.00% to 4.00%, Series 2016 bonds is 1.60% to 4.00%, Series 2017 bonds is 3.00% to 5.00%, Series 2018 bonds is 1.90% to 2.65%, and Series 2021 bonds is 0.150% to 1.80%. The Maintenance Tax Notes interest rate is 2.00% to 3.250%. The Series 2023 building bonds interest rate is 5.00%. Interest expense was \$1,712,877 for the year ended August 31, 2023.

# Cash Defeasance

On August 29, 2023, the District used available debt service fund cash to advance refund \$2,970,000 of outstanding 2015 Unlimited Tax Refunding Bonds, which had interest rates of 3.50% to 4.00% and were set to mature on February 15, 2036. The District deposited \$3,003,012 in an irrevocable trust with an escrow agent to provide funds for the future debt service payment of the refunded bonds. As a result, a portion of the 2015 Unlimited Tax Refunding Bonds is considered defeased, and the liability for those bonds has been removed from the statement of net position. The reacquisition price exceed the net carrying amount of the old debt by \$39,817 and had a present value savings of \$1,518,075.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2023

# **Building Bond Issuance**

In August 2023, the District issued \$49,340,000 of Unlimited Tax School Building Bonds, Series 2023 (the "Series 2023 Bonds"). Proceeds from the sale of these bonds will be used for the construction, acquisition, rehabilitation, renovation, expansion and equipment of school buildings in the District (including, but not limited to, a new agricultural science expo center, CTE additions for culinary arts and welding, and high school renovations to relocate junior ROTC and cosmetology programs to the CTE facility) and the purchase of the necessary sites for school buildings, and the costs of issuance of the bonds from the sale of the 2023 Bonds. The 2023 Bonds carry an interest rate of 5% and are set to mature in 2043.

The annual requirements to amortize debt issues outstanding at year end were as follows:

Fiscal	Bonds Payable					
Year Ended						Total
August 31		Principal		Interest	R	equirements
2024	\$	7,595,000	\$	3,582,023	\$	11,177,023
2025		4,610,000		3,270,728		7,880,728
2026		3,605,000		3,087,928		6,692,928
2027		3,361,328		3,340,072		6,701,400
2028		3,488,666		3,236,904		6,725,570
2029-2033		20,380,000		12,174,010		32,554,010
2034-2038		18,855,000		8,747,488		27,602,488
2039-2043		8,660,000		3,305,875		11,965,875
2044-2048		10,710,000		2,743,125		13,453,125
2049-2053		13,100,000		2,222,675		15,322,675
Totals	\$	94,364,994	\$	45,710,828	\$	140,075,822

Fiscal	Mainte	eries 2015		
Year Ended				Total
August 31	Principal	Interest	Re	quirements
2024	\$ 185,000	\$ 40,375	\$	225,375
2025	195,000	35,138		230,138
2026	200,000	29,213		229,213
2027	205,000	23,138		228,138
2028	210,000	16,913		226,913
2029-2032	 440,000	 14,194		454,194
Totals	\$ 1.435.000	\$ 158.970	\$	1.593.970

# **Note Payable**

The District entered into an agreement with Huntington National Bank for the purchase of a scoreboard in the amount of \$239,245 to be paid over the next five years with annual payments of \$49,800. It is interest free financing and the imputed interest would be immaterial and is not recognized by the District. The first payment was paid on December 13, 2022.

Fiscal	Note Payable							
Year Ended						Total		
August 31	F	Principal		Interest	Red	quirements		
2024	\$	45,763	\$	4,037	\$	49,800		
2025		46,959		2,841		49,800		
2026		47,888		1,912		49,800		
2027		48,835		965		49,800		
Totals	\$	189,445	\$	9,755	\$	149,400		

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2023

# **Direct Borrowing and Placement**

The Maintenance Tax Note, Series 2022 principal and interest payments are accounted for in the general fund. The interest rate is 2.20%. Interest expense was \$168,806 for the year ended August 31, 2023.

The debt service requirements for direct borrowings/private placements were as follows:

Fiscal	Maintenance Tax Notes - Series 2022						
Year Ended						Total	
August 31		Principal		Interest	Re	quirements	
2024	\$	447,000	\$	159,192	\$	606,192	
2025		456,000		149,358		605,358	
2026		466,000		139,326		605,326	
2027		477,000		129,074		606,074	
2028		487,000		118,580		605,580	
2029-2033		2,602,000		427,328		3,029,328	
2034-2038		2,301,000		121,561		2,422,561	
Totals	\$	7,236,000	\$	1,244,419	\$	8,480,419	

#### Leases

During the prior fiscal years, the District entered into copier and printer lease agreements with three to four year terms. As of August 31, 2023, the value of the lease liability was \$158,687. The District is required to make monthly principal and interest payments ranging from \$2,474 to \$9,870. An estimated borrowing rate of 3.50% was used by the District. The value of the right-to-use lease assets as of the end of the current fiscal year was \$433,996 and had accumulated amortization of \$278,793.

The future principal and interest payments as of August 31, 2023 were as follows:

Fiscal			Leases			
Year Ended				Total		
August 31	F	rincipal		Interest	Red	quirements
2024	\$	120,141	\$	3,248	\$	123,389
2025		38,546		172		38,718
Totals	\$	158,687	\$	3,420	\$	162,107

#### D. Interfund Transactions

The interfund balances and transfers at August 31, 2023 were as follows:

Due To Fund	Due From Fund		<b>A</b> mount	Reason	
General Fund	Nonmajor Governmental Funds		\$ 1,037,426	Short-term loans	
General Fund	American Rescue Plan ESSER III		 2,020,731	Short-term loans	
		Total	\$ 3,058,157		

Amounts recorded as due/to from are considered to be temporary loans and will be repaid during the following year.

Transfers From	Transfers To	Amount	Reason	
General Fund	American Rescue Plan ESSER III	\$ 117,864	To supplement revenue	

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2023

#### IV. OTHER INFORMATION

#### A. Risk Management

The District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; and natural disasters for which the District purchases commercial insurance. The District has not significantly reduced insurance coverage or had settlements which exceeded coverage amounts for the past three years.

# **B.** Contingent Liabilities

#### **Grants**

Amounts received or receivable from granting agencies are subject to audit and adjustment by grantor agencies, principally the federal government. Any disallowed claims, including amounts already collected, may constitute a liability of the applicable funds. The amount of expenditures which may be disallowed by the grantor cannot be determined at this time although the District expects such amounts, if any, to be immaterial.

#### Claims and Judgments

Liabilities are reported when it is probable that a loss has occurred and the amount of the loss can be reasonably estimated. Liabilities include an amount for claims that have been incurred but not reported. Claim liabilities are calculated considering the effects of inflation, recent claim settlement trends including frequency and amount of payouts, and other economic and social factors. No claim liabilities are reported at year end.

#### Arbitrage

The Tax Reform Act of 1986 instituted certain arbitrage restrictions consisting of complex regulations with respect to issuance of tax-exempt bonds after August 31, 1986. Arbitrage regulations deal with the investment of tax-exempt bond proceeds at an interest yield greater than the interest yield paid to bondholders. Generally, all interest paid to bondholders can be retroactively rendered taxable if applicable rebates are not reported and paid to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) at least every five years for applicable bond issues. Accordingly, there is the risk that if such calculations are not performed, or not performed correctly, it could result in a substantial liability to the District. The District has engaged an arbitrage consultant to perform the calculations in accordance with IRS rules and regulations.

#### C. Defined Benefit Pension Plan

#### **Teacher Retirement System**

# Plan Description

The District participates in a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension that has a special funding situation. The plan is administered by TRS. It is a defined benefit pension plan established and administered in accordance with the Texas Constitution, Article XVI, Section 67 and Texas Government Code, Title 8, Subtitle C. The pension trust fund is a qualified pension trust under Section 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Code. The Texas Legislature establishes benefits and contribution rates within the guidelines of the Texas Constitution. TRS's Board of Trustees does not have the authority to establish or amend benefit terms.

All employees of public, state-supported educational institutions in Texas who are employed for one-half or more of the standard workload and who are not exempted from membership under Texas Government Code, Title 8, Section 822.002 are covered by TRS.

#### Pension Plan Fiduciary Net Position

Detailed information about TRS's fiduciary net position is available in a separately issued Annual Comprehensive Financial Report that includes financial statements and Required Supplementary Information. That report may be obtained on the Internet at <a href="https://www.trs.texas.gov/Pages/aboutpublications.aspx">https://www.trs.texas.gov/Pages/aboutpublications.aspx</a>; by writing to TRS at 1000 Red River Street, Austin, TX, 78701-2698; or by calling (512)-542-6592.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS. Continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2023

# Benefits Provided

TRS provides service and disability retirement, as well as death and survivor benefits, to eligible employees (and their beneficiaries) of public and higher education in the State. The pension formula is calculated using 2.3% (multiplier) times the average of the five highest annual creditable salaries times years of credited service to arrive at the annual standard annuity except for members who are grandfathered, the three highest annual salaries are used. The normal service retirement is at age 65 with 5 years of credited service or when the sum of the member's age and years of credited service equals 80 or more years. Early retirement is at age 55 with 5 years of service credit or earlier than 55 with 30 years of service credit. There are additional provisions for early retirement if the sum of the member's age and years of service credit total at least 80, but the member is less than age 60 or 62 depending on date of employment, or if the member was grandfathered in under a previous rule. There are no automatic postemployment benefit changes, including automatic cost-of-living adjustments (COLAs). Ad hoc postemployment benefit changes, including ad hoc COLAs can be granted by the Texas Legislature as noted in the Plan Description above.

Texas Government Code section 821.006 prohibits benefit improvements if, as a result of the particular action, the time required to amortize TRS' unfunded actuarial liabilities would be increased to a period that exceeds 31 years or, if the amortization period already exceeds 31 years, the period would be increased by such action. Actuarial implications of the funding provided in the manner are determined by TRS's actuary.

#### Contributions

Contribution requirements are established or amended pursuant to Article 16, section 67 of the Texas Constitution which requires the Texas Legislature to establish a member contribution rate of not less than 6% of the member's annual compensation and a state contribution rate of not less than 6% and not more than 10% of the aggregate annual compensation paid to members of TRS during the fiscal year.

Employee contribution rates are set in state statute, Texas Government Code 825.402. Senate Bill 12 of the 86th Texas Legislature amended Texas Government Code 825.402 for member contributions and increased employee and employer contribution rates for fiscal years 2020 through 2025.

Contin	Julion Rales
	Public Education
State	Employer

		<b>Public Education</b>	Active
Fiscal Year	State	Employer	Employee
2022	7.75%	1.70%	8.00%
2023	8.00%	1.80%	8.00%
2024	8.25%	1.90%	8.25%
2025	8.25%	2.00%	8.25%

Note: SB12 of the 86th Legislature establishes contribution rates through FY 2025. Additional rate changes will require Legislative action.

(	ontribution	Rates
	, OHILI IDULIOI	i ivaico

	2022	2023
Member	8.00%	8.00%
NECE (State)	7.75%	8.00%
Employer	7.75%	7.75%
	Moasuromont	Fiscal Voor

	Measurement	Fiscal Year
	Year (2022)	(2023)
Employer contributions	\$ 642,390	\$ 762,413
Member contributions	\$ 1,546,261	\$ 1,662,701
NECE on-behalf contributions	\$ 1,100,400	\$ 1,218,420

Contributors to TRS include members, employers, and the State as the only nonemployer contributing entity (NECE). The State is the employer for senior colleges, medical schools, and state agencies, including TRS. In each respective role, the State contributes to TRS in accordance with state statutes and the General Appropriations Act (GAA).

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS. Continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2023

> As the NECE for public education and junior colleges, the State contributes to TRS an amount equal to the current employer contribution rate times the aggregate annual compensation of all participating members of TRS during that fiscal year reduced by the amounts described below, which are paid by the employers. Employers (public school, junior college, other entities, or the State as the employer for senior universities and medical schools) are required to pay the employer contribution rate in the following instances:

- On the portion of the member's salary that exceeds the statutory minimum for members entitled to the statutory minimum under Section 21.402 of the Texas Education Code.
- During a new member's first 90 days of employment.
- When any part or all of an employee's salary is paid by federal funding sources, a privately sponsored source, from noneducational, and general or local funds.
- When the employing district is a public or charter school, the employer shall contribute to TRS an amount egual to 50% of the state contribution rate for certain instructional or administrative employees and 100% of the state contribution rate for all other employees.

In addition to the employer contributions listed above, there are two additional surcharges to which an employer is subject:

- When employing a retiree of the TRS, the employer shall pay both the member contribution and the state contribution as an employment after retirement surcharge.
- All public schools, charter schools, and regional educational service centers must contribute 1.7% of the member's salary beginning in the fiscal year 2022, gradually increasing to 2% in fiscal year 2025.

#### **Actuarial Assumptions**

The total pension liability (TPL) in the August 31, 2021, rolled forward to a measurement date of August 31, 2022, actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions:

Valuation date August 31, 2021 rolled forward to August 31, 2022 Actuarial cost method Asset valuation method Single discount rate Long-term expected rate Municipal bond rate as of August 2020

3.91% - The source for the rate is the Fixed Income Market Data/Yield Curve/Data Municipal Bonds with 20 years to maturity that include only federally tax-exempt municipal bonds as reported in Fidelity Index's "20-Year

Individual entry age normal Fair value

> 7.00% 7.00%

Municipal GO AA Index."

Inflation 2.30% 2.95% to 8.95%, including inflation Salary increases Benefit changes during the year Ad hoc postemployment benefit changes None

The actuarial methods and assumptions used in the determination of the TPL are the same assumptions used in the actuarial valuation as of August 31, 2021. For a full description of these assumptions, please see the TRS actuarial valuation report dated November 12, 2021.

#### Discount Rate

A single discount rate of 7.00% was used to measure the TPL. The single discount rate was based on the expected rate of return on plan investments of 7.00%. The projection of cash flows used to determine this single discount rate assumed that contributions from active members, employers, and the NECE will be made at the rates set by the Legislature during the 2019 session. It is assumed that future employer and state contributions will be 8.50% of payroll in fiscal year 2020 gradually increasing to 9.55% of payroll over the next several years. This includes all employer and state contributions for active and rehired retirees.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2023

Based on those assumptions, TRS' fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on TRS investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the TPL.

The long-term expected rate of return on TRS investments is 7.00%. The long-term expected rate of return on TRS investments was determined using a building-block method in which best-estimates ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of pension plan investment expense and inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation.

Best estimates of geometric real rates of return for each major asset class included in TRS' target asset allocation as of August 31, 2022 are summarized below:

# Teacher Retirement System of Texas Asset Allocation and Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Returns August 31, 2022

		Long-Term Expected	Expected Contributions
		Geometric	to Long-Term
7	Гarget	Real Rate of	Portfolio
	cation (1)	Return (2)	Returns
Global Equity			
U.S.	18.00%	4.60%	1.12%
Non-U.S. Developed	13.00%	4.90%	0.90%
Emerging Markets	9.00%	5.40%	0.75%
Private Equity*	14.00%	7.70%	1.55%
Stable Value			
Government Bonds	16.00%	1.00%	0.22%
Absolute Value	-	3.70%	-
Stable Value Hedge Funds	5.00%	3.40%	0.18%
Real Return			
Real Estate 1	15.00%	4.10%	0.94%
Energy, Natural Resources, and Infrastructure	6.00%	5.10%	0.37%
Commodities	-	3.60%	-
Risk Parity			
Risk Parity	8.00%	4.60%	0.43%
Asset Allocation Leverage			
Cash	2.00%	3.00%	0.01%
Asset Allocation Leverage -	-6.00%	3.60%	-0.05%
Inflation Expectation			2.70%
Volatility Drag (3)			-0.91%
Total 1	00.00%	54.70%	8.21%

<sup>\*</sup>Absolute Return includes Credit Sensitive Investments.

- (1) Target allocations are based on the FY 2022 policy model.
- (2) Capital Market Assumptions come from Aon Hewitt (as of 08/31/2022).
- (3) The volatility drag results from the conversion between arithmetic and geometric mean returns.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2023

#### Discount Rate Sensitivity Analysis

The following table shows the impact of the net pension liability (NPL) of TRS using the discount rate of 7% and what the NPL would be if it was calculated using a discount rate that is 1% lower (6%) or 1% higher (8%) than the current year rate:

	1%	Decrease in		Current	1%	Increase in
	Di	scount Rate	Dis	scount Rate	Dis	scount Rate
		(6%)		(7%)		(8%)
District's proportionate share of the NPL	\$	12,713,900	\$	8,172,879	\$	4,492,167

# Pension Liability, Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions

At the measurement year ended August 31, 2022, the District reported a liability of \$8,172,879 for its proportionate share of the TRS's NPL. This liability reflects a reduction for State pension support provided to the District. The amount recognized by the District as its proportionate share of the NPL, the related State support, and the total portion of the NPL that was associated with the District were as follows:

District's proportionate share of the collective net pension liability	\$ 8,172,879
State's proportionate share that is associated with the District	13,999,947
Total	\$ 22,172,826

The NPL was measured as of August 31, 2021 and rolled forward to August 31, 2022 and the TPL used to calculate the NPL was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The District's proportion of the NPL was based on the District's contributions to TRS relative to the contributions of all employers to TRS for the period September 1, 2021 through August 31, 2022.

At the measurement year ended August 31, 2022, the District's proportion of the collective NPL was 0.0137666%, which was a decrease of 0.0009386% from its proportion measured as of August 31, 2021.

# Changes Since the Prior Actuarial Valuation

The actuarial assumptions and methods have been modified since the determination of the prior year's NPL. These new assumptions were adopted in conjunction with an actuarial experience study. The primary assumption change was the lowering of the single discount rate from 7.25% to 7.00%.

For the measurement year ended August 31, 2022, the District recognized pension expense of \$1,338,236 and revenue of \$1,338,236 for support provided by the State.

At the measurement year ended August 31, 2022, the District reported its proportionate share of the TRS's deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

Outflows		Deferred Inflows Resources
\$ 118,506	\$	(178,184)
1,522,873		(379,543)
807,454		-
877,149		(842,483)
 762,413		<u>-</u>
\$ 4,088,395	\$	(1,400,210)
• of \$	1,522,873 807,454 877,149 762,413	Outflows of Resources \$ 118,506 1,522,873 807,454  877,149 762,413

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2023

The net amounts of the District's balances of deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

Fiscal Year Ended	Pension
August 31	Expense
2024	\$ 462,018
2025	209,265
2026	84,354
2027	1,034,273
2028	135,862
Thereafter	-
Total	\$ 1,925,772

#### D. Defined Other Postemployment Benefits Plan

## Plan Description

The District participates in TRS-Care. It is a multiple-employer, cost-sharing defined benefit OPEB plan with a special funding situation. TRS-Care was established in 1986 by the Texas Legislature.

