

SOQUEL UNION ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Santa Cruz County, State of California

RESOLUTION # 23-2023-24

**RESOLUTION CALLING FOR AN ELECTION AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF
GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS OF THE DISTRICT AT AN ELECTION TO BE HELD
NOVEMBER 5, 2024**

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees (the "Board") of the Soquel Union Elementary School District (the "District"), within the County of Santa Cruz, California (the "County"), is authorized to order elections within the District for the purpose of considering, *inter alia*, bond measures to meet the ongoing capital improvement needs of the District, pursuant to the Constitution of the State of California (the "State") and the Education Code of the State (the "Education Code"); and

WHEREAS, this bond measure requires strict accountability protections including mandatory annual audits and an independent citizens' oversight committee comprised of local residents to ensure funds are managed and spent properly; and

WHEREAS, Section 18 of Article XVI and Section 1 of Article XIII A of the Constitution of the State and Section 15266 *et seq.* of the Education Code (collectively, "Prop 39") provide for a methodology by which the District may call for an election and, upon approval by 55% or more of the qualified voters voting on the bond measure, issue its general obligation bonds and cause the County to levy an *ad valorem* property tax to pay debt service on said bonds; and

WHEREAS, this Board has determined it to be in the best interests of the District to call such an election under Prop 39, as further described herein; and

WHEREAS, November 5, 2024 (the "Election Date") meets the consolidation requirements of the Education Code and any County or local measure or election may be consolidated with the Statewide general election then pending; and

WHEREAS, the Board wishes to specify the manner in which the District shall call a bond election on the Election Date and to demonstrate compliance with related requirements of the Constitution, the Education Code and the Elections Code of the State;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it hereby resolved, determined and ordered by the Board of Trustees of the Soquel Union Elementary School District as follows:

Section 1. Recitals. All of the foregoing recitals are true.

Section 2. Determination to Proceed under Prop 39. The provisions of Prop 39 shall control the administration of the election to consider the bond proposition of the District, such that a favorable vote of no less than 55% of the qualified voters voting at the election shall constitute approval thereof (the "Bond Election"), and the Board of Trustees of the District (the "Board") hereby declares its intention to meet the pertinent requirements of Prop 39.

Section 3. Bond Proposition. This Board does hereby order and request that the Santa Cruz County Clerk-Recorder, Registrar of Voters (herein called the "Registrar") call an election (in the performance of their duties and in the exercise of their power, alone, or with

the assistance of such other officers of the County as they may request) pursuant to Elections Code 5303 to consider the proposition attached hereto as **Exhibit A** on November 5, 2024 (the "Bond Measure"), which constitutes the election order prescribed under Education Code Section 15122 and Elections Code 13247.

The Registrar is hereby requested to reprint **Exhibit A** in its entirety in the voter information pamphlet to be distributed to voters pursuant to Section 13307 of the Elections Code. As required under Elections Code Section 13247, the abbreviated form of the Bond Measure to appear on the ballot is attached hereto as **Exhibit B**. Pursuant to Section 18, Article XVI and Section 1, Article XIII A of the Constitution of the State, the foregoing Bond Measure shall become effective upon the favorable vote of no less than 55% of those qualified voters voting on the proposition.

Section 4. Consolidation of Bond Election; Services of County. Pursuant to Section 1258 of the Education Code, the Superintendent of the District is hereby authorized to contract with the Registrar, who is hereby requested and authorized to perform such duties as may be required by law, necessary or useful, or customary and appropriate in the conduct of said Bond Election, including the consolidation of the Bond Election with the general election within the territory of the District being conducted on the Election Date.

The precincts, polling places for said precincts in the County, and persons appointed and designated to serve as election officers for said Bond Election will be those determined, designated, and appointed pursuant to state law by the Registrar. The County is hereby requested to tally and canvass the returns of the election, in accordance with Section 10411 of the Elections Code. The District agrees to reimburse the County for all services related to the Bond Election, such services to include the publication of the Formal Notice and a Tax Rate Statement (described in Section 9401 of the Elections Code) pursuant to the terms of 5363 of the Education Code and Section 12112 of the Elections Code.

Section 5. Approval of Project List; Accountability Safeguards. The District has developed a list of certain capital projects which are a priority in order to meet the obligations of the District to provide education to the children of its residents, as more particularly identified on **Exhibit A** hereto, which is incorporated herein by this reference. **Exhibit A** is hereby certified by this Board as the Project List (the "Project List") for funding, either in whole or in part, with the proceeds of the general obligation bonds issued pursuant to the Bond Measure (the "Bonds"). This certification of the Project List shall not be interpreted by and does not constitute an official approval of any listed project for the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") or other purposes, but only as a statement of present intention of this Board. Furthermore, the listing of a capital improvement on the Project List does not imply any particular prioritization among such improvements, which remains the province of the Board by subsequent action. Notwithstanding the foregoing, only those acquisitions and other capital improvements included on the Project List may be funded, in whole or in part, with the proceeds of the Bonds. Additional moneys may be obtained for listed projects, in supplementation of the Bond proceeds, from any lawful source of moneys.

