

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-64

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE LODI UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT ORDERING A SCHOOL BOND ELECTION ON NOVEMBER 5, 2024, REQUESTING CONSOLIDATION WITH OTHER MEASURES OCCURRING ON NOVEMBER 5, 2024, AND AUTHORIZING NECESSARY ACTIONS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH

WHEREAS, the Lodi Unified School District (“District”) has provided high quality education to students in the local community over its long history, consistent with its mission to provide District students with the knowledge to recognize their significance and potential, allowing them to use their 21st century learning experiences to thrive as tomorrow’s leaders, workers and democratic citizens;

WHEREAS, our local schools have urgent needs that must be addressed to maintain academic excellence, and to enable the District to achieve its vision that District students are tomorrow’s leaders, workers, and citizens;

WHEREAS, bond revenue is the primary means by which the District is able to keep its school buildings and classrooms in good repair, safe, designed and equipped to support changing educational standards, methods and approaches;

WHEREAS, aging education facilities need repairs and upgrades to meet modern academic and safety standards, to ensure all schools have up-to-date technology, as well as safe, secure campuses to protect students and staff, and to provide modern classrooms that will attract and retain the best teachers and staff;

WHEREAS, the District conducted and adopted a comprehensive Long Range Facilities Plan that identified the upgrades needed at each school site in order to meet modern safety and security standards, meet the District’s goals for supporting current academic standards, and address specific priorities at individual school sites;

WHEREAS, the District cannot rely on the State of California to fund school facility improvements and the limited state dollars available for facility upgrades often require local matching funds that could be provided by a local bond measure;

WHEREAS, the Board is authorized to order elections within the District and to designate the specifications thereof, pursuant to Sections 5304 and 5322 of the California Education Code (“Education Code”) and is specifically authorized to order elections for the purpose of submitting to the electors the question of whether bonds of the District shall be issued and sold for the purpose of raising money for the purposes hereinafter specified, pursuant to Section 15100 *et seq.* of the Education Code;

WHEREAS, pursuant to section 18 of Article XVI and section 1 of Article XIII A of the California Constitution (also known as “Proposition 39”), and Section 15266 of the Education Code, school districts may seek approval of general obligation bonds and levy an *ad valorem* tax to repay those bonds upon a fifty-five percent (55%) vote of those voting on a proposition for that purpose, provided certain accountability measures are included in the proposition; and

WHEREAS, a bond measure will benefit the District’s local schools only, and no funds may be taken away by the State or other school districts;

WHEREAS, any Proposition 39 local bond measure proposed by the District is legally required to include mandatory taxpayer protections, including an independent citizens’

oversight committee and mandatory audits to ensure funds are spent as promised and that none of the money is spent on school operating expenses such as administrators' salaries or pensions;

WHEREAS, the Board deems it necessary and advisable to submit such a bond proposition to the electors to be approved by fifty-five percent (55%) of the votes cast;

WHEREAS, such a bond election must be conducted concurrent with a statewide primary election, general election or special election, or at a regularly scheduled local election, as required by Section 15266 of the Education Code, and on November 5, 2024, a statewide primary election is scheduled to occur throughout the District;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 15270 of the Education Code, if the measure is approved by the voters, bonds may only be issued if the tax rate levied to meet the debt service requirements would not exceed sixty dollars (\$60) per year per one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) of taxable property when assessed valuation is projected by the District to increase in accordance with Article XIII A of the California Constitution and the current estimated and projected average annual tax rate and highest tax rate, is not expected to exceed permissible levels;

WHEREAS, the estimated tax rates, duration of tax collection, and total estimated amount of debt service, is described in the Tax Rate Statement contained in **Exhibit C** hereto;

WHEREAS, Section 9400 *et seq.* of the California Elections Code requires that a tax rate statement be contained in all official materials, including any ballot pamphlet prepared, sponsored or distributed by the District, relating to the election; and

WHEREAS, the Board now desires to authorize the filing of ballot arguments in favor of the proposition to be submitted to the voters at the election.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved, determined and ordered by the Board of Education of the Lodi Unified School District as follows:

Section 1. Specifications of Election Order. Pursuant to Sections 5304, 5322, 15100 *et seq.*, and Section 15266 of the Education Code, an election shall be held within the District on November 5, 2024, for the purpose of submitting to the registered voters of the District the full ballot proposition contained in **Exhibit B** ("Full Ballot Text"), which Full Ballot Text is hereby approved.

Section 2. Request to County Officers to Conduct Election; Cost of Election. The San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors ("Board of Supervisors") is hereby requested to allow and order the San Joaquin County Registrar of Voters ("County Registrar") to provide for the performance of its duties in accordance with Education Code section 5303, and pursuant to section 5303 and 5322 of the California Education Code, to take all steps to call and hold the election in accordance with law and these specifications. The District will reimburse the County Registrar and the County for costs associated with the election as required by law.

Section 3. Consolidation of Election and Canvass of Vote.

- (a) Pursuant to Section 5342 of the Education Code and Section 10400 *et seq.* of the Elections Code, the election is requested to be consolidated with other elections occurring on November 5, 2024.