The TRS Board of Trustees (the "Board") administers the TRS-Care program and the related fund in accordance with Texas insurance Code Chapter 1575. The Board is granted the authority to establish basic and optional group insurance coverage for participants, as well as to amend benefit terms as needed under Chapter 1575.052. The Board may adopt rules, plans, procedures, and orders reasonably necessary to administer the program, including minimum benefits and financing standards.

#### **OPEB Plan Fiduciary Net Position**

Detailed information about the TRS-Care's fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued TRS Annual Comprehensive Financial Report that includes financial statements and Required Supplementary Information. That report may be obtained on the Internet at <a href="https://www.trs.texas.gov/Pages/about publications.aspx">https://www.trs.texas.gov/Pages/about publications.aspx</a>; by writing to TRS at 1000 Red River Street, Austin, TX, 78701-2698; or by calling (512) 542-6592.

Components of the net OPEB liability of TRS-Care as of August 31, 2022 are as follows:

Total OPEB liability	\$ 27,061,942,520
Less: plan fiduciary net position	 (3,117,937,218)
Net OPEB Liability	\$ 23,944,005,302
Net position as a percentage of total OPEB liability	11.52%

## Benefits Provided

TRS-Care provides a basic health insurance coverage to retirees from public schools, charter schools, regional education service centers, and other educational districts who are members of TRS. Optional dependent coverage is available for an additional fee.

Eligible non-Medicare retirees and their dependents may enroll in TRS-Care Standard, a high-deductible health plan. Eligible Medicare retirees and their dependents may enroll in the TRS-Care Medicare Advantage medical plan and the TRS-Care Medicare Rx prescription drug plan. To qualify for TRS-Care coverage, a retiree must have at least 10 years of service credit in TRS. There are no automatic postemployment benefit changes, including automatic COLAs.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2023

The premium rates for retirees are reflected in the following table:

#### **TRS-Care Plan Premium Rates**

	 Medicare	Nor	n-Medicare
Retiree or surviving spouse	\$ 135	\$	200
Retiree and spouse	\$ 529	\$	689
Retiree or surviving spouse			
and children	\$ 468	\$	408
Retiree and family	\$ 1,020	\$	999

#### Contributions

Contribution rates for TRS-Care are established in state statute by the Texas Legislature and there is no continuing obligation to provide benefits beyond each fiscal year. TRS-Care is currently funded on a pay-as-you-go basis and is subject to change based on available funding. Funding for TRS-Care is provided by retiree premium contributions and contributions from the State, active employees, and school districts based upon public school district payroll. The TRS Board does not have the authority to set or amend contribution rates.

Texas Insurance Code, section 1575.202 establishes the State's contribution rate, which is 1.25% of the employee's salary. Section 1575.203 establishes the active employee's rate, which is 0.75% of pay. Section 1575.204 establishes an employer contribution rate of not less than 0.25% or not more than 0.75% of the salary of each active employee of the public or charter school. The actual employer contribution rate is prescribed by the Legislature in the GAA.

The following table shows contribution rates to TRS-Care by type of contributor:

Co	ntrib	ution	Rates
~~		uuvii	- Nates

	Fiscal Year		
	2022	2023	
Active employee	0.65%	0.65%	
NECE (State)	1.25%	1.25%	
Employers	0.75%	0.75%	
Federal/private funding remitted by employers	1.25%	1.25%	

	Measurement Year (2022)		Fiscal Year (2023)	
Employer contributions	\$	161,431	\$	185,375
Member contributions	\$	51,756	\$	67,547
NECE on-behalf contributions	\$	196,920	\$	259,797

In addition to the employer contributions listed above, there is an additional surcharge to which all TRS employers are subject (regardless of whether or not they participate in TRS-Care). When hiring a TRS retiree, employers are required to pay TRS-Care a monthly surcharge of \$535 per retiree.

TRS-Care received supplemental appropriations from the State as the NECE in the amount of \$83 million in fiscal year 2022 from the Federal Rescue Plan to help defray COVID-19 related healthcare costs during fiscal year 2022.

# **Actuarial Assumptions**

The valuation was performed as of August 31, 2021. Update procedures were used to roll forward the total OPEB liability to August 31, 2022.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2023

The actuarial valuation of the OPEB plan offered through TRS-Care is similar to the actuarial valuation performed for TRS pension plan, except that the OPEB valuation is more complex. The demographic assumptions were developed in the experience study performed for TRS for the period ending August 31, 2017.

The following assumptions and other inputs used for members of TRS-Care are based on an established pattern of practice and are identical to the assumptions used in the August 31, 2021 TRS pension actuarial valuation that was rolled forward to August 31, 2022:

Rates of Mortality
 Rates of Disability Incidence

Rates of Retirement
 General Inflation
 Rates of Termination
 Wage Inflation

The active mortality rates were based on 90% of the RP-2014 Employee Mortality Tables for males and females. The post-retirement mortality rates for healthy lives were based on the 2018 TRS of Texas Healthy Pensioner Mortality Tables, with full generational projection using the ultimate improvement rates from the mortality projection scale MP-2018.

Additional actuarial methods and assumptions are as follows:

Valuation date August 31, 2021 rolled forward to August 31, 2022

Actuarial cost method Individual entry age normal

Inflation 2.30%

Discount rate 3.91% as of August 31, 2022
Aging factors Based on plan-specific experience

Expenses Third-party administrative expenses related to the delivery of healthcare benefits are

included in the age-adjusted claims costs

Projected salary increases 3.05% to 9.05%, including inflation

Healthcare trend rates Medical trend rates: 8.25% (Medicare retirees) and 7.25% (non-Medicare retirees)

prescription drug trend rate: 8.25%

Election rates Normal retirement: 65% participation prior to age 65 and 40% participation after age

65. 25% of pre-65 retirees are assumed to discontinue coverage at age 65

Ad hoc postemployment benefit changes None

## Discount Rate

A single discount rate of 3.91% was used to measure the total OPEB liability. There was an increase of 1.96% in the discount rate since the previous year. Because TRS-Care is essentially a "pay-as-you-go" plan, the single discount rate is equal to the prevailing municipal bond rate. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions from active members and those of the contributing employers and the NECE are made at the statutorily required rates. Based on those assumptions, TRS-Care's fiduciary net position was projected to not be able to make all future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the municipal bond rate was used for the long-term rate of return and was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total OPEB liability.

The source of the municipal bond rate is the Fidelity "20-year Municipal GO AA Index" as of August 31, 2021 using the Fixed Income Market Data/Yield Curve/Data Municipal bonds with 20 years to maturity that include only federally tax-exempt municipal bonds.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2023

#### Sensitivity of the Net OPEB Liability

Discount Rate Sensitivity Analysis – The following schedule shows the impact of the net OPEB liability if the discount rate used was 1% lower than and 1% higher than the discount rate that was used (3.91%) in measuring the net OPEB liability:

	1%	Decrease in	Cu	rrent Single	1% Increase in		
	Di	scount Rate	Di	scount Rate	Discount Rate (4.91%)		
		(2.91%)		(3.91%)			
District's proportionate share of net OPEB liability	\$	5,548,855	\$	4,706,091	\$	4,023,344	

Healthcare Cost Trend Rates Sensitivity Analysis – The following presents the net OPEB liability of TRS-Care using the assumed healthcare cost trend rate, as well as what the net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a trend rate that is 1% less than or 1% higher than the assumed healthcare cost trend rate:

	1%	1% Decrease in		Current	1% Increase in			
	Healthcare Cost Trend Rate		Hea	Ithcare Cost	Cost Healthcare Co			
			T	rend Rate	T	rend Rate		
District's proportionate share of net OPEB liability	\$	3,877,840	\$	4,706,091	\$	5,779,812		

#### OPEB Liability, OPEB Expense, and Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB

At the measurement year ended August 31, 2022, the District reported a liability of \$4,706,091 for its proportionate share of TRS-Care's net OPEB liability. This liability reflects a reduction for State OPEB support provided to the District. The amount recognized by the District as its proportionate share of the net OPEB liability, the related State support, and the total portion of the net OPEB liability that was associated with the District were as follows:

District's proportionate share of the collective net OPEB liability	\$ 4,706,091
State's proportionate share that is associated with the District	 5,740,692
Total	\$ 10,446,783

The net OPEB liability was measured as of August 31, 2021 and rolled forward to August 31, 2022 and the total OPEB liability used to calculate the net OPEB liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The District's proportion of the net OPEB liability was based on the District's contributions to TRS-Care relative to the contributions of all employers to TRS-Care for the period September 1, 2021 through August 31, 2022.

At the measurement year ended August 31, 2022, the employer's proportion of the collective net OPEB liability was 0.0196546%, compared to 0.0199260% as of August 31, 2021.

#### Changes Since the Prior Actuarial Valuation

The following were changes to the actuarial assumptions or other inputs that affected measurement of the total OPEB liability since the prior measurement period:

The rate was changed from 1.95% as of August 31, 2021 to 3.91% as of August 31, 2022. This change
decreased the total OPEB liability.

There were no changes in benefit terms since the prior measurement date.

The amount of OPEB expense recognized by the District in the reporting period was \$488,139.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2023

At the measurement year ended August 31, 2022, the District reported its proportionate share of TRS-Care's deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

	Deferred		Deferred			
	(	Outflows	Inflows			
	of	Resources	of	Resources		
Differences between expected and actual economic experience	\$	261,642	\$	(3,920,596)		
Changes in actuarial assumptions		716,831		(3,269,512)		
Differences between projected and actual investment earnings		14,018		-		
Changes in proportion and difference between the District's						
contributions and the proportionate share of contributions		837,706		(266,209)		
Contributions paid to TRS subsequent to the measurement date		185,375				
Total	\$	2,015,572	\$	(7,456,317)		

The net amounts of the District's balances of deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to OPEB will be recognized in OPEB expense as follows:

Fiscal Year Ended August 31	OPEB Expense	
2024	\$ (1,024,261	)
2025	(1,024,210	)
2026	(824,642	)
2027	(554,459	)
2028	(745,401	)
Thereafter	(1,453,147	)
Total	\$ (5,626,120	)

For the year ended August 31, 2023, the District recognized OPEB expense of \$814,650 and revenue of \$814,650 for support provided by the State.

### Medicare Part D Subsidies

The Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003, which was effective January 1, 2006, established prescription drug coverage for Medicare beneficiaries known as Medicare Part D. One of the provisions of Medicare Part D allows for TRS-Care to receive retiree drug subsidy payments from the federal government to offset certain prescription drug expenditures for eligible TRS-Care participants. For the fiscal years ended August 31, 2023, 2022, and 2021, the subsidy payments received by TRS-Care on behalf of the District were \$112,698, \$81,974, and \$83,099, respectively.

#### E. Employee Health Care Coverage

During the year ended August 31, 2023, employees of the District were covered by a health insurance plan (the "Plan"). The District paid premiums of \$225 per month per employee to the Plan. Employees, at their option, authorized payroll withholdings to pay premiums for dependents. All premiums were paid to a licensed insurer. The Plan was authorized by Article 3.51-2, Texas Insurance Code and was documented by contractual agreement. The contract between the District and the insurer is renewable September 1, 2023 and terms of coverage and premiums costs are included in the contractual provisions.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2023

#### F. Workers' Compensation

During the year ended August 31, 2023, the District met its statutory workers' compensation obligations through participation in the TASB Risk Management Fund (the "Fund"). The Fund was created and is operated under the provisions of the Interlocal Cooperative Act, Chapter 791 of the Texas Government Code. The Fund's Workers' Compensation Program is authorized by Chapter 504, Texas Labor Code. All members participating in the Fund execute interlocal agreements that define the responsibilities of the parties. The Fund provides statutory workers' compensation benefits to its members' injured employees.

The Fund and its members are protected against higher-than-expected claims costs through the purchase of stop-loss coverage for any claim in excess of the Fund's self-insured retention of \$2 million. The Fund uses the services of an independent actuary to determine reserve adequacy and fully funds those reserves. As of August 31, 2022, the Fund carries a discount reserve of \$50,647,775 for future development on reported claims and claims that have been incurred but not yet reported. For the year ended August 31, 2023, the Fund anticipated no additional liability to members beyond their contractual obligation for payment of contributions.

The Fund engages the services of an independent auditor to conduct a financial audit after the close of each year on August 31. The audit is accepted by the Fund's Board of Trustees in February of the following year. The Fund's audited financial statements as of August 31, 2022 are available on the TASB Risk Management Fund website and have been filed with the Texas Department of Insurance in Austin.

#### G. Unemployment Compensation

During the year ended August 31, 2023, the District provided unemployment compensation coverage to its employees through participation in the TASB Risk Management Fund (the "Fund"). The Fund was created and is operated under the provisions of the Interlocal Cooperation Act, Chapter 791 of the Texas Government Code. The Fund's Unemployment Compensation Program is authorized by Section 22.005 of the Texas Education Code and Chapter 172 of the Texas Local Government Code. All members participating in the Fund execute interlocal agreements that define the responsibilities of the parties.

The Fund meets its quarterly obligation to the Texas Workforce Commission. Expenses are accrued monthly until the quarterly payment has been made. Expenses can be reasonably estimated; therefore, there is no need for specific or aggregate stop-loss coverage for the unemployment compensation pool. For the year ended August 31, 2023, the Fund anticipates that the District has no additional liability beyond the contractual obligation or payment of contribution.

The Fund engages the services of an independent auditor to conduct a financial audit after the close of each plan year on August 31. The audit is accepted by the Fund's Board of Trustees in February of the following year. The Fund's audited financial statements as of August 31, 2022 are available at the TASB Risk Management Fund website and have been filed with the Texas Department of Insurance in Austin.

#### H. Tax Abatements

The District has entered into a property tax abatement (the "Agreement") with a food manufacturing company (the "Company") for a limitation on appraised value of property for school district maintenance and operation (M&O) taxes pursuant to Chapter 313 of the Texas Tax Code, the Texas Economic Development Act (the "Act") as of December 10, 2012. The original Agreement has been amended several times, with the most recent effective as of March 20, 2017.

Under the Act, a taxpayer agrees to build or install property and create jobs in exchange for a 10-year limitation on the taxable property value for school district M&O tax purposes. The minimum value varies by school district.

The District has granted the Company a tax limitation of \$20,000,000 for the period beginning January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2022. In order to be eligible to receive the limitation, the Company must have completed a qualified investment of \$50,000,000 during the time period beginning December 10, 2012 and ending December 31, 2014. The qualified investment consists of a new canned food manufacturing plant in Waller County. Additionally, the Company must have created and maintained, subject to the provisions of Section 313.021 of the Texas Tax Code, new qualifying jobs as required by the Act and pay an average weekly wage of at least \$1,079 for all qualifying jobs created.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2023

In order for the Company to receive and maintain the tax limitation, the Company must:

- Provide payments to the District sufficient to protect the future revenues through payment of revenue offsets;
- Provide payments to the District that protect the District from the payment of extraordinary education-related expenses related to the project;
- · Provide such supplemental payments;
- Create and maintain a viable presence on or with the qualified property beginning January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2025.

For the fiscal year ended August 31, 2023, the District abated property taxes totaling \$262,820 under the Agreement.

### I. Restatement of Net Position

During the fiscal year, the District restated beginning net position for capital assets - construction in progress balance.

	G	overnmental
		Activities
Beginning net position - as reported	\$	2,329,501
Construction in progress		780,939
Beginning net position - as restated	\$	3,110,440

Required Supplementary Information  Required Supplementary Information includes financial information and disclosures required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board but not considered a part of the basic financial statements.

GENERAL FUND BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2023

Data			1		2		3		Variance with Final Budget
Control			Budgete	d A	mounts				Positive
Codes	_		Original		Final	_	Actual	_	(Negative)
5700 5800	REVENUES: Local and Intermediate Sources State Program Revenues	\$	25,245,873 5,975,452	\$	25,305,873 5,975,452	\$	28,256,363 3,013,059	\$	2,950,490 (2,962,393)
5900	Federal Program Revenues		426,000		426,000		800,204		374,204
5020	Total Revenues		31,647,325	_	31,707,325		32,069,626	_	362,301
	EXPENDITURES: Current:								
	Instruction and Instructional Related Services:								
0011	Instruction		17,820,419		16,999,259		16,526,687		472,572
0012	Instructional Resources and Media Services		219,355		222,755		156,512		66,243
0013	Curriculum and Instructional Staff Development	_	883,679	_	1,059,709	_	987,086	_	72,623
	Total Instruction and Instr. Related Services	_	18,923,453	-	18,281,723	_	17,670,285	_	611,438
	Instructional and School Leadership:								
0021	Instructional Leadership		701,147		704,647		648,542		56,105
0023	School Leadership		1,872,948		1,872,948		1,743,640		129,308
	Total Instructional and School Leadership	_	2,574,095	_	2,577,595		2,392,182		185,413
	Student Support Services:								
0031	Guidance, Counseling, and Evaluation Services		816,864		816,864		797,160		19,704
0032	Social Work Services		185,727		180,627		156,868		23,759
0033	Health Services		329,483		329,483		291,015		38,468
0034	Student Transportation		1,737,584		1,737,584		1,476,932		260,652
0035	Food Services		500		500				500
0036	Extracurricular Activities		1,382,972		1,432,422		1,582,471	*	(150,049)
	Total Student Support Services		4,453,130		4,497,480		4,304,446		193,034
	Administrative Support Services:								
0041	General Administration		1,732,633		1,768,907		1,721,819		47,088
	Total Administrative Support Services	-	1,732,633	-	1,768,907	_	1,721,819	-	47,088
	.,	_		-		_		-	
0054	Support Services:		0.700.740		0.074.750		0.770.004		1 105 500
0051 0052	Facilities Maintenance and Operations		9,706,718		9,971,750		8,776,224		1,195,526
0052	Security and Monitoring Services Data Processing Services		362,116 685,186		430,416 680,912		411,607 634,945		18,809 45,967
0055	Total Support Services	-	10,754,020	-	11,083,078	_	9,822,776	_	1,260,302
	Total Support Scivicos	-	10,701,020	-	11,000,070	-	0,022,770	-	1,200,002
	Ancillary Services:								
0061	Community Services	_	10,600	_	19,500	_	13,253	_	6,247
	Total Ancillary Services	-	10,600	-	19,500	_	13,253	-	6,247
	Debt Service:								
0071	Principal on Long-Term Debt		1,078,726		919,382		812,014		107,368
0072	Interest on Long-Term Debt				223,144		221,262		1,882
0073	Bond Issuance Costs and Fees	_			1,350		750		600
	Total Debt Service	_	1,078,726	-	1,143,876		1,034,026	_	109,850
0099	Other Intergovernmental Charges		403,656		486,651		486,650		1
5555	Total Intergovernmental Charges	-	403,656	-	486,651	_	486,650	_	1
		-		-		_		-	
6030	Total Expenditures	_	39,930,313	-	39,858,810	_	37,445,437	_	2,413,373

EXHIBIT G-1 Page 2 of 2

GENERAL FUND BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2023

Data Control Codes	-	_	1 Budgete Original	d Aı	2 mounts Final	_	3 Actual		/ariance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
1100	Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under)								
1100	Expenditures	\$_	(8,282,988)	\$_	(8,151,485)	\$_	(5,375,811)	\$_	2,775,674
	Other Financing Sources (Uses):								
7914	Loan Proceeds - Gov. Fund Types						239,245		239,245
8911	Operating Transfers Out						(117,864)		(117,864)
7080	Total Other Financing Sources and (Uses)	_		_		_	121,381		121,381
1200	Net Change in Fund Balance		(8,282,988)	_	(8,151,485)		(5,254,430)		2,897,055
0100	Fund Balance - Beginning		20,557,720		20,557,720		20,557,720		
3000	Fund Balance - Ending	\$_	12,274,732	\$	12,406,235	\$	15,303,290	\$_	2,897,055

## **Notes to Required Supplementary Information:**

<sup>1.</sup> Annual budgets are adopted on a basis consistent with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP).

<sup>\*2.</sup> Expenditures exceeded appropriations at the legal level of control.

SCHEDULE OF THE DISTRICT'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF THE NET PENSION LIABILITY TEACHER RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF TEXAS (TRS) FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2023

	Measurement Year *						
		2022	2021	2020	2019		
District's proportion of the net pension liability (asset)		0.0137666%	0.0147052%	0.0119911%	0.0131901%		
District's proportionate share of the net pension liability (asset)	\$	8,172,879 \$	3,744,897 \$	6,422,201 \$	6,856,606		
State's proportionate share of the net pension liability (asset) associated with the District Total	\$_ _	13,999,947 22,172,826 \$_	5,960,916 9,705,813 \$_	13,625,370 20,047,571 \$_	12,455,632 19,312,238		
District's covered payroll**	\$	19,328,266 \$	18,564,577 \$	17,515,113 \$	16,319,256		
District's proportionate share of the net pension liability (asset) as a percentage of its covered payroll		42.28%	20.17%	36.67%	42.02%		
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability		75.62%	88.79%	75.54%	75.24%		

<sup>\*</sup> Only nine years' worth of information is currently available.

## **Notes to Required Supplementary Information:**

## Changes in Assumptions:

The discount rate changed from 7.25% as of August 31, 2021 to 7.00% as of August 31, 2022.

## Changes in Benefits:

There were no changes of benefit terms that affected measurement of the total pension liability during the measurement period.

<sup>\*\*</sup> As of the measurement date.

Wedsdrenient real										
	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014					
-										
	0.0146931%	0.0149381%	0.0146559%	0.0495680%	0.0849900%					
\$	8,087,433 \$	4,776,402 \$	5,538,234 \$	5,287,030 \$	2,270,201					
	13,462,697	7,522,370	8,993,528	8,215,895	6,515,686					
\$	21,550,130 \$	12,298,772 \$	14,531,762 \$	13,502,925 \$	8,785,887					
\$	16,629,322 \$	15,755,024 \$	15,174,769 \$	12,983,588 \$	12,027,683					
	48.63%	30.32%	36.50%	40.72%	18.87%					
	73.74%	82.17%	78.00%	78.43%	83.25%					

SCHEDULE OF DISTRICT CONTRIBUTIONS TEACHER RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF TEXAS (TRS) FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2023

	Fiscal Year					
		2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Contractually required contribution	\$	759,513 \$	642,713 \$	627,424 \$	494,779 \$	461,668
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution Contribution deficiency (excess)	\$ <u></u>	759,513 \$	642,713 \$	627,424	494,779 \$	461,668
District's covered payroll	\$	20,783,768 \$	19,328,266 \$	18,564,577 \$	17,515,113 \$	16,319,256
Contributions as a percentage of covered payroll		3.65%	3.33%	3.38%	2.82%	2.83%

	Fiscal Year													
	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014									
\$	494,030 \$	489,585 \$	465,654 \$	420,813 \$	215,472									
s <sup>_</sup>	494,030	489,585 \$	465,654 \$	420,813	215,472									
'=	*_	· -	·	* =										
\$	16,629,322 \$	15,755,024 \$	15,174,769 \$	12,983,588 \$	12,027,683									
	2.97%	3.11%	3.07%	3.24%	1.79%									

SCHEDULE OF THE DISTRICT'S PROPORTIONATE
SHARE OF THE NET OPEB LIABILITY
TEXAS PUBLIC SCHOOL RETIRED EMPLOYEES GROUP INSURANCE PROGRAM (TRS-CARE)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2023

		Measurement Year *					
		2022	2021	2020	2019		
District's proportion of the collective net OPEB liability (asset)		0.0196546%	0.1992600%	0.0194231%	0.0190759%		
District's proportionate share of the collective net OPEB liability (asset)	\$	4,706,091 \$	7,686,333 \$	7,383,591 \$	9,021,220		
State proportionate share of the collective net OPEB liability (asset) associated with the District Total	\$_	5,740,692 10,446,783	10,297,973 17,984,306 \$	9,921,776 17,305,367	11,987,185 21,008,405		
District's covered payroll**	\$	19,328,266 \$	18,564,577 \$	17,515,113 \$	16,319,256		
District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability (asset) as a percentage of its covered payroll		24.35%	41.40%	42.18%	55.28%		
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total OPEB liability (asset)		11.52%	6.18%	4.99%	2.66%		

<sup>\*</sup> Only six years' worth of information is currently available.

## **Notes to Required Supplementary Information:**

## Changes in Assumptions:

The discount rate changed from 1.95% as of August 31, 2021 to 3.91% as of August 31, 2022. This changed decreased the total OPEB liability.

## Changes in Benefits:

There were no changes in benefit terms since the prior measurement year.

<sup>\*\*</sup> As of the measurement date.

	Measurement Year*											
	2018	2017										
	0.0194284%	0.1779550%										
	0.0194204 /6	0.1779330%										
\$	9,700,764 \$	7,738,595										
	14,443,974	12,618,457										
\$_	24,144,738	20,357,052										
\$	16,629,322 \$	15,755,024										
	58.34%	49.12%										
	1.57%	0.91%										

SCHEDULE OF DISTRICT CONTRIBUTIONS
TEXAS PUBLIC SCHOOL RETIRED EMPLOYEES GROUP INSURANCE PROGRAM (TRS-CARE)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2023

		2023	2022	2021	2020
Statutorily or contractually required District contribution	\$	185,375 \$	160,361 \$	155,667 \$	147,629
Contributions recognized by OPEB in relation to statutorily or contractually required contribution		185,375	160,361	155,667	147,629
Contribution deficiency (excess)	\$	\$	\$	\$	
District's covered payroll	\$	20,783,768 \$	19,328,266 \$	18,564,577 \$	17,515,113
Contributions as a percentage of covered payroll		0.89%	0.83%	0.84%	0.84%

<sup>\*</sup>Only six years' worth of information is currently available.

Fiscal Year*											
2019	2018										
\$ 135,386	\$ 133,465										
\$ 135,386	133,465										
\$ 16,319,256	\$ 16,629,322										
0.83%	0.80%										

Combining Statements as Supplementary Information
This supplementary information includes financial statements and schedules not required by the Governmental Accounting
Standards Board, nor a part of the basic financial statements, but are presented for purposes of additional analysis.

COMBINING BALANCE SHEET NONMAJOR SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS AUGUST 31, 2023

			201		211	224		225
Data				Tit	le I, Part A-			
Contro	ıl		PTerm	I	mproving	IDEA-B		IDEA-B
Codes	3	A	&M Grant	Bas	ic Programs	Formula		Preschool
	ASSETS:						_	
1110	Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$		\$		\$ 15,691	\$	
1240	Due from Other Governments		47,862		258,112	170,868		
1290	Other Receivables							
1300	Inventories							
1000	Total Assets	\$	47,862	\$	258,112	\$ 186,559	\$_	
		<u></u>					_	
	LIABILITIES:							
	Current Liabilities:							
2110	Accounts Payable	\$		\$		\$ 	\$	
2150	Payroll Deductions and Withholdings					16		
2170	Due to Other Funds		47,862		258,112	186,543		
2300	Unearned Revenue							
2000	Total Liabilities		47,862		258,112	 186,559	_	
	FUND BALANCES:							
	Nonspendable Fund Balances:							
3410	Inventories							
	Restricted Fund Balances:							
3450	Federal/State Funds Grant Restrictions							
3490	Other Restrictions of Fund Balance							
3000	Total Fund Balances							
4000	Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	\$	47,862	\$	258,112	\$ 186,559	\$_	

	240 ational School reakfast/Lunch Program	244 Perkins V: Strengthen. CTE for 21st Century	255 Title II, Part A- Supp. Effective Instruction	263 Title III, Part A - ELA	279 Texas COVID Learning Acceleration
\$ 	1,142,165  244 3,845 1,146,254	\$    \$	\$ 38,112   \$ 38,112	\$ 8,879 27,143   \$ 36,022	\$ 84,146   \$ 84,146
\$	   3,845 3,845	\$    	\$ 10 38,102  38,112	\$  36,022  36,022	\$  84,146  84,146
_	3,845 1,138,564  1,142,409	  	   	   	   
\$	1,146,254	\$	\$38,112_	\$36,022	\$84,146

COMBINING BALANCE SHEET NONMAJOR SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS AUGUST 31, 2023

Data			284		285	-	289 ederally
Contro	ıl		IDEA-B		IDEA-B		ded Special
Codes		For	mula - ARP	Pre	school - ARP		Revenue
00000	ASSETS:	101	THUIL THE	110	3011001 71111		TOVOTIGO
1110	Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$		\$		\$	4,233
1240	Due from Other Governments	Ψ	25,392	Ψ	1,061	Ψ	6,771
1290	Other Receivables						
1300	Inventories						
1000	Total Assets	\$	25,392	\$	1,061	\$	11,004
	LIABILITIES:						
	Current Liabilities:						
2110	Accounts Payable	\$		\$		\$	
2150	Payroll Deductions and Withholdings	Ψ		Ψ		Ψ	
2170	Due to Other Funds		25,392		1,061		11,004
2300	Unearned Revenue						
2000	Total Liabilities		25,392		1,061		11,004
	FUND BALANCES:						
	Nonspendable Fund Balances:						
3410	Inventories						
0110	Restricted Fund Balances:						
3450	Federal/State Funds Grant Restrictions						
3490	Other Restrictions of Fund Balance						
3000	Total Fund Balances						
4000	Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	\$	25,392	\$	1,061	\$	11,004

 410 State Fextbook	429 State Funded Special k Revenue		461 ampus ctivity	480 Education Fund		
\$  125,895 	\$	 242,420 	\$ 23,864  	\$	  	
\$ 125,895	\$	242,420	\$ 23,864	\$		
\$  114,026  114,026	\$	7,264  235,156  242,420	\$     	\$	   	
 11,869  11,869		  	  23,864 23,864		  	
\$ 125,895	\$	242,420	\$ 23,864	\$		

COMBINING BALANCE SHEET NONMAJOR SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS AUGUST 31, 2023

Data Contro Codes		S	498 cholarship		499 Locally Funded Grants		Total Nonmajor Special Revenue Funds (See Exhibit C-1)
	ASSETS:					_	
1110	Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$	3,000	\$	6,951	\$	1,204,783
1240	Due from Other Governments						1,027,782
1290	Other Receivables						244
1300	Inventories					_	3,845
1000	Total Assets	\$	3,000	\$	6,951	\$_	2,236,654
2110 2150 2170 2300 2000	LIABILITIES: Current Liabilities: Accounts Payable Payroll Deductions and Withholdings Due to Other Funds Unearned Revenue Total Liabilities	\$	   	\$	   	\$	7,264 26 1,037,426 3,845 1,048,561
	FUND BALANCES:						
3410	Nonspendable Fund Balances: Inventories Restricted Fund Balances:						3,845
3450	Federal/State Funds Grant Restrictions		1,500				1,151,933
3490	Other Restrictions of Fund Balance		1,500		6,951		32,315
3000	Total Fund Balances		3,000	_	6,951	_	1,188,093
4000	Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	\$	3,000	\$	6,951	\$_	2,236,654

COMBINING STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES NONMAJOR SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2023

5.			201	211			224			225		
Data	<del></del>		DT		Title I, Part A-			IDEA D	IDEA			
Contro			PTerm		Improving Basic Programs			IDEA-B			DEA-B	
Codes	REVENUES:	_	A&M Grant	-	Basi	c Programs	_	Formula	-	Preschool		
5700	Local and Intermediate Sources	Φ		\$			φ		\$			
5800		\$		Ф			\$		Ф			
5900	State Program Revenues		 CO E7E			 700 014		407 447			10 505	
	Federal Program Revenues	_	62,575	-		786,814	_	437,447	-		12,505	
5020	Total Revenues	_	62,575	-		786,814	_	437,447	-		12,505	
	EXPENDITURES:											
	Current:											
0011	Instruction		57,551			708,180		204,180				
0013	Curriculum and Staff Development					48,688		960				
0021	Instructional Leadership		5,024					49,189				
0023	School Leadership											
0031	Guidance, Counseling, and Evaluation Service	s						176,104			12,505	
0032	Social Work Services					20,941						
0033	Health Services											
0034	Student Transportation											
0035	Food Service											
0036	Cocurricular/Extracurricular Activities											
0041	General Administration											
0052	Security and Monitoring Services											
0061	Community Services					9,005						
	Payments to Shared Service Arrangements							7,014				
6030	Total Expenditures		62,575	-		786,814		437,447			12,505	
1100	Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under)											
1100	Expenditures											
	Net Change in Fund Balances	_		-			_		-			
1200	Hot offarigo in Faria Balances											
0100	Fund Balances - Beginning											
3000	Fund Balances - Ending	\$_ _		\$			\$_		\$			

	240 ational School eakfast/Lunch Program	Stre	244 255 Perkins V: Title II, Part A- Strengthen. CTE Supp. Effective for 21st Century Instruction			_ <u>P</u>	263 Title III, art A - ELA			279 Texas COVID Learning Acceleration	
\$	174,149	\$		\$		\$		9	<b>;</b>		
	8,248 2,244,645				 104,256					166,006	
	2,427,042		37,293 37,293		104,256		198,292 198,292			166,826 166,826	
	2,427,042		37,293		104,236		190,292			100,020	
			37,293		58,496		191,196			166,826	
					45,760						
	1,993,186										
							7,096				
_											
_	1,993,186		37,293		104,256		198,292			166,826	
	433,856										
	433,856										
	708,553										
\$	1,142,409	\$		\$		\$		9	;		

COMBINING STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES NONMAJOR SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2023

Data Contro Codes	ontrol odes		284 IDEA-B irmula - ARP	Pre	285 IDEA-B school - ARP	F	289 Federally Funded Special Revenue			
	REVENUES:			_						
5700	Local and Intermediate Sources	\$		\$		\$				
5800	State Program Revenues									
5900	Federal Program Revenues		26,515		1,898	_	208,268			
5020	Total Revenues		26,515		1,898	_	208,268			
	EXPENDITURES:									
	Current:									
0011	Instruction		26,515		1,898		13,895			
0013	Curriculum and Staff Development						14,721			
0021	Instructional Leadership									
0023	School Leadership						81,546			
0031	Guidance, Counseling, and Evaluation Services						26,060			
0032	Social Work Services									
0033	Health Services						59,088			
0034	Student Transportation						5,868			
0035	Food Service									
0036	Cocurricular/Extracurricular Activities									
0041	General Administration									
0052	Security and Monitoring Services						7,090			
0061	Community Services									
0093	Payments to Shared Service Arrangements									
6030	Total Expenditures		26,515		1,898	_	208,268			
1100	Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under)									
1100	Expenditures									
1200	Net Change in Fund Balances					_				
0100	Fund Balances - Beginning									
	Fund Balances - Ending	\$		\$		\$_				
	<b>U</b>	-		·==		'=				

	410 429 State Funded				461		480				
1	State Fextbook	;	Special Revenue		Campus Activity	_	Education Fund				
\$	 221,890  221,890	\$	 277,290  277,290	\$	43,922   43,922	\$	74,244   74,244				
			2::,200		.5,522	_	, ,, <u>=</u>				
	209,301		220,235 42,505		 		65,144 				
	 720										
	  		 		43,423 		9,100				
			14,550 		 						
	210,021		277,290		43,423	_	74,244				
	11,869 11,869				499 499	_					
\$	11,869	\$		\$	23,365 23,864	\$					

Total

# **ROYAL INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT**

COMBINING STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES NONMAJOR SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2023

Data Control Codes	498 Scholarship	499 Locally Funded Grants	Nonmajor Special Revenue Funds (See Exhibit C-2)
REVENUES: 5700 Local and Intermediate Sources	\$ 1,000	\$ 16,231	\$ 309,546
5800 State Program Revenues	φ 1,000	φ 10,231	507,428
5900 Federal Program Revenues			4,287,334
5020 Total Revenues	1,000	16,231	5,104,308
3020 Total nevenues			5,104,306
EXPENDITURES: Current:			
0011 Instruction			1,960,710
0013 Curriculum and Staff Development		2,940	155,574
0021 Instructional Leadership		2,340	54,213
0023 School Leadership			82,266
0031 Guidance, Counseling, and Evaluation Services			214,669
0032 Social Work Services			20,941
0033 Health Services			59,088
0034 Student Transportation			5,868
0035 Food Service			1,993,186
0036 Cocurricular/Extracurricular Activities		2,227	54,750
0041 General Administration		9,510	9,510
0052 Security and Monitoring Services			21,640
0061 Community Services		324	16,425
0093 Payments to Shared Service Arrangements			7,014
6030 Total Expenditures		15,001	4,655,854
Total =/iponantaios			
1100 Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under)			
1100 Expenditures	1,000	1,230	448,454
1200 Net Change in Fund Balances	1,000	1,230	448,454
	,	,	•
0100 Fund Balances - Beginning	2,000	5,721	739,639
3000 Fund Balances - Ending	\$3,000	\$ 6,951	\$1,188,093

Other Supplementary Information
This section includes financial information and disclosures not required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board and not considered a part of the basic financial statements. It may, however, include information which is required by other entities.