- (b) The Board of Supervisors is authorized and requested to canvass the returns of the election, as necessary, pursuant to Section 10411 of the California Elections Code.

Section 4. Abbreviation of Proposition/Ballot Label. Pursuant to Sections 13119 and 13247 of the California Elections Code and Section 15122 of the Education Code, the Board hereby directs the County Registrar to use the ballot measure summary ("Ballot Label") that is attached hereto as **Exhibit A**. The Ballot Label shall function merely as an abbreviation of the Full Ballot Text and does not stand alone as a complete and binding statement of the measure, nor is it possible for the Ballot Label to contain all of the project and financial information a voter might wish to consider in casting a vote. Voters are urged to review the Full Ballot Text and the Tax Rate Statement to obtain a complete understanding of the measure, including all of the financial projections and estimates upon which the measure is based.

Section 5. Voter Pamphlet/Sample Ballot. The County Registrar is hereby requested to take the following actions with regard to the Voter Information Pamphlet to be distributed to voters pursuant to Section 13307 of the Elections Code:

- (a) To print the Full Ballot Text (**Exhibit B** hereto), without Exhibit references, in the Voter Information Pamphlet in its entirety. In the event the Full Ballot Text is not reprinted in the voter information pamphlet in its entirety, the County Registrar is hereby requested to print, immediately below the impartial analysis of the bond proposition, in no less than 10-point boldface type, a legend substantially as follows:

"The above statement is an impartial analysis of Measure _____. If you desire a copy of the measure, please call the San Joaquin County Registrar of Voters at _____ and a copy will be mailed at no cost to you."

- (b) In accordance with Education Code Section 15122.5, to print in the Voter Information Pamphlet the following statement:

"Approval of Measure _____ does not guarantee that the proposed project or projects in the Lodi Unified School District that are the subject of bonds under Measure _____ will be funded beyond the local revenues generated by Measure _____. The school district's proposal for the project or projects may assume the receipt of matching state funds, which could be subject to appropriation by the Legislature or approval of a statewide bond measure."

Section 6. Accountability Measures. Pursuant to legal requirements, and as specified in the Full Ballot Text, the Board certifies that the District:

- (a) Has evaluated the facilities needs of the District and has evaluated safety, class size reduction and information technology needs in developing the Bond Project List contained in the Full Ballot Text;
- (b) Will appoint a new or empower an existing independent Citizens' Oversight Committee to ensure that bond proceeds are expended only for the school facilities projects described in the Bond Project List, in accordance with Education Code section 15278 *et seq.*;

- (c) Will conduct or cause to be conducted an annual, independent performance audit to ensure that the bond proceeds have been expended only on the school facilities projects described in the Bond Project List;
- (d) Will conduct or cause to be conducted an annual independent financial audit of the bond proceeds until all of those proceeds have been spent for the school facilities projects described in the Bond Project List; and
- (e) Shall take all actions to establish an account in which proceeds of the sale of the bonds will be deposited, and to cause a report to be filed with the Board no later than each January 1 identifying proceeds received and expended in the past fiscal year and the status of any project funded or to be funded with bond proceeds. The first report shall be due no later than January 1 of the first year after which bonds have been issued and proceeds spent.

Section 7. Required Vote. Pursuant to Section 18 of Article XVI and Section 1 of Article XIII A of the State Constitution, the above proposition shall become effective upon the affirmative vote of at least fifty-five percent (55%) of those voters voting on the proposition.

Section 8. Delivery of Order of Election to County Officers. The Clerk of the Board is hereby directed to deliver or cause to be delivered, **no later than June 24, 2024**, one copy of this Resolution to the County Registrar with the Tax Rate Statement (in substantially the form attached hereto as **Exhibit C**), completed and signed by the Superintendent or her designee, and shall file a copy of this Resolution with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors.

Section 9. Ballot Arguments. The members of the Board are hereby authorized to prepare and file with the County Registrar a ballot argument in favor of the proposition contained in Section 1 hereof, and or a rebuttal argument, within the time established by the County Registrar.

Section 10. Intention to Reimburse. The District may incur costs associated with bond-funded projects described in **Exhibit B** hereto prior to the issuance of bonds. For purposes of establishing compliance with the requirements of Section 1.150-2 of the regulations of the U.S. Treasury Department, the Board hereby declares its official intent to use proceeds of the bond to reimburse itself for lawful expenditures on capital projects as described on the Bond Project List, up to a maximum principal amount of \$21.2 million.

Section 11. Further Authorization. The Superintendent, the Chief Business Official and the Executive Director (each, a "District Representative") are hereby authorized and directed, individually and collectively, to do any and all things that they deem necessary or advisable in order to effectuate the purposes of this Resolution, including, without action of the Board, modification of the Full Ballot Text, the Ballot Label, and Tax Rate Statement if either determines such modifications are necessary and in the District's best interests. This Resolution and all of its Exhibits that are filed with the County Registrar by a District Representative shall constitute the final, binding ballot measure of the District.

Section 12. Effective Date. This Resolution shall take effect upon its adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this day, June 4, 2024, by the following vote:

AYES: _____

NAYS: _____

ABSTAIN: _____

ABSENT: _____

LODI UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

By: _____
Board President

Attest:

By: _____
Board Secretary