SCHEDULE OF DELINQUENT TAXES RECEIVABLE FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2023

		1		2	3			
Year Ended August 31	_	Ta Maintenance	x Rates	Debt Service		sessed/Appraised 'alue For School Tax Purposes		
2014 and Prior Years		Various		Various		Various		
2015	\$	1.0400	\$	0.5000	\$	995,418,384		
2016	\$	1.0400	\$	0.4888	\$	1,037,758,434		
2017	\$	1.0400	\$	0.4889	\$	1,066,145,568		
2018	\$	1.1700	\$	0.3588	\$	1,100,969,227		
2019	\$	1.1700	\$	0.3588	\$	1,193,950,092		
2020	\$	1.0639	\$	0.3588	\$	1,453,800,656		
2021	\$	0.9630	\$	0.3588	\$	1,719,769,241		
2022	\$	0.9603	\$	0.3588	\$	2,123,028,398		
2023 (School Year Under Audit)	\$	0.9429	\$	0.3588	\$	2,837,791,884		

<sup>1000</sup> Totals

<sup>9000 -</sup> Portion of Row 1000 for Taxes Paid into Tax Increment Zone Under Chapter 311, Tax Code

<sup>8000 -</sup> Taxes Refunded under Section 26.1115, Tax Code for owners who received an exemption as provided by Section 11.42(f), Tax Code

 10 Beginning Balance 9/1/22	 20 Current Year's Total Levy	31  Maintenance Collections		_	32 Debt Service Collections		40 Entire Year's Adjustments	_	50 Ending Balance 8/31/23
\$ 456,911	\$ 	\$	6,636	\$	2,686	2,686 \$ (1)		\$	447,588
38,987			444		213				38,330
36,098			596		280				35,222
209,022			1,281		602				207,139
46,289			(2,205)		(676)		(6,370)		42,800
58,791			1,241		381		(5,480)		51,689
116,561			16,510		5,568		(2,057)		92,426
226,435			23,219		8,652		(25,477)		169,087
476,964			454,777		168,531		469,404		323,060
	36,939,537		26,100,147		9,923,580				915,810
\$ 1,666,058	\$ 36,939,537	\$_ 	26,602,646	\$_	10,109,817	\$_	430,019	\$ <u></u>	2,323,151

Audit Line 9000 \$\_\_\_\_\_ Audit Line 8000 \$\_\_\_\_\_6,665

NATIONAL SCHOOL BREAKFAST AND LUNCH PROGRAM BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2023

Dete			1		2		3		Variance with Final Budget	
Data Control		Budgeted Amounts						Г	Positive	
		_		u Ai			A -41			
Codes	BEVENUE	_	Original	_	Final	_	Actual	_	(Negative)	
	REVENUES:							_		
5700	Local and Intermediate Sources	\$	93,258	\$	93,258	\$	174,149	\$	80,891	
5800	State Program Revenues		2,600		2,600		8,248		5,648	
5900	Federal Program Revenues		1,480,672		2,005,514		2,244,645		239,131	
5020	Total Revenues		1,576,530		2,101,372		2,427,042		325,670	
		_		_		_		_		
	EXPENDITURES:									
	Current:									
	Student Support Services:									
0035	Food Services		1,576,530		2,031,773		1,993,186		38,587	
	Total Student Support Services	_	1,576,530	_	2,031,773	_	1,993,186	_	38,587	
		_		_		_		_	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
6030	Total Expenditures	_	1,576,530	_	2,031,773	_	1,993,186	_	38,587	
	•	_		_						
1100	Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under)									
1100	Expenditures				69,599		433,856		364,257	
1200	Net Change in Fund Balance	_			69,599	_	433,856		364,257	
	<b>0</b>				,		,		,	
0100	Fund Balance - Beginning		708,553		708,553		708,553			
3000	Fund Balance - Ending	\$	708,553	s <sup>-</sup>	778,152	\$_	1,142,409	·\$	364,257	
5500	i and balance Lilang	$\Psi_{=}$	, 00,000	$\Psi_{=}$	770,102	$\Psi_{=}$	1,112,700	$^{\Psi} =$	001,201	

## **Notes to Supplementary Information:**

<sup>1.</sup> Annual budgets are adopted on a basis consistent with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP).

DEBT SERVICE FUND BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2023

D-4-			1		2		3		/ariance with
Data			Dondonska	-I A					Final Budget
Control		_	Budgete	αА					Positive
Codes	_	_	Original	_	Final	_	Actual	_	(Negative)
	REVENUES:								
5700	Local and Intermediate Sources	\$	10,027,342	\$	10,027,342	\$	10,496,810	\$	469,468
5800	State Program Revenues		22,580		22,580		91,704		69,124
5020	Total Revenues	_	10,049,922	_	10,049,922	_	10,588,514	_	538,592
	EXPENDITURES:								
	Debt Service:								
0071	Principal on Long-Term Debt		4,380,918		2,740,000		2,740,000		
0072	Interest on Long-Term Debt				1,668,340		1,668,340		
0073	Bond Issuance Costs and Fees				2,982,591		2,985,030	*	(2,439)
	Total Debt Service	_	4,380,918	_	7,390,931	_	7,393,370	_	(2,439)
6030	Total Expenditures	-	4,380,918	-	7,390,931	-	7,393,370	_	(2,439)
0000	. o.a. =poa.a.	-	.,000,010	-	7,000,001	-	7,000,010	-	(=, :00)
1100	Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under)								
1100	Expenditures		5,669,004		2,658,991		3,195,144		536,153
1200	Net Change in Fund Balance	_	5,669,004	_	2,658,991	-	3,195,144	_	536,153
0100	Fund Balance - Beginning		3,224,307		3,224,307		3,224,307		
3000	Fund Balance - Ending	\$	8,893,311	\$	5,883,298	\$	6,419,451	\$	536,153
0000		Ψ=	3,000,011	Ψ=	3,000,200	Ψ=	3, ,	Ψ=	555,.56

# **Notes to Supplementary Information:**

<sup>1.</sup> Annual budgets are adopted on a basis consistent with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP).

<sup>\*2.</sup> Expenditures exceeded appropriations at the legal level of control.

USE OF FUNDS REPORT - SELECT STATE ALLOTMENT PROGRAMS AS OF AUGUST 31, 2023

Data Control Codes		R	esponses
	- Ocation A. Communicators Education Business		
	Section A: Compensatory Education Programs		
AP1	Did the District expend any state compensatory education program state allotment funds during the District's fiscal year?		Yes
AP2	Does the District have written policies and procedures for its state compensatory education program?		Yes
AP3	List the total state allotment funds received for state compensatory education programs during the District's fiscal year.	\$	3,000,665
AP4	List the actual direct program expenditures for state compensatory education programs during the District's fiscal year. (PICs 24, 26, 28 29, 30, 34)	\$	1,841,979
	Section B: Bilingual Education Programs		
AP5	Did the District expend any bilingual education program state allotment funds during the District's fiscal year?		Yes
AP6	Does the District have written policies and procedures for its bilingual education program?		Yes
AP7	List the total state allotment funds received for bilingual education programs during the District's fiscal year.	\$	651,849
AP8	List the actual direct program expenditures for bilingual education programs during the District's fiscal year. (PICs 25, 35)	\$	233,951

Federal Awards and Other Compliance Section



# INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

To the Board of Trustees of Royal Independent School District:

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Royal Independent School District (the "District"), as of and for the year ended August 31, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated January 18, 2024.

# Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the District's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the District's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that have not been identified.



# **Report on Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the District's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

# **Purpose of this Report**

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the District's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

BELT HARRIS PECHACEK, LLLP

Belt Harris Pechacek, LLLP Certified Public Accountants Houston, Texas January 18, 2024



# INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR EACH MAJOR PROGRAM AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE REQUIRED BY THE UNIFORM GUIDANCE

To the Board of Trustees of Royal Independent School District:

# Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program

# **Opinion on Each Major Federal Program**

We have audited Royal Independent School District's (the "District") compliance with the types of compliance requirements identified as subject to audit in the *OMB Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of the District's major federal programs for the year ended August 31, 2023. The District's major federal programs are identified in the summary of auditors' results section of the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs.

In our opinion, the District complied, in all material respects, with the compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ended August 31, 2023.

# Basis for Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and the audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Our responsibilities under those standards and the Uniform Guidance are further described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section of our report.

We are required to be independent of the District and to meet our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion on compliance for each major federal program. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of the District's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above.

# Responsibilities of Management for Compliance

Management is responsible for compliance with the requirements referred to above and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of effective internal control over compliance with the requirements of laws, statutes, regulations, rules, and provisions of contracts or grant agreements applicable to the District's federal programs.



# **Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether material noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above occurred, whether due to fraud or error, and express an opinion on the District's compliance based on our audit. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance will always detect material noncompliance when it exists. The risk of not detecting material noncompliance resulting from fraud is higher than for that resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above is considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, it would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user of the report on compliance about the District's compliance with the requirements of each major federal program as a whole.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the District's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control over compliance relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and any significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in internal control over compliance that we identified during the audit.

# **Report on Internal Control over Compliance**

A deficiency in internal control over compliance exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program on a timely basis. A material weakness in internal control over compliance is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A significant deficiency in internal control over compliance is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section above and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance. Given these limitations, during our audit, we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance may exist that have not been identified.

Our audit was not designed for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal controls over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the Uniform Guidance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

BELT HARRIS PECHACEK, LLLP

Belt Harris Pechacek, LLLP Certified Public Accountants Houston, Texas January 18, 2024

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2023

# A. Summary of Auditors' Results

	1.	Financial Statements					
		Type of auditors' report issued:		<u>Unmo</u>	<u>dified</u>		
		Internal control over financial reporting:					
		'Going-concern' emphasis of matte identified?	er paragraph		Yes	X_	No
		One or more material weaknesses	identified?		Yes	X	No
		One or more significant deficiencie are not considered to be material v			Yes	X_	None Reported
		Noncompliance material to financial statements noted?			Yes	X	No
	2.	Federal Awards					
		Internal control over major programs:					
		One or more material weaknesses	identified?		Yes	X_	No
	One or more significant deficiencies identified that are not considered to be material weaknesses?  Type of auditors' report issued on compliance for major programs:				Yes	X_	None Reported
					<u>dified</u>		
		Any audit findings disclosed that are recreported in accordance with Title 2 U.S Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200,	S. Code of		Yes	X	No
		Identification of major programs:					
		Assistance Listing Number(s) 84.010A 84.027A, 84.027X, 84.173A,	Name of Federal P Title I, Part A IDEA-B Cluster	rogram o	or Cluster	<u>r</u>	
		and 84.173X 84.425U	COVID-19 Texas C (TCLAS) - ESSEF COVID-19 America	R III	_		
		Dollar threshold used to distinguish between type A and type B programs:	ween	<u>\$750,</u>	<u>000</u>		
		Auditee qualified as low-risk auditee?		X	Yes		No
В.	<u>Fina</u>	ancial Statement Findings					
	NO	NE					
C.	Fed	leral Award Findings and Questioned Cos	<u>sts</u>				
	NO	NE					

SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2023

Finding/Recommendation	Current Status	Management's Explanation If Not Implemented
None noted		

SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2023

(1)	(2)	(2A)	(3)
Federal Grantor/ Pass-Through Grantor/ Program or Cluster Title	Federal AL Number	Pass- Through Entity Identifying Number	Federal Expenditures
CHILD NUTRITION CLUSTER:			
U.S. Department of Agriculture Passed Through State Department of Education: School Breakfast Program National School Lunch Program Total Passed Through State Department of Education Direct Program: Supply Chain Assistance Grant	10.553 10.555 10.555	806780706 806780706 6TX300400	\$ 618,852 1,352,589 1,971,441 157,007
Total U.S. Department of Agriculture Total Child Nutrition Cluster			2,128,448
FOOD DISTRIBUTION CLUSTER:			2,120,440
U.S. Department of Agriculture Direct Program: Commodity Supplemental Food Program (Non-cash) Total U.S. Department of Agriculture Total Food Distribution Cluster	10.565	806780706	116,197 116,197 116,197
SPECIAL EDUCATION (IDEA) CLUSTER:			
U.S. Department of Education  Passed Through State Department of Education:  IDEA-B Formula  IDEA-B Formula - ARP  IDEA-B Preschool  IDEA-B Preschool - ARP  Total Passed Through State Department of Education  Total U.S. Department of Education  Total Special Education (IDEA) Cluster	84.027A 84.027X 84.173A 84.173X	236600012379056600 225350022379055350 236610012379056610 225360022379055360	437,447 26,515 12,505 1,898 478,365 478,365 478,365
OTHER PROGRAMS:			
U.S. Department of Defense Direct Program: Junior ROTC Total U.S. Department of Defense	12.000	237-905	74,457 74,457
U.S. Department of Education  Passed Through State Department of Education:  Title I, Part A - Improving Basic Programs  Perkins V: Strengthening CTE For 21st Century  Title III, Part A - English Language Acquisition  Title II, Part A - Supporting Effective Instruction  Summer School LEP  Title IV, Part A, Subpart 1  COVID-19 American Rescue Plan (ARP) ESSER III  COVID-19 Texas COVID Learning Acceleration Support (TCLAS) - ESSER III  Total AL Number 84.425U  Total Passed Through State Department of Education	84.010A 84.048A 84.365A 84.367A 84.369A 84.424A 84.425U 84.425U	23610101237905 23420006237905 23671001237905 23694501237905 69552202 23680101237905 21528001237905 21528042237905	786,814 37,293 198,292 104,256 8,795 49,410 2,630,371 166,826 2,797,197 3,982,057

**EXHIBIT K-1** 

SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2023

(1)	(2)	(2A)	(3)
Federal Grantor/ Pass-Through Grantor/ Program or Cluster Title	Federal AL Number	Pass- Through Entity Identifying Number	Federal Expenditures
Passed Through Texas A&M University: Teacher Quality Enhancement Grants for State and Partnerships Total Passed Through Texas A&M University Total Passed Through State Department of Education	84.336S	S336S200027-21	\$ 62,575 62,575 6,431,863
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Passed Through State Department of Education COVID-19 School Health Support Grant, Cycle 3 Total Passed Through State Department of Education Total U.S. Department of Education	93.323	HHS001114100001	90,975 6,522,838 6,522,838
Passed Through Education Service Center, Region IV: COVID-19 Public Health Workforce Supplemental Total U.S. Department of Health and Human Services TOTAL EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS	93.354	HHS001101500001	59,088 59,088 \$ 6,992,162
	Federal Revenue per SEFA General Fund SHARS Revenue Total Exhibit C-2 Federal Revenue		\$ 6,992,162 725,747 \$ 7,717,909

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this schedule.

NOTES TO THE SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2023

# **Basis of Presentation**

The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards (SEFA) includes the federal grant activity of the District. The information in the SEFA is presented in accordance with the requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR) Part 200 *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* ("Uniform Guidance"). Therefore, some amounts may differ from amounts presented in, or used in the preparation of, the basic financial statements.

# Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Expenditures reported on the SEFA are reported on the modified accrual basis of accounting. These expenditures are recognized following the cost principles contained in the Uniform Guidance, wherein certain types of expenditures are not allowable or are limited as to reimbursement. Negative amounts shown on the SEFA, if any, represent adjustments or credits made in the normal course of business to amounts reported as expenditures in prior years.

# **Indirect Cost Rate**

The District has elected not to use the 10 percent de minimis indirect cost rate allowed under the Uniform Guidance.

SCHEDULE OF REQUIRED RESPONSES TO SELECTED SCHOOL FIRST INDICATORS AS OF AUGUST 31, 2023

Data Control Codes		F	Responses
SF1	Was there an unmodified opinion in the Annual Financial Report on the financial statements as a whole?		Yes
SF2	Were there any disclosures in the Annual Financial Report and/or other sources of information concerning nonpayment of any terms of any debt agreement at fiscal year end?		No
SF3	Did the District make timely payments to the Teacher Retirement System (TRS), Texas Workforce Commission (TWC), Internal Revenue Service (IRS), and other government agencies? (If the school district was issued a warrant hold and the warrant hold was not cleared within 30 days from the date the warrant hold was issued, the District is considered <b>to not have made</b> timely payments.)		Yes
	Payments to the TRS and TWC are considered timely if a warrant hold that was issued in connection to the untimely payment was cleared within 30 days from the date the warrant hold was issued.		
	Payments to the IRS are considered timely if a penalty or delinquent payment notice was cleared within 30 days from the date the notice was issued.		
SF4	Was the District issued a warrant hold? Even if the issue surrounding the initial warrant hold was resolved and cleared within 30 days, the District is considered to have been issued a warrant hold.		No
SF5	Did the Annual Financial Report disclose any instances of material weaknesses in internal controls over financial reporting and compliance for local, state, or federal funds?		No
SF6	Was there any disclosure in the Annual Financial Report of material noncompliance for grants, contracts, and laws related to local, state, or federal funds?		No
SF7	Did the District post the required financial information on its website in accordance with Government Code, Local Government Code, Texas Education Code, Texas Administrative Code, and other statutes, laws, and rules that were in effect at the District's fiscal year end?		Yes
SF8	Did the Board members discuss the District's property values at a Board meeting within 120 days before the District adopted its budget?		Yes
SF9	Total accumulated accretion on CABs included in government-wide financial statements at fiscal year end	\$	641,448

# **APPENDIX C**

# **Opinion of Bond Counsel**



. 2024
 , 2024

Re: Royal Independent School District Unlimited Tax School Building Bonds, Series 2024 (the "Bonds")

## Ladies and Gentlemen:

We have acted as Bond Counsel to the captioned issuer (the "District") in connection with the issuance of the Bonds, which are being issued in the aggregate original principal amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_\_. The Bonds are authorized by an order adopted by the Board of Trustees of the District on May 13, 2024 and a pricing certificate executed pursuant thereto (collectively, the "Order"). Capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed thereto in the Order.

We have acted as Bond Counsel for the sole purpose of rendering an opinion with respect to the legality and validity of the Bonds under the Constitution and laws of the State of Texas and the excludability of interest on the Bonds from gross income for federal income tax purposes. In such capacity, we have reviewed a transcript of certain certified proceedings pertaining to the issuance of the Bonds, including the Order and the federal tax certificate of the District related to the Bonds (the "Tax Certificate"); certain certifications and representations and other material facts within the knowledge and control of the District, upon which we rely; the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended and the regulations, rulings, and judicial decisions relevant to the opinions set forth in paragraph (3) below; and certain other customary documents and instruments authorizing and relating to the issuance of the Bonds. As to questions of fact material to our opinion, we have relied upon the certified proceedings and other certifications of public officials and others furnished to us without undertaking to verify the same by independent investigation.

The opinions expressed herein are based on an analysis of existing laws, regulations, rulings and court decisions and cover certain matters not directly addressed by such authorities. Such opinions may be affected by actions taken or omitted or events occurring after the date hereof. We have not undertaken to determine, or to inform any person, whether any such actions are taken or omitted or events do occur or any other matters come to our attention after the date hereof. Accordingly, this letter speaks only as of its date and is not intended to, and may not, be relied upon or otherwise used in connection with any such actions, events or matters. Our engagement with respect to the Bonds has concluded with their issuance, and we disclaim any obligation to update this letter. We have assumed the genuineness of all documents and signatures presented to us (whether as originals or as copies) and the due and legal execution and delivery thereof by, and validity against, any parties other than the District. We have assumed, without undertaking to verify, the accuracy of the factual matters represented, warranted or certified in the documents referred to in the second paragraph hereof. Furthermore, we have assumed compliance with all covenants and agreements contained in the Order and the Tax Certificate, including (without limitation) covenants and agreements compliance with which is necessary to assure that future actions, omissions or events will not cause

interest on the Bonds to be included in gross income for federal income tax purposes. We call attention to the fact that the rights and obligations under the Bonds, the Order and the Tax Certificate and their enforceability may be subject to bankruptcy, insolvency, receivership, reorganization, arrangement, fraudulent conveyance, moratorium and other laws relating to or affecting creditors' rights, to the application of equitable principles, to the exercise of judicial discretion in appropriate cases, and to the limitations on legal remedies against issuers in the State of Texas. We express no opinion with respect to any indemnification, contribution, liquidated damages, penalty (including any remedy deemed to constitute a penalty), right of set-off, arbitration, choice of law, choice of forum, choice of venue, non-exclusivity of remedies, waiver or severability provisions contained in the foregoing documents. Our services did not include financial or other non-legal advice. We have not assumed any responsibility with respect to the financial condition or capabilities of the District or the disclosure thereof in connection with the sale of the Bonds. Finally, our role in connection with the District's Official Statement, if any, prepared for use in connection with the sale of the Bonds has been limited as described therein.

Based on and subject to the foregoing, and in reliance thereon, as of the date hereof, we are of the following opinions:

- (1) The transcript of certified proceedings evidences complete legal authority for the issuance of the Bonds in full compliance with the Constitution and laws of the State of Texas presently in effect. The Bonds constitute valid and legally binding obligations of the District, and the Bonds have been authorized and delivered in accordance with law.
- (2) The Bonds are payable, both as to principal and interest, from the receipts of an annual ad valorem tax levied, without legal limit as to rate or amount, upon taxable property located within the District, which taxes have been pledged irrevocably to pay the principal of and interest on the Bonds.
- (3) Under existing laws, regulations, rulings, and judicial decisions, interest on the Bonds is excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes and is not a specific preference item for purposes of the federal alternative minimum tax imposed on individuals. We observe that, for tax years beginning after December 31, 2022, interest on the Bonds included in adjusted financial statement income of certain corporations is not excluded from the federal corporate alternative minimum tax. We express no opinion regarding other tax consequences related to the ownership or disposition of, or the amount, accrual or receipt of interest on, the Bonds.

Respectfully submitted,

Leon | Alcala, PLLC

APPENDIX D
THE PERMANENT SCHOOL FUND GUARANTEE PROGRAM FOR THE BONDS

#### THE PERMANENT SCHOOL FUND GUARANTEE PROGRAM FOR THE BONDS

This disclosure statement provides information relating to the program (the "Guarantee Program") administered by the Texas Education Agency (the "TEA") with respect to the Texas Permanent School Fund guarantee of tax-supported bonds issued by Texas school districts and the guarantee of revenue bonds issued by or for the benefit of Texas charter districts. The Guarantee Program was authorized by an amendment to the Texas Constitution in 1983 and is governed by Subchapter C of Chapter 45 of the Texas Education Code, as amended (the "Act"). While the Guarantee Program applies to bonds issued by or for both school districts and charter districts, as described below, the Act and the program rules for the two types of districts have some distinctions. For convenience of description and reference, those aspects of the Guarantee Program that are applicable to school district bonds and to charter district bonds are referred to herein as the "School District Bond Guarantee Program" and the "Charter District Bond Guarantee Program," respectively.

Some of the information contained in this Section may include projections or other forward-looking statements regarding future events or the future financial performance of the Texas Permanent School Fund (the "PSF" or the "Fund"). Actual results may differ materially from those contained in any such projections or forward-looking statements.

During the 87th Regular Session of the Texas Legislature (the "87th Regular Session"), which concluded on May 31, 2021, Senate Bill 1232 ("SB 1232") was enacted and became effective on September 1, 2021. SB 1232 provided for a variety of changes to the operations and management of the Fund, including the creation of the Permanent School Fund Corporation (the "PSF Corporation"), and the delegation of responsibility to manage the portion of the Fund previously under the management supervision of the State Board of Education (the "SBOE") to the PSF Corporation. SB 1232 also required changes with respect to the management of certain investments previously made at the discretion of the Texas School Land Board (the "SLB"), including limiting the types of investments that may be made by the SLB and mandating the transfer of cash and certain other investment properties from the SLB to the PSF Corporation.

The regular session of the 88th Texas Legislature (the "Legislature") was held from January 10, 2023, to May 29, 2023. As of the date of this disclosure, there have been four special sessions held, with the fourth special session ending December 5, 2023. The Texas Governor may call one or more additional special sessions. During this time, the Legislature may enact laws that materially change current law as it relates to the Guarantee Program, the TEA, the SBOE, the Act, the PSF Corporation, and Texas school finance generally. No representation is made regarding any actions the Legislature has taken or may take, but the TEA, SBOE, and PSF Corporation monitor and analyze legislation for any developments applicable thereto.

# **History and Purpose**

The PSF supports the State's public school system in two major ways: distributions to the constitutionally established Available School Fund (the "ASF"), as described below, and the guarantee of school district and charter district issued bonds through the Guarantee Program. The PSF was created in 1845 and received its first significant funding with a \$2,000,000 appropriation by the Legislature in 1854 expressly for the benefit of the public schools of Texas, with the sole purpose of assisting in the funding of public education for present and future generations. The Constitution of 1876 described that the PSF would be "permanent," and stipulated that certain lands and all proceeds from the sale of these lands should also constitute the PSF. Additional acts later gave more public domain land and rights to the PSF. In 1953, the U.S. Congress passed the Submerged Lands Act that relinquished to coastal states all rights of the U.S. navigable waters within state boundaries. If the State, by law, had set a larger boundary prior to or at the time of admission to the Union, or if the boundary had been approved by Congress, then the larger boundary applied. After three years of litigation (1957-1960), the U.S. Supreme Court on May 31, 1960, affirmed Texas' historic three marine leagues (10.35 miles) seaward boundary. Texas proved its submerged lands property rights to three leagues into the Gulf of Mexico by citing historic laws and treaties dating back to 1836. All lands lying within that limit belong to the PSF. The proceeds from the sale and the mineral-related rental of these lands, including bonuses, delay rentals and royalty payments, become the corpus of the Fund. Prior to the approval by the voters of the State of an amendment to the constitutional provision under which the Fund was established and administered, which occurred on September 13, 2003 (the "Total Return Constitutional Amendment"), and which is further described below, only the income produced by the PSF could be used to complement taxes in financing public education, which primarily consisted of income from securities, capital gains from securities transactions, and royalties from the sale of oil and natural gas. The Total Return Constitutional Amendment provides that interest and dividends produced by Fund investments will be additional revenue to the PSF.

On November 8, 1983, the voters of the State approved a constitutional amendment that provides for the guarantee by the PSF of bonds issued by school districts. On approval by the State Commissioner of Education (the "Education Commissioner"), bonds properly issued by a school district are fully guaranteed by the PSF. See "The School District Bond Guarantee Program."

In 2011, legislation was enacted that established the Charter District Bond Guarantee Program as a new component of the Guarantee Program. That legislation authorized the use of the PSF to guarantee revenue bonds issued by or for the benefit of certain open-enrollment charter schools that are designated as "charter districts" by the Education Commissioner. On approval by the Education Commissioner, bonds properly issued by a charter district participating in the Guarantee Program are fully guaranteed by the PSF. The Charter District Bond Guarantee Program became effective on March 3, 2014. See "The Charter District Bond Guarantee Program."

State law also permits charter schools to be chartered and operated by school districts and other political subdivisions, but bond financing of facilities for school district-operated charter schools is subject to the School District Bond Guarantee Program, not the Charter District Bond Guarantee Program.

While the School District Bond Guarantee Program and the Charter District Bond Guarantee Program relate to different types of bonds issued for different types of Texas public schools, and have different program regulations and requirements, a bond guaranteed under either part of the Guarantee Program has the same effect with respect to the guarantee obligation of the Fund thereto, and all guaranteed bonds are aggregated for purposes of determining the capacity of the Guarantee Program (see "Capacity Limits for the Guarantee Program"). The Charter District Bond Guarantee Program as enacted by State law has not been reviewed by any court, nor has the Texas Attorney General (the "Attorney General") been requested to issue an opinion, with respect to its constitutional validity.

Audited financial information for the PSF is provided annually through the PSF Corporation's Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (the "Annual Report"), which is filed with the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board ("MSRB"). Due to the establishment of the PSF Corporation, the most recent financial statements include several restatements related thereto. The SLB's land and real assets investment operations, which are part of the PSF as described below, are also included in the annual financial report of the Texas General Land Office (the "GLO") that is included in the annual comprehensive report of the State of Texas. The Annual Report includes the Message of the Chief Executive Officer of the PSF Corporation (the "Message") and the Management's Discussion and Analysis ("MD&A"). The Annual Report for the year ended August 31, 2023, as filed with the MSRB in accordance with the PSF undertaking and agreement made in accordance with Rule 15c2-12 ("Rule 15c2-12") of the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"), as described below, is hereby incorporated by reference into this disclosure. Information included herein for the year ended August 31, 2023, is derived from the audited financial statements of the PSF, which are included in the Annual Report as it is filed and posted. Reference is made to the Annual Report for the complete Message and MD&A for the year ended August 31, 2023, and for a description of the financial results of the PSF for the year ended August 31, 2023, the most recent year for which audited financial information regarding the Fund is available. The 2023 Annual Report speaks only as of its date and the TEA has not obligated itself to update the 2023 Annual Report or any other Annual Report. The PSF Corporation posts (i) each Annual Report, which includes statistical data regarding the Fund as of the close of each fiscal year, (ii) the most recent disclosure for the Guarantee Program, (iii) the PSF Corporation's Investment Policy Statement (the "IPS"), and (iv) monthly updates with respect to the capacity of the Guarantee Program (collectively, the "Web Site Materials") on the PSF Corporation's web site at https://texaspsf.org/bond-guarantee-program/ and with the MSRB at www.emma.msrb.org. Such monthly updates regarding the Guarantee Program are also incorporated herein and made a part hereof for all purposes. In addition to the Web Site Materials, the Fund is required to make quarterly filings with the SEC under Section 13(f) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Such filings, which consist of a list of the Fund's holdings of securities specified in Section 13(f), including exchange-traded (e.g., NYSE) or NASDAQ-quoted stocks, equity options and warrants, shares of closed-end investment companies and certain convertible debt securities, are available from the SEC at www.sec.gov/edgar. A list of the Fund's equity and fixed income holdings as of August 31 of each year is posted to the PSF Corporation's web site and filed with the MSRB. Such list excludes holdings in the Fund's securities lending program. Such list, as filed, is incorporated herein and made a part hereof for all purposes.

# Management and Administration of the Fund

The Texas Constitution and applicable statutes delegate to the SBOE and the PSF Corporation the authority and responsibility for investment of the PSF's financial assets. The SBOE consists of 15 members who are elected by territorial districts in the State to four-year terms of office. The PSF Corporation is a special-purpose governmental corporation and instrumentality of the State entitled to sovereign immunity, and is governed by a nine-member board of directors (the "PSFC Board"), which consists of five members of the SBOE, the Land Commissioner, and three appointed members who have substantial background and expertise in investments and asset management, with one member being appointed by the Land Commissioner and the other two appointed by the Governor with confirmation by the Senate.

The PSF's non-financial real assets, including land, mineral and royalty interests, and individual real estate holdings, are held by the GLO and managed by the SLB. The SLB is required to send PSF mineral and royalty revenues to the PSF Corporation for investment, less amounts specified by appropriation to be retained by the SLB.

The Texas Constitution provides that the Fund shall be managed though the exercise of the judgment and care under the circumstances then prevailing which persons of ordinary prudence, discretion, and intelligence exercise in the management of their own affairs, not in regard to speculation, but in regard to the permanent disposition of their funds, considering the probable income therefrom as well as the probable safety of their capital (the "Prudent Person Standard"). In accordance with the Texas Constitution, the SBOE views the PSF as a perpetual endowment, and the Fund is managed as an endowment fund with a long-term investment horizon. For a detailed description of the PSFC Board's investment objectives, as well as a description of the PSFC's roles and responsibilities in managing and administering the fund, see the IPS (available on the PSF Corporation's website).

As described below, the Total Return Constitutional Amendment restricts the annual pay-out from the Fund to both (i) 6% of the average of the market value of the Fund, excluding real property, on the last day of each of the sixteen State fiscal quarters preceding the Regular Session of the Legislature that begins before that State fiscal biennium, and (ii) the total-return on all investment assets of the Fund over a rolling ten-year period.

By law, the Education Commissioner is appointed by the Governor, with Senate confirmation, and assists the SBOE, but the Education Commissioner can neither be hired nor dismissed by the SBOE. The PSF Corporation has also engaged outside counsel to advise it as to its duties with respect to the Fund, including specific actions regarding the investment of the PSF to ensure compliance with fiduciary standards, and to provide transactional advice in connection with the investment of Fund assets in non-traditional investments. TEA's General Counsel provides legal advice to the SBOE but will not provide legal advice directly to the PSF Corporation.

The Total Return Constitutional Amendment shifted administrative costs of the Fund from the ASF to the PSF, providing that expenses of managing the PSF are to be paid "by appropriation" from the PSF. In January 2005, the Attorney General issued a legal opinion, Op. Tex. Att'y Gen. No. GA-0293 (2005), stating that the Total Return Constitutional Amendment does not require the SBOE to pay from such appropriated PSF funds the indirect management costs deducted from the assets of a mutual fund or other investment company in which PSF funds have been invested.

The Act requires that the Education Commissioner prepare, and the SBOE approve, an annual status report on the Guarantee Program (which is included in the Annual Report). The State Auditor audits the financial statements of the PSF, which are separate from other financial statements of the State. Additionally, not less than once each year, the PSFC Board must submit an audit report to the Legislative Budget Board ("LBB") regarding the operations of the PSF Corporation. The PSF Corporation may contract with a certified public accountant or the State Auditor to conduct an independent audit of the operations of the PSF Corporation, but such authorization does not affect the State Auditor's authority to conduct an audit of the PSF Corporation in accordance with State laws.

With respect to the 2024-2025 State biennium, and for subsequent biennia, the PSF Corporation is required to submit a legislative appropriations request ("LAR") to the LBB and the Office of the Governor that details a request for appropriation of funds to enable the PSF Corporation to carry out its responsibilities for the investment management of the Fund. The requested funding, budget structure, and riders are sufficient to fully support all operations of the PSF Corporation in state fiscal years 2024 and 2025. As described therein, the LAR is designed to provide the PSF Corporation with the ability to operate as a stand-alone state entity in the State budget while retaining the flexibility to fulfill its fiduciary duty and provide oversight and transparency to the Legislature and Governor.

#### The Total Return Constitutional Amendment

The Total Return Constitutional Amendment requires that PSF distributions to the ASF be determined using a "total-returnbased" that provides that the total amount distributed from the Fund to the ASF: (1) in each year of a State fiscal biennium must be an amount that is not more than 6% of the average of the market value of the Fund, excluding real property (the "Distribution Rate"), on the last day of each of the sixteen State fiscal quarters preceding the Regular Session of the Legislature that begins before that State fiscal biennium, in accordance with the rate adopted by: (a) a vote of two-thirds of the total membership of the SBOE, taken before the Regular Session of the Legislature convenes or (b) the Legislature by general law or appropriation, if the SBOE does not adopt a rate as provided by clause (a); and (2) over the ten-year period consisting of the current State fiscal year and the nine preceding State fiscal years may not exceed the total return on all investment assets of the Fund over the same ten-year period (the "Ten Year Total Return"). In April 2009, the Attorney General issued a legal opinion, Op. Tex. Att'y Gen. No. GA-0707 (2009) ("GA-0707"), with regard to certain matters pertaining to the Distribution Rate and the determination of the Ten Year Total Return. In GA-0707 the Attorney General opined, among other advice, that (i) the Ten Year Total Return should be calculated on an annual basis, (ii) a contingency plan adopted by the SBOE, to permit monthly transfers equal in aggregate to the annual Distribution Rate to be halted and subsequently made up if such transfers temporarily exceed the Ten Year Total Return, is not prohibited by State law, provided that such contingency plan applies only within a fiscal year time basis, not on a biennium basis, and (iii) the amount distributed from the Fund in a fiscal year may not exceed 6% of the average of the market value of the Fund or the Ten Year Total Return. In accordance with GA-0707, in the event that the Ten Year Total Return is exceeded during a fiscal year,

transfers to the ASF will be halted. However, if the Ten Year Total Return subsequently increases during that biennium, transfers may be resumed, if the SBOE has provided for that contingency, and made in full during the remaining period of the biennium, subject to the limit of 6% in any one fiscal year. Any shortfall in the transfer that results from such events from one biennium may not be paid over to the ASF in a subsequent biennium as the SBOE would make a separate payout determination for that subsequent biennium.

In determining the Distribution Rate, the SBOE has adopted the goal of maximizing the amount distributed from the Fund in a manner designed to preserve "intergenerational equity." The definition of intergenerational equity that the SBOE has generally followed is the maintenance of purchasing power to ensure that endowment spending keeps pace with inflation, with the ultimate goal being to ensure that current and future generations are given equal levels of purchasing power in real terms. In making this determination, the SBOE takes into account various considerations, and relies upon PSF Corporation and TEA staff and external investment consultants, which undertake analysis for long-term projection periods that includes certain assumptions. Among the assumptions used in the analysis are a projected rate of growth of student enrollment Statewide, the projected contributions and expenses of the Fund, projected returns in the capital markets and a projected inflation rate.

The Texas Constitution also provides authority to the GLO or another entity (described in statute as the SLB or the PSF Corporation) that has responsibility for the management of revenues derived from land or other properties of the PSF to determine whether to transfer an amount each year to the ASF from the revenue derived during the current year from such land or properties. The Texas Constitution limits the maximum transfer to the ASF to \$600 million in each year from the revenue derived during that year from the PSF from the GLO, the SBOE or another entity to the extent such entity has the responsibility for the management of revenues derived from such land or other properties. Any amount transferred to the ASF pursuant to this constitutional provision is excluded from the 6% Distribution Rate limitation applicable to SBOE transfers.

The following table shows amounts distributed to the ASF from the portions of the Fund administered by the SBOE (the "PSF(SBOE)"), the PSF Corporation (the "PSF(CORP)"), and the SLB (the "PSF(SLB)").

## Annual Distributions to the Available School Fund(1)

Fiscal Year Ending	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	<b>2023</b> <sup>2</sup>
PSF(CORP) Distribution	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$2,076
PSF (SBOE) Distribution	839	839	1,056	1,056	1,236	1,236	1,102	1,102	1,731	-
PSF(SLB) Distribution	0	0	0	0	0	300	600	$600^{3}$	415	115
Per Student Distribution	175	173	215	212	247	306	347	341	432	440

In millions of dollars. Source: Annual Report for year ended August 31, 2023.

In November 2022, the SBOE approved a \$3.1 billion distribution to the ASF for State fiscal biennium 2024-2025. In making its determination of the 2024-2025 Distribution Rate, the SBOE took into account the announced planned distribution to the ASF by the SLB of \$1.2 billion for the biennium.

Efforts to achieve the intergenerational equity objective, as described above, result in changes in the Distribution Rate for each biennial period. The following table sets forth the Distribution Rates announced by the SBOE in the fall of each even-numbered year to be applicable for the following biennium.

State Fiscal Biennium	<u>2008-09</u>	<u>2010-11</u>	<u>2012-13</u>	<u>2014-15</u>	<u>2016-17</u>	<u>2018-19</u>	<u>2020-21</u>	<u>2022-23</u>	<u>2024-25</u>
SBOE Distribution Rate <sup>1</sup>	3.5%	2.5%	4.2%	3.3%	3.5%	3.7%	2.974%	4.18%	$3.32\%^{2}$

Includes only distributions made to the ASF by the SBOE; see the immediately preceding table for amounts of direct SLB distributions to the ASF. In addition, the SLB approved transfers of \$600 million per year directly to the ASF for fiscal biennium 2024-25.

Reflects the first fiscal year in which distributions were made by the PSF Corporation.

In September 2020, the SBOE approved a special, one-time transfer of \$300 million from the portion of the PSF managed by the SBOE to the portion of the PSF managed by the SLB, which amount is to be transferred to the ASF by the SLB in fiscal year 2021. In approving the special transfer, the SBOE determined that the transfer was in the best interest of the PSF due to the historic nature of the public health and economic circumstances resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on the school children of Texas.

The distribution rate approved by the SBOE for fiscal biennium 2024-25 was based on a number of assumptions, including a mid- to long-term expected return rate for the Fund of 6.35% and a rate of inflation measured by the consumer price index of 2.70% according to the policy adopted by the SBOE in June 2022.

2014-15 2016-17 2018-19 2020-21 State Fiscal Biennium 2010-11 2012-13 2024-25 SBOE Distribution Rate(1)  $3.32\%^{(2)}$ 3.5% 2.5% 4.2% 3.3% 3.5% 3.7% 2.974% 4.18%

# **PSF Corporation Strategic Asset Allocation**

The PSFC Board sets the asset allocation policy for the Fund, including determining the available asset classes for investment and approving target percentages and ranges for allocation to each asset class, with the goal of delivering a long-term risk adjusted return through all economic and market environments. Effective January 1, 2023, the IPS includes a combined asset allocation for all Fund assets (consisting of assets transferred for management to the PSF Corporation from the SBOE and the SLB). The IPS provides that the Fund's investment objectives are as follows:

- Generate distributions for the benefit of public schools in Texas;
- Maintain the purchasing power of the Fund, after spending and inflation, in order to maintain intergenerational
  equity with respect to distributions from the Fund;
- Provide a maximum level of return consistent with prudent risk levels, while maintaining sufficient liquidity needed to support Fund obligations; and
- Maintain a AAA credit rating, as assigned by a nationally recognized securities rating organization.

The table below sets forth the current asset allocation of the Fund that was adopted February 2024 (which is subject to change from time to time):

	Gt. t. i. i.	Ra	nge
Asset Class	Strategic Asset Allocation	Min	Max
Cash	2.0%	0.0%	7.0%
Core Bonds	10.0%	5.0%	15.0%
High Yield	2.0%	0.0%	7.0%
Bank Loans	4.0%	0.0%	9.0%
Treasury Inflation Protected Securities	2.0%	0.0%	7.0%
Large Cap Equity	14.0%	9.0%	19.0%
Small/Mid-Cap Equity	6.0%	1.0%	11.0%
Non-US Developed Equity	7.0%	2.0%	12.0%
Absolute Return	3.0%	0.0%	8.0%
Real Estate	12.0%	7.0%	17.0%
Private Equity	20.0%	10.0%	30.0%
Private Credit	8.0%	3.0%	13.0%
Natural Resources	5.0%	0.0%	10.0%
Infrastructure	5.0%	0.0%	10.0%

Includes only distributions made to the ASF by the SBOE; see the immediately preceding table for amounts of direct SLB distributions to the ASF. In addition, the SLB approved transfers of \$600 million per year directly to the ASF for fiscal biennium 2024-25.

<sup>(2)</sup> The distribution rate approved by the SBOE for fiscal biennium 2024-25 was based on a number of assumptions, including a mid- to long-term expected return rate for the Fund of 6.35% and a rate of inflation measured by the consumer price index of 2.70% according to the policy adopted by the SBOE in June 2022.

The table below sets forth the comparative investments of the PSF for the fiscal years ending August 31, 2022 and 2023, as set forth in the Annual Report for the 2023 fiscal year. As of January 1, 2023, the assets of the PSF(SBOE) and the PSF (SLB) were generally combined (referred to herein as the PSF(CORP)) for investment management and accounting purposes.

# Comparative Investment Schedule – PSF(CORP)

Fair Value (in millions) August 31, 2023 and 2022

Fair	Value (in million	ns) August 31, 2023	and 2022	
ASSET CLASS	August 31, 2023	August 31, 2022	Amount of Increase (Decrease)	Percent Change
EQUITY				
Domestic Small Cap	\$ 2,975.1	\$ 2,858.4	\$ 116.7	4.1%
Domestic Large Cap	7,896.5	6,402.1	1,494.4	23.3%
Total Domestic Equity	10,871.6	9,260.5	1,611.1	17.4%
• •	7.045.5	7.107.0	747.6	10.40/
International Equity	7,945.5	7,197.9	747.6	10.4%
TOTAL EQUITY	18,817.1	16,458.4	2,358.7	14.3%
FIXED INCOME				
Domestic Fixed Income	5,563.7	5,867.5	(303.8)	-5.2%
U.S. Treasuries	937.5	1,140.2	(202.7)	-17.8%
High Yield Bonds	1,231.6	1,142.5	89.1	7.8%
Emerging Market Debt	869.7	1,190.9	(321.2)	<u>-27.0%</u>
TOTAL FIXED INCOME	8,602.5	9,341.1	(738.6)	-7.9%
	-,	- /-	()	
ALTERNATIVE INVESTME	ENTS			
Absolute Return	3,175.8	2,932.3	243.5	8.3%
Real Estate	6,525.2	6,286.9	238.3	3.8%
Private Equity	8,400.7	7,933.1	467.6	5.9%
Emerging Manager				
Program	134.5	29.9	104.6	349.8%
Real Return	1,663.7	1,620.3	43.4	2.7%
TOT ALT INVESTMENTS	24,612.0	23,143.8	1,468.2	6.3%
UNALLOCATED	·	·	·	
CASH	348.2	231.7	116.5	50.3%
TOTAL PSF(CORP)	_ <del></del>			
INVESTMENTS	\$52,379.8	\$49,175.0	\$3,204.8	6.5%
	<i>'</i>			

Source: Annual Report for year ended August 31, 2023.

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The table below sets forth the investments of the PSF(SLB) for the year ended August 31, 2023.

# Investment Schedule - PSF(SLB)1

## Fair Value (in millions) August 31, 2023

As of 8-31-23

\$ 276.14

264.32

167.97

Investment Type Investments in Real

Assets

Sovereign Lands Discretionary Internal Investments Other Lands Minerals (2), (3) Total Investments (4)

6,144.05 Cash in State Treasury (5) 508.38

Total Investments & Cash in State Treasury \$ 6,652.44

The asset allocation of the Fund's financial assets portfolio is subject to change by the PSF Corporation from time to time based upon a number of factors, including recommendations to the PSF Corporation made by internal investment staff and external consultants. Fund performance may also be affected by factors other than asset allocation, including, without limitation, the general performance of the securities markets and other capital markets in the United States and abroad, which may be affected by different levels of economic activity; decisions of political officeholders; significant adverse weather events; development of hostilities in and among nations; cybersecurity threats and events; changes in international trade policies or practices; application of the Prudent Person Standard, which may eliminate certain investment opportunities for the Fund; management fees paid to external managers and embedded management fees for some fund investments; and PSF operational limitations impacted by Texas law or legislative appropriation. The Guarantee Program could also be impacted by changes in State or federal law or regulations or the implementation of new accounting standards.

# The School District Bond Guarantee Program

The School District Bond Guarantee Program requires an application be made by a school district to the Education Commissioner for a guarantee of its bonds. If the conditions for the School District Bond Guarantee Program are satisfied, the guarantee becomes effective upon approval of the bonds by the Attorney General and remains in effect until the guaranteed bonds are paid or defeased, by a refunding or otherwise.

In the event of default, holders of guaranteed school district bonds will receive all payments due from the corpus of the PSF. Following a determination that a school district will be or is unable to pay maturing or matured principal or interest on any guaranteed bond, the Act requires the school district to notify the Education Commissioner not later than the fifth day before the stated maturity date of such bond or interest payment. Immediately following receipt of such notice, the Education Commissioner must cause to be transferred from the appropriate account in the PSF to the Paying Agent/Registrar an amount necessary to pay the maturing or matured principal and interest. Upon receipt of funds for payment of such principal or interest, the Paying Agent/Registrar must pay the amount due and forward the canceled bond or evidence of payment of the interest to the State Comptroller of Public Accounts (the "Comptroller"). The Education Commissioner will instruct the Comptroller to withhold the amount paid, plus interest, from the first State money payable to the school district. The amount withheld pursuant to this funding "intercept" feature will be deposited to the credit of the PSF. The Comptroller must hold such canceled bond or evidence of payment of the interest on behalf of the PSF. Following full reimbursement of such

Unaudited figures from Table 5 in the FY 2023 Unaudited Annual Financial Report of the Texas General Land Office and Veterans Land Board.

Historical Cost of investments at August 31, 2023 was: Sovereign Lands \$838,776.71; Discretionary Internal Investments \$129,728,504.04; Other Lands \$38,241,863.70; and Minerals \$13,437,063.73.

Includes an estimated 1,000,000,00 acres in freshwater rivers.

Includes an estimated 1,747,600.00 in excess acreage.

Cash in State Treasury is managed by the Treasury Operations Division of the Comptroller of Public Accounts of the State of Texas.

Future Net Revenues discounted at 10% and then adjusted for risk factors. A mineral reserve report is prepared annually by external third-party petroleum engineers.

payment by the school district to the PSF with interest, the Comptroller will cancel the bond or evidence of payment of the interest and forward it to the school district. The Act permits the Education Commissioner to order a school district to set a tax rate sufficient to reimburse the PSF for any payments made with respect to guaranteed bonds, and also sufficient to pay future payments on guaranteed bonds, and provides certain enforcement mechanisms to the Education Commissioner, including the appointment of a board of managers or annexation of a defaulting school district to another school district.

If a school district fails to pay principal or interest on a bond as it is stated to mature, other amounts not due and payable are not accelerated and do not become due and payable by virtue of the district's default. The School District Bond Guarantee Program does not apply to the payment of principal and interest upon redemption of bonds, except upon mandatory sinking fund redemption, and does not apply to the obligation, if any, of a school district to pay a redemption premium on its guaranteed bonds. The guarantee applies to all matured interest on guaranteed school district bonds, whether the bonds were issued with a fixed or variable interest rate and whether the interest rate changes as a result of an interest reset provision or other bond order provision requiring an interest rate change. The guarantee does not extend to any obligation of a school district under any agreement with a third party relating to guaranteed bonds that is defined or described in State law as a "bond enhancement agreement" or a "credit agreement," unless the right to payment of such third party is directly as a result of such third party being a bondholder.

In the event that two or more payments are made from the PSF on behalf of a district, the Education Commissioner shall request the Attorney General to institute legal action to compel the district and its officers, agents and employees to comply with the duties required of them by law in respect to the payment of guaranteed bonds.

Generally, the regulations that govern the School District Bond Guarantee Program (the "SDBGP Rules") limit guarantees to certain types of notes and bonds, including, with respect to refunding bonds issued by school districts, a requirement that the bonds produce debt service savings. The SDBGP Rules include certain accreditation criteria for districts applying for a guarantee of their bonds, and limit guarantees to districts that have less than the amount of annual debt service per average daily attendance that represents the 90th percentile of annual debt service per average daily attendance for all school districts, but such limitation will not apply to school districts that have enrollment growth of at least 25% over the previous five school years. As noted, above, in connection with the Regulatory Recodification, the SDBGP Rules are now codified in the Texas Administrative Code at 19 TAC section 33.6 and are available at https://tea.texas.gov/finance-and-grants/state-funding/facilities-funding-and-standards/bond-guarantee-program.

#### The Charter District Bond Guarantee Program

The Charter District Bond Guarantee Program became effective March 3, 2014. The SBOE published final regulations in the Texas Register that provide for the administration of the Charter District Bond Guarantee Program (the "CDBGP Rules"). As noted, above, in connection with the Regulatory Recodification, the CDBGP Rules are now codified at 19 TAC section 33.7 and are available at https://tea.texas.gov/finance-and-grants/state-funding/facilities-funding-and-standards/bond-guarantee-program.

The Charter District Bond Guarantee Program has been authorized through the enactment of amendments to the Act, which provide that a charter holder may make application to the Education Commissioner for designation as a "charter district" and for a guarantee by the PSF under the Act of bonds issued on behalf of a charter district by a non-profit corporation. If the conditions for the Charter District Bond Guarantee Program are satisfied, the guarantee becomes effective upon approval of the bonds by the Attorney General and remains in effect until the guaranteed bonds are paid or defeased, by a refunding or otherwise.

Pursuant to the CDBGP Rules, the Education Commissioner annually determines the ratio of charter district students to total public school students, for the 2024 fiscal year, the ratio is 7.69%. At February 26, 2024, there were 186 active openenrollment charter schools in the State and there were 1,128 charter school campuses authorized under such charters, though as of such date, 212 of such campuses are not currently serving students for various reasons; therefore, there are 916 charter school campuses actively serving students in Texas. Section 12.101, Texas Education Code, limits the number of charters that the Education Commissioner may grant to a total number of 305 charters. While legislation limits the number of charters that may be granted, it does not limit the number of campuses that may operate under a particular charter. For information regarding the capacity of the Guarantee Program, see "Capacity Limits for the Guarantee Program." The Act provides that the Education Commissioner may not approve the guarantee of refunding or refinanced bonds under the Charter District Bond Guarantee Program in a total amount that exceeds one-half of the total amount available for the guarantee of charter district bonds under the Charter District Bond Guarantee Program.

In accordance with the Act, the Education Commissioner may not approve charter district bonds for guarantee if such guarantees will result in lower bond ratings for public school district bonds that are guaranteed under the School District Bond Guarantee Program. To be eligible for a guarantee, the Act provides that a charter district's bonds must be approved by the Attorney General, have an unenhanced investment grade rating from a nationally recognized investment rating firm, and satisfy a limited investigation conducted by the TEA.

The Charter District Bond Guarantee Program does not apply to the payment of principal and interest upon redemption of bonds, except upon mandatory sinking fund redemption, and does not apply to the obligation, if any, of a charter district to pay a redemption premium on its guaranteed bonds. The guarantee applies to all matured interest on guaranteed charter district bonds, whether the bonds were issued with a fixed or variable interest rate and whether the interest rate changes as a result of an interest reset provision or other bond resolution provision requiring an interest rate change. The guarantee does not extend to any obligation of a charter district under any agreement with a third party relating to guaranteed bonds that is defined or described in State law as a "bond enhancement agreement" or a "credit agreement," unless the right to payment of such third party is directly as a result of such third party being a bondholder.

In the event of default, holders of guaranteed charter district bonds will receive all payments due from the corpus of the PSF. Following a determination that a charter district will be or is unable to pay maturing or matured principal or interest on any guaranteed bond, the Act requires a charter district to notify the Education Commissioner not later than the fifth day before the stated maturity date of such bond or interest payment and provides that immediately following receipt of notice that a charter district will be or is unable to pay maturing or matured principal or interest on a guaranteed bond, the Education Commissioner is required to instruct the Comptroller to transfer from the Charter District Reserve Fund to the district's paying agent an amount necessary to pay the maturing or matured principal or interest. If money in the Charter District Reserve Fund is insufficient to pay the amount due on a bond for which a notice of default has been received, the Education Commissioner is required to instruct the Comptroller to transfer from the PSF to the district's paying agent the amount necessary to pay the balance of the unpaid maturing or matured principal or interest. If a total of two or more payments are made under the Charter District Bond Guarantee Program on charter district bonds and the Education Commissioner determines that the charter district is acting in bad faith under the program, the Education Commissioner may request the Attorney General to institute appropriate legal action to compel the charter district and its officers, agents, and employees to comply with the duties required of them by law in regard to the guaranteed bonds. As is the case with the School District Bond Guarantee Program, the Act provides a funding "intercept" feature that obligates the Education Commissioner to instruct the Comptroller to withhold the amount paid with respect to the Charter District Bond Guarantee Program, plus interest, from the first State money payable to a charter district that fails to make a guaranteed payment on its bonds. The amount withheld will be deposited, first, to the credit of the PSF, and then to restore any amount drawn from the Charter District Reserve Fund as a result of the non-payment.

The CDBGP Rules provide that the PSF may be used to guarantee bonds issued for the acquisition, construction, repair, or renovation of an educational facility for an open-enrollment charter holder and equipping real property of an open-enrollment charter school and/or to refinance promissory notes executed by an open-enrollment charter school, each in an amount in excess of \$500,000 the proceeds of which loans were used for a purpose described above (so-called new money bonds) or for refinancing bonds previously issued for the charter school that were approved by the Attorney General (so-called refunding bonds). Refunding bonds may not be guaranteed under the Charter District Bond Guarantee Program if they do not result in a present value savings to the charter holder.

The CDBGP Rules provide that an open-enrollment charter holder applying for charter district designation and a guarantee of its bonds under the Charter District Bond Guarantee Program satisfy various provisions of the regulations, including the following: It must (i) have operated at least one open-enrollment charter school with enrolled students in the State for at least three years; (ii) agree that the bonded indebtedness for which the guarantee is sought will be undertaken as an obligation of all entities under common control of the open-enrollment charter holder, and that all such entities will be liable for the obligation if the open-enrollment charter holder defaults on the bonded indebtedness, provided, however, that an entity that does not operate a charter school in Texas is subject to this provision only to the extent it has received state funds from the open- enrollment charter holder; (iii) have had completed for the past three years an audit for each such year that included unqualified or unmodified audit opinions; and (iv) have received an investment grade credit rating within the last year. Upon receipt of an application for guarantee under the Charter District Bond Guarantee Program, the Education Commissioner is required to conduct an investigation into the financial status of the applicant charter district and of the accreditation status of all open-enrollment charter schools operated under the charter, within the scope set forth in the CDBGP Rules. Such financial investigation must establish that an applying charter district has a historical debt service coverage ratio, based on annual debt service, of at least 1.1 for the most recently completed fiscal year, and a projected debt service coverage ratio, based on projected revenues and expenses and maximum annual debt service, of at least 1.2. The failure of an openenrollment charter holder to comply with the Act or the applicable regulations, including by making any material misrepresentations in the charter holder's application for charter district designation or guarantee under the Charter District Bond Guarantee Program, constitutes a material violation of the open-enrollment charter holder's charter.

From time to time, TEA has limited new guarantees under the Charter District Bond Guarantee Program to conform to capacity limits specified by the Act. The Charter District Bond Guarantee Program Capacity (the "CDBGP Capacity") is made available from the capacity of the Guarantee Program but is not reserved exclusively for the Charter District Bond Guarantee Program. See "Capacity Limits for the Guarantee Program." Other factors that could increase the CDBGP Capacity include Fund investment performance, future increases in the Guarantee Program multiplier, changes in State law that govern the calculation of the CDBGP Capacity, as described below, changes in State or federal law or regulations related

to the Guarantee Program limit, growth in the relative percentage of students enrolled in open-enrollment charter schools to the total State scholastic census, legislative and administrative changes in funding for charter districts, changes in level of school district or charter district participation in the Guarantee Program, or a combination of such circumstances.

## **Capacity Limits for the Guarantee Program**

The capacity of the Fund to guarantee bonds under the Guarantee Program is limited to the lesser of that imposed by State law (the "State Capacity Limit") and that imposed by regulations and a notice issued by the IRS (the "IRS Limit", with the limit in effect at any given time being the "Capacity Limit"). From 2005 through 2009, the Guarantee Program twice reached capacity under the IRS Limit, and in each instance the Guarantee Program was closed to new bond guarantee applications until relief was obtained from the IRS. The most recent closure of the Guarantee Program commenced in March 2009 and the Guarantee Program reopened in February 2010 after the IRS updated regulations relating to the PSF and similar funds.

Prior to 2007, various legislation was enacted modifying the calculation of the State Capacity limit; however, in 2007, Senate Bill 389 ("SB 389") was enacted, providing for increases in the capacity of the Guarantee Program, and specifically providing that the SBOE may by rule increase the capacity of the Guarantee Program from two and one-half times the cost value of the PSF to an amount not to exceed five times the cost value of the PSF, provided that the increased limit does not violate federal law and regulations and does not prevent bonds guaranteed by the Guarantee Program from receiving the highest available credit rating, as determined by the SBOE. SB 389 further provided that the SBOE shall at least annually consider whether to change the capacity of the Guarantee Program. Additionally, on May 21, 2010, the SBOE modified the SDBGP Rules, and increased the State Capacity Limit to an amount equal to three times the cost value of the PSF.

Such modified regulations, including the revised capacity rule, became effective on July 1, 2010. The SDBGP Rules provide that the Education Commissioner will estimate the available capacity of the PSF each month and may increase or reduce the State Capacity Limit multiplier to prudently manage fund capacity and maintain the AAA credit rating of the Guarantee Program but also provide that any changes to the multiplier made by the Education Commissioner are to be ratified or rejected by the SBOE at the next meeting following the change. See "Valuation of the PSF and Guaranteed Bonds" below.

Since September 2015, the SBOE has periodically voted to change the capacity multiplier as shown in the following table.

Changes in SBOE-determined multiplier for	r State Capacity Limit
<u>Date</u>	Multiplier
Prior to May 2010	2.50
May 2010	3.00
September 2015	3.25
February 2017	3.50
September 2017	3.75
February 2018 (current)	3.50

Since December 16, 2009, the IRS Limit was a static limit set at 500% of the total cost value of the assets held by the PSF as of December 16, 2009; however, on May 10, 2023, the IRS released Notice 2023-39 (the "IRS Notice"), stating that the IRS would issue regulations amending the existing regulations to amend the calculation of the IRS limit to 500% of the total cost value of assets held by the PSF as of the date of sale of new bonds, effective as of May 10, 2023.

The IRS Notice changed the IRS Limit from a static limit to a dynamic limit for the Guarantee Program based upon the cost value of Fund assets, multiplied by five. As of December 31, 2023 the cost value of the Guarantee Program was \$44,034,322,531 (unaudited), thereby producing an IRS Limit of \$220,171,612,655 in principal amount of guaranteed bonds outstanding.

As of December 31, 2023, the estimated State Capacity Limit is \$154,120,128,859, which is lower than the IRS Limit, making the State Capacity Limit the current Capacity Limit for the Fund.

Since July 1991, when the SBOE amended the Guarantee Program Rules to broaden the range of bonds that are eligible for guarantee under the Guarantee Program to encompass most Texas school district bonds, the principal amount of bonds guaranteed under the Guarantee Program has increased sharply. In addition, in recent years a number of factors have caused an increase in the amount of bonds issued by school districts in the State. See the table "Permanent School Fund Guaranteed Bonds" below. Effective March 1, 2023, the Act provides that the SBOE may establish a percentage of the Capacity Limit to be reserved from use in guaranteeing bonds (the "Capacity Reserve"). The SDBGP Rules provide for a maximum Capacity Reserve for the overall Guarantee Program of 5% and provide that the amount of the Capacity Reserve may be increased or decreased by a majority vote of the SBOE based on changes in the cost value, asset allocation, and risk in the portfolio, or may be increased or decreased by the Education Commissioner as necessary to prudently manage fund capacity

and preserve the AAA credit rating of the Guarantee Program (subject to ratification or rejection by the SBOE at the next meeting for which an item can be posted). The CDBGP Rules provide for an additional reserve of CDBGP Capacity determined by calculating an equal percentage as established by the SBOE for the Capacity Reserve, applied to the CDBGP Capacity. Effective March 1, 2023, the Capacity Reserve is 0.25%. The Capacity Reserve is noted in the monthly updates with respect to the capacity of the Guarantee Program on the PSF Corporation's web site at https://texaspsf.org/monthly-disclosures/, which are also filed with the MSRB.

Based upon historical performance of the Fund, the legal restrictions relating to the amount of bonds that may be guaranteed has generally resulted in a lower ratio of guaranteed bonds to available assets as compared to many other types of credit enhancements that may be available for Texas school district bonds and charter district bonds. However, the ratio of Fund assets to guaranteed bonds and the growth of the Fund in general could be adversely affected by a number of factors, including Fund investment performance, investment objectives of the Fund, an increase in bond issues by school districts in the State or legal restrictions on the Fund, changes in State laws that implement funding decisions for school districts and charter districts, which could adversely affect the credit quality of those districts, the implementation of the Charter District Bond Guarantee Program, or significant changes in distributions to the ASF. The issuance of the IRS Notice and the Final IRS Regulations resulted in a substantial increase in the amount of bonds guaranteed under the Guarantee Program.

No representation is made as to how the capacity will remain available, and the capacity of the Guarantee Program is subject to change due to a number of factors, including changes in bond issuance volume throughout the State and some bonds receiving guarantee approvals may not close. If the amount of guaranteed bonds approaches the State Capacity Limit, the SBOE or Education Commissioner may increase the State Capacity Limit multiplier as discussed above.

#### 2017 Legislative Changes to the Charter District Bond Guarantee Program

The CDBGP Capacity is established by the Act. During the 85th Texas Legislature, which concluded on May 29, 2017, Senate Bill 1480 ("SB 1480") was enacted. SB 1480 amended the Act to modify how the CDBGP Capacity is established effective as of September 1, 2017, and made other substantive changes to the Charter District Bond Guarantee Program. Prior to the enactment of SB 1480, the CDBGP Capacity was calculated as the Capacity Limit less the amount of outstanding bond guarantees under the Guarantee Program multiplied by the percentage of charter district scholastic population relative to the total public school scholastic population. SB 1480 amended the CDBGP Capacity calculation so that the Capacity Limit is multiplied by the percentage of charter district scholastic population relative to the total public school scholastic population prior to the subtraction of the outstanding bond guarantees, thereby increasing the CDBGP Capacity.

The percentage of the charter district scholastic population to the overall public school scholastic population has grown from 3.53% in September 2012 to 7.69% in February 2024. TEA is unable to predict how the ratio of charter district students to the total State scholastic population will change over time.

In addition to modifying the manner of determining the CDBGP Capacity, SB 1480 provided that the Education Commissioner's investigation of a charter district application for guarantee may include an evaluation of whether the charter district bond security documents provide a security interest in real property pledged as collateral for the bond and the repayment obligation under the proposed guarantee. The Education Commissioner may decline to approve the application if the Education Commissioner determines that sufficient security is not provided. The Act and the CDBGP Rules also require the Education Commissioner to make an investigation of the accreditation status and financial status for a charter district applying for a bond guarantee.

Since the initial authorization of the Charter District Bond Guarantee Program, the Act has established a bond guarantee reserve fund in the State treasury (the "Charter District Reserve Fund"). Formerly, the Act provided that each charter district that has a bond guaranteed must annually remit to the Education Commissioner, for deposit in the Charter District Reserve Fund, an amount equal to 10% of the savings to the charter district that is a result of the lower interest rate on its bonds due to the guarantee by the PSF. SB 1480 modified the Act insofar as it pertains to the Charter District Reserve Fund. Effective September 1, 2017, the Act provides that a charter district that has a bond guaranteed must remit to the Education Commissioner, for deposit in the Charter District Reserve Fund, an amount equal to 20% of the savings to the charter district that is a result of the lower interest rate on the bond due to the guarantee by the PSF. The amount due shall be paid on receipt by the charter district of the bond proceeds. However, the deposit requirement will not apply if the balance of the Charter District Reserve Fund is at least equal to 3.00% of the total amount of outstanding guaranteed bonds issued by charter districts. At January 31, 2024, the Charter District Reserve Fund contained \$97,636,048, which represented approximately 2.32% of the guaranteed charter district bonds. The Reserve Fund is held and invested as a non-commingled fund under the administration of the PSF Corporation staff.

#### **Charter District Risk Factors**

Open-enrollment charter schools in the State may not charge tuition and, unlike school districts, charter districts have no taxing power. Funding for charter district operations is largely from amounts appropriated by the Legislature. Additionally, the amount of State payments a charter district receives is based on a variety of factors, including the enrollment at the schools operated by a charter district, and may be affected by the State's economic performance and other budgetary considerations and various political considerations.

Other than credit support for charter district bonds that is provided to qualifying charter districts by the Charter District Bond Guarantee Program, State funding for charter district facilities construction is limited to a program established by the Legislature in 2017, which provides \$60 million per year for eligible charter districts with an acceptable performance rating for a variety of funding purposes, including for lease or purchase payments for instructional facilities. Since State funding for charter facilities is limited, charter schools generally issue revenue bonds to fund facility construction and acquisition, or fund facilities from cash flows of the school. Some charter districts have issued non-guaranteed debt in addition to debt guaranteed under the Charter District Bond Guarantee Program, and such non-guaranteed debt is likely to be secured by a deed of trust covering all or part of the charter district's facilities. In March 2017, the TEA began requiring charter districts to provide the TEA with a lien against charter district property as a condition to receiving a guarantee under the Charter District Bond Guarantee Program. However, charter district bonds issued and guaranteed under the Charter District Bond Guarantee Program prior to the implementation of the new requirement did not have the benefit of a security interest in real property, although other existing debts of such charter districts that are not guaranteed under the Charter District Bond Guarantee Program may be secured by real property that could be foreclosed on in the event of a bond default.

As a general rule, the operation of a charter school involves fewer State requirements and regulations for charter holders as compared to other public schools, but the maintenance of a State- granted charter is dependent upon on-going compliance with State law and regulations, which are monitored by TEA. TEA has a broad range of enforcement and remedial actions that it can take as corrective measures, and such actions may include the loss of the State charter, the appointment of a new board of directors to govern a charter district, the assignment of operations to another charter operator, or, as a last resort, the dissolution of an open-enrollment charter school. Charter holders are governed by a private board of directors, as compared to the elected boards of trustees that govern school districts.

As described above, the Act includes a funding "intercept" function that applies to both the School District Bond Guarantee Program and the Charter District Bond Guarantee Program. However, school districts are viewed as the "educator of last resort" for students residing in the geographical territory of the district, which makes it unlikely that State funding for those school districts would be discontinued, although the TEA can require the dissolution and merger into another school district if necessary to ensure sound education and financial management of a school district. That is not the case with a charter district, however, and open-enrollment charter schools in the State have been dissolved by TEA from time to time. If a charter district that has bonds outstanding that are guaranteed by the Charter District Bond Guarantee Program should be dissolved, debt service on guaranteed bonds of the district would continue to be paid to bondholders in accordance with the Charter District Bond Guarantee Program, but there would be no funding available for reimbursement of the PSF by the Comptroller for such payments. As described under "The Charter District Bond Guarantee Program," the Act established the Charter District Reserve Fund, to serve as a reimbursement resource for the PSF.

# **Infectious Disease Outbreak**

Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020, TEA and TEA investment management for the PSF have continued to operate and function pursuant to the TEA continuity of operations plan developed as mandated in accordance with Texas Labor Code Section 412.054. That plan was designed to ensure performance of the Agency's essential missions and functions under such threats and conditions in the event of, among other emergencies, a pandemic event.

Circumstances regarding the COVID-19 pandemic continue to evolve; for additional information on these events in the State, reference is made to the website of the Governor, https://gov.texas.gov/, and, with respect to public school events, the website of TEA, https://tea.texas.gov/texas-schools/safe-and-healthy-schools/coronavirus-covid-19-support-and-guidance.

TEA cannot predict whether any school or charter district may experience short- or longer-term cash flow emergencies as a direct or indirect effect of COVID-19 that would require a payment from the PSF to be made to a paying agent for a guaranteed bond. However, through the end of January 2024, no school district or charter district had failed to perform with respect to making required payments on their guaranteed bonds. Information regarding the respective financial operations of the issuer of bonds guaranteed, or to be guaranteed, by the PSF is provided by such issuers in their respective bond offering documents and the TEA takes no responsibility for the respective information, as it is provided by the respective issuers.

#### Ratings of Bonds Guaranteed Under the Guarantee Program

Moody's Investors Service, Inc., S&P Global Ratings, and Fitch Ratings, Inc. rate bonds guaranteed by the PSF "Aaa," "AAA" and "AAA," respectively. Not all districts apply for multiple ratings on their bonds, however. See the applicable rating section within the offering document to which this is attached for information regarding a district's underlying rating and the enhanced rating applied to a given series of bonds.

#### Valuation of the PSF and Guaranteed Bonds

Permanent School Fund Valuations
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	i ci manene senooi i una va	luations
Fiscal Year		
Ended 8/31	Book Value <sup>(1)</sup>	Market Value(1)
2019	\$35,288,344,219	\$46,464,447,981
2020	36,642,000,738	46,764,059,745
2021	38,699,895,545	55,582,252,097
2022	42,511,350,050	56,754,515,757
2023(2)	43,915,792,841	59,020,536,667

SLB managed assets are included in the market value and book value of the Fund. In determining the market value of the PSF from time to time during a fiscal year, the current, unaudited values for PSF investment portfolios and cash held by the SLB are used. With respect to SLB managed assets shown in the table above, market values of land and mineral interests, internally managed real estate, investments in externally managed real estate funds and cash are based upon information reported to the PSF Corporation by the SLB. The SLB reports that information to the PSF Corporation on a quarterly basis. The valuation of such assets at any point in time is dependent upon a variety of factors, including economic conditions in the State and nation in general, and the values of these assets, and, in particular, the valuation of mineral holdings administered by the SLB, can be volatile and subject to material changes from period to period.

At August 31, 2023, mineral assets, sovereign and other lands and discretionary internal investments, and cash managed by the SLB had book values of approximately \$13.4 million, \$168.8 million, and \$708.4 million, respectively, and market values of approximately \$5,435.6 million, \$678.4 million, and \$508.4 million, respectively.

1 CI manent School I and Sauranteed Bonds		
At 8/31	Principal Amount <sup>(1)</sup>	
2019	\$ 84,397,900,203	
2020	90,336,680,245	
2021	95,259,161,922	
2022	103,239,495,929	
2023	115,730,826,682(2)	

<sup>(1)</sup> Represents original principal amount; does not reflect any subsequent accretions in value for compound interest bonds (zero coupon securities). The amount shown excludes bonds that have been refunded and released from the Guarantee Program. The TEA does not maintain records of the accreted value of capital appreciation bonds that are guaranteed under the Guarantee Program.

At August 31, 2023 (the most recent date for which such data is available), the TEA expected that the principal and interest to be paid by school districts and charter districts over the remaining life of the bonds guaranteed by the Guarantee Program was \$178,520,723,868, of which \$62,789,897,186 represents interest to be paid. As shown in the table above, at August 31, 2023, there were \$115,730,826,682 in principal amount of bonds guaranteed under the Guarantee Program. Using the State Capacity Limit of \$154,120,128,859 (the State Capacity Limit is currently the Capacity Limit), net of the Capacity Reserve, as of December 31, 2023, 7.36% of the Guarantee Program's capacity was available to the Charter District Bond Guarantee Program. As of December 31, 2023, the amount of outstanding bond guarantees represented 76.36% of the Capacity Limit (which is currently the State Capacity Limit). December 31, 2023 values are based on unaudited data, which is subject to adjustment.

Permanent School Fund Guaranteed Bonds by Category(1)

School District Bonds		Charter District Bonds		Totals		
Fiscal Year						
Ended	Number	Principal	Number	Principal	Number	Principal
8/31	of Issues	Amount (\$)	of Issues	Amount (\$)	of Issues	Amount (\$)
2019	3,297	82,537,755,203	49	1,860,145,000	3,346	84,397,900,203
2020	3,296	87,800,478,245	64	2,536,202,000	3,360	90,336,680,245
2021	3,346	91,951,175,922	83	3,307,986,000	3,429	95,259,161,922
2022	3,348	99,528,099,929	94	3,711,396,000	3,442	103,239,495,929
$2023^{(2)}$	3,339	111,647,914,682	102	4,082,912,000	3,441	115,730,826,682

<sup>(1)</sup> Represents original principal amount; does not reflect any subsequent accretions in value for compound interest bonds (zero coupon securities). The amount shown excludes bonds that have been refunded and released from the Guarantee Program.

#### Discussion and Analysis Pertaining to Fiscal Year Ended August 31, 2023

The following discussion is derived from the Annual Report for the year ended August 31, 2023, including the Message from the Chief Executive Officer of the Fund, the Management's Discussion and Analysis, and other schedules contained therein. Reference is made to the Annual Report, as filed with the MSRB, for the complete Message and MD&A. Investment assets managed by the PSFC Board are referred to throughout this MD&A as the PSF(CORP). The Fund's non-financial real assets are managed by the SLB and these assets are referred to throughout as the PSF(SLB) assets.

At the end of fiscal year 2023, the PSF(CORP) net position was \$52.3 billion. During the year, the PSF(CORP) continued implementing the long-term strategic asset allocation, diversifying the investment mix to strengthen the Fund. The asset allocation is projected to increase returns over the long run while reducing risk and portfolio return volatility. The PSF(CORP) is invested in global markets and liquid assets experience volatility commensurate with the related indices. The PSF(CORP) is broadly diversified and benefits from the cost structure of its investment program. Changes continue to be researched, crafted, and implemented to make the cost structure more effective and efficient. The PSF(CORP) annual rates of return for the one-year, five-year, and ten- year periods ending August 31, 2023, net of fees, were 6.14%, 6.19%, and 6.78%, respectively (total return takes into consideration the change in the market value of the Fund during the year as well as the interest and dividend income generated by the Fund's investments). See "Comparative Investment Schedule -PSF(CORP) holdings as of August 31, 2023.

Beginning January 1, 2023, Texas PSF transitioned into the PSF Corporation combining all PSF financial investment assets under the singular management of the PSF Corporation. The new structure of the PSF Corporation updated the strategic asset allocation among public equities, fixed income, and alternative assets, as discussed herein. Alternative assets now include absolute return, private equity, real estate, natural resources, infrastructure, and real return (TIPS and commodities). The inauguration of the PSF Corporation as a discretely presented component unit of the State of Texas for fiscal year 2023 required a change in the basis of accounting to full accrual. For a description of the full accrual basis of accounting and more information about performance, including comparisons to established benchmarks for certain periods, please see the 2023 Annual Report which is included by reference herein.

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At December 31, 2023 (based on unaudited data, which is subject to adjustment), there were \$117,374,697,034 in principal amount of bonds guaranteed under the Guarantee Program, representing 3,369 school district issues, aggregating \$113,174,765,034 in principal amount and 105 charter district issues, aggregating \$4,199,932,000 in principal amount. At December 31, 2023 the projected guarantee capacity available was \$26,935,589,587 (based on unaudited data, which is subject to adjustment).

PSF Returns Fiscal Year Ended 8-31-2023<sup>(1)</sup>

		Benchmark
<u>Portfolio</u>	<u>Return</u>	Return <sup>(2)</sup>
Total PSF(CORP) Portfolio	6.14%	4.38
Domestic Large Cap Equities	16.09	15.94
Domestic Small/Mid Cap Equities	9.31	9.14
International Equities	12.38	11.89
Emerging Market Equity	2.48	1.25
Fixed Income	(1.30)	(1.19)
U.S. Treasuries	(9.21)	(9.69)
Absolute Return	7.59	3.58
Real Estate	(1.96)	(3.13)
Private Equity	4.55	0.20
Real Return	(5.51)	(5.88)
Emerging Market Debt	12.68	11.34
High Yield	7.80	7.19
Emerging Manager Program	33.35	0.97
Natural Resources	5.70	3.67
Infrastructure	14.22	3.67

Time weighted rates of return adjusted for cash flows for the PSF(CORP) investment assets. Does not include SLB managed real estate or real assets. Returns are net of fees. Source: Annual Report for year ended August 31, 2023.

The SLB is responsible for the investment of money in the Real Estate Special Fund Account (RESFA) of the PSF (also referred to herein as the PSF(SLB)). Pursuant to applicable law, money in the PSF(SLB) may be invested in land, interest in real estate, mineral and royalty interest, and real property holdings. For more information regarding the investments of the PSF(SLB), please see the 2023 Unaudited Annual Financial Report of the Texas General Land Office and Veterans Land Board.

The Fund directly supports the public school system in the State by distributing a predetermined percentage of its asset value to the ASF. In fiscal year 2023, \$2.1 billion was distributed to the ASF, \$345 million of which was distributed by the PSF(CORP) on behalf of the SLB.

#### Other Events and Disclosures

State ethics laws govern the ethics and disclosure requirements for financial advisors and other service providers who advise certain State governmental entities, including the PSF. The SBOE code of ethics provides ethical standards for SBOE members, the Education Commissioner, TEA staff, and persons who provide services to the SBOE relating to the Fund. The PSF Corporation developed its own ethics policy that provides basic ethical principles, guidelines, and standards of conduct relating to the management and investment of the Fund in accordance with the requirements of §43.058 of the Texas Education Code, as amended. The SBOE code of ethics is codified in the Texas Administrative Code at 19 TAC sections 33.4 et seq. and is available on the TEA web site at https://tea.texas.gov/sites/default/files/ch033a.pdf. The PSF Corporation's ethics policy is posted to the PSF Corporation's website at texaspsf.org.

In addition, the SLB and GLO have established processes and controls over the administration of real estate transactions and are subject to provisions of the Texas Natural Resources Code and internal procedures in administering real estate transactions for Fund assets it manages.

As of August 31, 2023, certain lawsuits were pending against the State and/or the GLO, which challenge the Fund's title to certain real property and/or past or future mineral income from that property, and other litigation arising in the normal course of the investment activities of the PSF. Reference is made to the Annual Report, when filed, for a description of such lawsuits that are pending, which may represent contingent liabilities of the Fund.

# **PSF Continuing Disclosure Undertaking**

The Regulatory Recodification included the codification of the TEA's undertaking pursuant to Rule 15c2-12 (the "TEA Undertaking") pertaining to the PSF and the Guarantee Program. As of March 1, 2023, the TEA Undertaking is codified at 19 TAC 33.8, which relates to the Guarantee Program and is available at available at https://tea.texas.gov/sites/default/files/ch033a.pdf.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>(2)</sup> Benchmarks are as set forth in the Annual Report for year ended August 31, 2023.

Through the codification of the TEA Undertaking and its commitment to guarantee bonds, the TEA has made the following agreement for the benefit of the issuers, holders, and beneficial owners of guaranteed bonds. The TEA (or its successor with respect to the management of the Guarantee Program) is required to observe the agreement for so long as it remains an "obligated person," within the meaning of Rule 15c2-12, with respect to guaranteed bonds. Nothing in the TEA Undertaking obligates the TEA to make any filings or disclosures with respect to guaranteed bonds, as the obligations of the TEA under the TEA Undertaking pertain solely to the Guarantee Program. The issuer or an "obligated person" of the guaranteed bonds has assumed the applicable obligation under Rule 15c2-12 to make all disclosures and filings relating directly to guaranteed bonds, and the TEA takes no responsibility with respect to such undertakings. Under the TEA Undertaking, the TEA is obligated to provide annually certain updated financial information and operating data, and timely notice of specified material events, to the MSRB.

The MSRB has established the Electronic Municipal Market Access ("EMMA") system, and the TEA is required to file its continuing disclosure information using the EMMA system. Investors may access continuing disclosure information filed with the MSRB at www.emma.msrb.org, and the continuing disclosure filings of the TEA with respect to the PSF can be found at https://emma.msrb.org/IssueView/Details/ER355077 or by searching for "Texas Permanent School Fund Bond Guarantee Program" on EMMA.

#### **Annual Reports**

The PSF Corporation, on behalf of the TEA, and the TEA will annually provide certain updated financial information and operating data to the MSRB. The information to be updated includes all quantitative financial information and operating data with respect to the Guarantee Program and the PSF of the general type included in this offering document under the heading "THE PERMANENT SCHOOL FUND GUARANTEE PROGRAM." The information also includes the Annual Report. The PSF Corporation will update and provide this information within six months after the end of each fiscal year.

The TEA and the PSF Corporation may provide updated information in full text or may incorporate by reference certain other publicly-available documents, as permitted by Rule 15c2-12. The updated information includes audited financial statements of, or relating to, the State or the PSF, when and if such audits are commissioned and available. In the event audits are not available by the filing deadline, unaudited financial statements will be provided by such deadline, and audited financial statements will be provided when available. Financial statements of the State will be prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles as applied to state governments, as such principles may be changed from time to time, or such other accounting principles as the State Auditor is required to employ from time to time pursuant to State law or regulation. The financial statements of the Fund are required to be prepared to conform to U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles as established by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board.

The Fund is composed of two primary segments: the financial assets (PSF(CORP)) managed by PSF Corporation, and the non-financial assets (PSF(SLB)) managed by the SLB. Each of these segments is reported separately und different bases of accounting.

The PSF Corporation classified as a proprietary endowment fund and reported by the State of Texas as a discretely presented component unit and accounted for on an economic resources measurement focus and the full accrual basis of accounting. Measurement focus refers to the definition of the resource flows measured. Under the full accrual basis of accounting, all revenues reported are recognized in the period they are earned or when the PSF Corporation has a right to receive them. Expenses are recognized in the period they are incurred, and the subsequent amortization of any deferred outflows. Additionally, costs related to capital assets are capitalized and subsequently depreciated over the useful life of the assets. Both current and long-term assets and liabilities are presented in the statement of net position.

The SLB manages the Fund's non-financial assets (PSF(SLB)), is classified as a governmental permanent fund and accounted for using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, amounts are recognized as revenues in the period in which they are available to finance expenditures of the current period and are measurable. Amounts are considered measurable if they can be estimated or otherwise determined. Expenditures are recognized in the period in which the related liability is incurred, if measurable.

The State's current fiscal year end is August 31. Accordingly, the TEA and the PSF Corporation must provide updated information by the last day of February in each year, unless the State changes its fiscal year. If the State changes its fiscal year, the TEA will notify the MSRB of the change.

## **Event Notices**

The TEA and the PSF Corporation will also provide timely notices of certain events to the MSRB. Such notices will be provided not more than ten business days after the occurrence of the event. The TEA or the PSF Corporation will provide notice of any of the following events with respect to the Guarantee Program: (1) principal and interest payment

delinquencies; (2) non-payment related defaults, if such event is material within the meaning of the federal securities laws; (3) unscheduled draws on debt service reserves reflecting financial difficulties; (4) unscheduled draws on credit enhancements reflecting financial difficulties; (5) substitution of credit or liquidity providers, or their failure to perform; (6) adverse tax opinions, the issuance by the IRS of proposed or final determinations of taxability, Notices of Proposed Issue (IRS Form 5701-TEB), or other material notices or determinations with respect to the tax status of the Guarantee Program, or other material events affecting the tax status of the Guarantee Program; (7) modifications to rights of holders of bonds guaranteed by the Guarantee Program, if such event is material within the meaning of the federal securities laws; (8) bond calls, if such event is material within the meaning of the federal securities laws, and tender offers; (9) defeasances; (10) release, substitution, or sale of property securing repayment of bonds guaranteed by the Guarantee Program, if such event is material within the meaning of the federal securities laws; (11) rating changes of the Guarantee Program; (12) bankruptcy, insolvency, receivership, or similar event of the Guarantee Program (which is considered to occur when any of the following occur: the appointment of a receiver, fiscal agent, or similar officer for the Guarantee Program in a proceeding under the United States Bankruptcy Code or in any other proceeding under state or federal law in which a court or governmental authority has assumed jurisdiction over substantially all of the assets or business of the Guarantee Program, or if such jurisdiction has been assumed by leaving the existing governing body and officials or officers in possession but subject to the supervision and orders of a court or governmental authority, or the entry of an order confirming a plan of reorganization, arrangement, or liquidation by a court or governmental authority having supervision or jurisdiction over substantially all of the assets or business of the Guarantee Program); (13) the consummation of a merger, consolidation, or acquisition involving the Guarantee Program or the sale of all or substantially all of its assets, other than in the ordinary course of business, the entry into a definitive agreement to undertake such an action or the termination of a definitive agreement relating to any such actions, other than pursuant to its terms, if such event is material within the meaning of the federal securities laws; (14) the appointment of a successor or additional trustee with respect to the Guarantee Program or the change of name of a trustee, if such event is material within the meaning of the federal securities laws; (15) the incurrence of a financial obligation of the Guarantee Program, if material, or agreement to covenants, events of default, remedies, priority rights, or other similar terms of a financial obligation of the Guarantee Program, any of which affect security holders, if material; and (16) default, event of acceleration, termination event, modification of terms, or other similar events under the terms of a financial obligation of the Guarantee Program, any of which reflect financial difficulties. (Neither the Act nor any other law, regulation or instrument pertaining to the Guarantee Program make any provision with respect to the Guarantee Program for bond calls, debt service reserves, credit enhancement, liquidity enhancement, early redemption, or the appointment of a trustee with respect to the Guarantee Program.) In addition, the TEA or the PSF Corporation will provide timely notice of any failure by the TEA or the PSF Corporation to provide information, data, or financial statements in accordance with its agreement described above under "Annual Reports."

## **Availability of Information**

The TEA and the PSF Corporation have agreed to provide the foregoing information only to the MSRB and to transmit such information electronically to the MSRB in such format and accompanied by such identifying information as prescribed by the MSRB. The information is available from the MSRB to the public without charge at www.emma.msrb.org.

#### **Limitations and Amendments**

The TEA and the PSF Corporation have agreed to update information and to provide notices of material events only as described above. The TEA and the PSF Corporation have not agreed to provide other information that may be relevant or material to a complete presentation of its financial results of operations, condition, or prospects or agreed to update any information that is provided, except as described above. The TEA and the PSF Corporation make no representation or warranty concerning such information or concerning its usefulness to a decision to invest in or sell bonds at any future date. The TEA and the PSF Corporation disclaim any contractual or tort liability for damages resulting in whole or in part from any breach of its continuing disclosure agreement or from any statement made pursuant to its agreement, although holders of Bonds may seek a writ of mandamus to compel the TEA and the PSF Corporation to comply with its agreement.

The continuing disclosure agreement is made only with respect to the PSF and the Guarantee Program. The issuer of guaranteed bonds or an obligated person with respect to guaranteed bonds may make a continuing disclosure undertaking in accordance with Rule 15c2-12 with respect to its obligations arising under Rule 15c2-12 pertaining to financial information and operating data concerning such entity and events notices relating to such guaranteed bonds. A description of such undertaking, if any, is included elsewhere in this offering document.

This continuing disclosure agreement may be amended by the TEA or the PSF Corporation from time to time to adapt to changed circumstances that arise from a change in legal requirements, a change in law, or a change in the identity, nature, status, or type of operations of the TEA or the PSF Corporation, but only if (1) the provisions, as so amended, would have permitted an underwriter to purchase or sell guaranteed bonds in the primary offering of such bonds in compliance with Rule 15c2-12, taking into account any amendments or interpretations of Rule 15c2-12 since such offering as well as such

changed circumstances and (2) either (a) the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding bonds guaranteed by the Guarantee Program consent to such amendment or (b) a person that is unaffiliated with the TEA or the PSF Corporation (such as nationally recognized bond counsel) determines that such amendment will not materially impair the interest of the holders and beneficial owners of the bonds guaranteed by the Guarantee Program. The TEA or the PSF Corporation may also amend or repeal the provisions of its continuing disclosure agreement if the SEC amends or repeals the applicable provision of Rule 15c2-12 or a court of final jurisdiction enters judgment that such provisions of Rule 15c2-12 are invalid, but only if and to the extent that the provisions of this sentence would not prevent an underwriter from lawfully purchasing or selling bonds guaranteed by the Guarantee Program in the primary offering of such bonds.

#### **Compliance with Prior Undertakings**

Except as stated below, during the last five years, the TEA and the PSF Corporation have not failed to substantially comply with their previous continuing disclosure agreements in accordance with Rule 15c2-12. On April 28, 2022, TEA became aware that it had not timely filed its 2021 Annual Report with EMMA due to an administrative oversight. TEA took corrective action and filed the 2021 Annual Report with EMMA on April 28, 2022, followed by a notice of late filing made with EMMA on April 29, 2022. TEA notes that the 2021 Annual Report was timely filed on the TEA website by the required filing date and that website posting has been incorporated by reference into TEA's Bond Guarantee Program disclosures that are included in school district and charter district offering documents.

#### **SEC Exemptive Relief**

On February 9, 1996, the TEA received a letter from the Chief Counsel of the SEC that pertains to the availability of the "small issuer exemption" set forth in paragraph (d)(2) of Rule 15c2-12. The letter provides that Texas school districts which offer municipal securities that are guaranteed under the Guarantee Program may undertake to comply with the provisions of paragraph (d)(2) of Rule 15c2-12 if their offerings otherwise qualify for such exemption, notwithstanding the guarantee of the school district securities under the Guarantee Program. Among other requirements established by Rule 15c2-12, a school district offering may qualify for the small issuer exemption if, upon issuance of the proposed series of securities, the school district will have no more than \$10 million of outstanding municipal securities.