The Board hereby confirms that it has, in the development of the Project List appended hereto, evaluated and taken into consideration safety, class size reduction and information technology needs.

Section 6. Citizens' Oversight Committee. Pursuant to Section 15278 *et seq.* of the Education Code, within 60 days following the certification by this Board of the official results of the Bond Election by the County, this Board is required to appoint a new or empower an existing Citizens Oversight Committee (the "Committee") to insure the District's compliance with the foregoing restrictions and to perform the duties established under the

Education Code for such committees. To assist the Committee in its statutory obligations, the District shall cause to be conducted an annual independent performance audit and an annual independent financial audit on the expenditure of Bond proceeds; the audits shall be performed under contract with appropriate persons or firms as shall be subsequently brought for approval before this Board. The financial audit may be consolidated with the annual audit of the District's financial statement and may be performed by the same accounting firm, without further approval by this Board.

The results of the annual audits performed hereunder shall be reported to the Board and to the Committee at least annually, and more often, if the Board shall so direct.

Section 7. No Administrators' or Teachers' Salaries to Be Paid from Bond Proceeds. In accordance with Prop 39, the Board hereby confirms that no administrators' or teachers' salaries shall be paid or reimbursed, in whole or in part, from Bond proceeds, nor shall such proceeds be used to pay any other operating expenses of the District.

Section 8. Other Terms of the Bonds. The maturity of any bonds issued pursuant to the Bond Measure and under Chapter 1.5, Part 10, Division 1, Title 1 of the Education Code (commencing with Section 15264), as amended, and Article XIII A of the California Constitution ("Article XIII A") shall not exceed twenty-five (25) years as to maturity and shall bear interest at a rate not to exceed the maximum legal interest rate per annum. The maturity of any bonds issued pursuant to the Bond Measure and under Article 4.5 of Chapter 3 of Part 1 of Division 2 of Title 5 of the California Government Code, as amended, applicable provisions of the Education Code and Article XIII A shall not exceed the applicable legal limits as to maturity, or, in the case of bonds the interest on which is compounded, the maturity shall not exceed twenty-five (25) years, and shall bear or accrete interest at a rate not to exceed the maximum legal interest rate.

Section 9. Approval of Election Consolidation; Delivery of Order of Election. The Clerk of the Board is hereby directed to deliver, no later than August 9, 2024, one certified copy of this Resolution to the Registrar, together with the Tax Rate Statement attached hereto as Exhibit C and executed by the Superintendent of the District.

Section 10. Ballot Arguments. The members of the Board, or any one member or group thereof, are hereby authorized, but not directed, to file a formal Argument in Favor of the Bond Measure given above, with the Registrar within the time limits established for such arguments by the Registrar.

Section 11. Retention of Consultants. The District hereby confirms the hiring of consultants to provide for special services in connection with the proposed issue(s) of Bonds which may be authorized at the Election, to wit, (i) the law firm of Dannis Woliver Kelley as Bond Counsel to the District ("Bond Counsel") and (ii) the financial advisory firm of Isom Advisors Inc., a division of Urban Futures Inc., as Financial Advisor to the District (the "Financial Advisor"), upon conditions as may be set forth in the respective fee agreements heretofore negotiated and executed on behalf of the District by the Superintendent.

Section 12. Reimbursement of Qualified Project Expenditures. The Board presently intends and reasonably expects to have taxexempt obligations (the "Obligations") issued on its behalf within 18 months of the date of the expenditure of moneys on the Projects outlined in the foregoing Project List or the date upon which a Project is placed in service or abandoned, whichever is later (but in no event more than 3 years after the date the original expenditure of such moneys is paid), and to allocate an amount not to exceed 10% of the proceeds thereof to the reimbursable expenditures in connection with the Project, as may be qualified under the provisions of Section 1.1502 of the Treasury Regulations of the Internal Revenue Service

(the "Reimbursable Expenditures"). All of the Reimbursable Expenditures covered by this Resolution were paid not earlier than 60 days prior to the date of this Resolution. The Board intends to allocate within 30 days after the date of issue of the Obligations the proceeds there from to reimburse the District for the Reimbursable Expenditures. With respect to the proceeds of the Obligations allocated to reimburse the District for prior expenditures, the Board hereby covenants not to employ an abusive device under Treasury Regulation Section 1.14810, including using within one year of the reimbursement allocation, the funds corresponding to the proceeds of the Obligations in a manner that results in the creation of replacement proceeds, as defined in Treasury Regulation Section 1.1481, of the Obligations or another issuer of taxexempt obligations.

The above provision is made solely for the purpose of establishing compliance with the requirements of said Section 1.1502 of the Treasury Regulations. This provision does not bind the District or the Board to make any expenditure, incur any indebtedness, or proceed with the financing, acquisition or construction of the Project.

Section 13. Ratification. All actions heretofore taken by the officers, or their respective designees, employees and agents of the Board and the District in connection with the financing of the facilities on the Project List are hereby ratified and confirmed. The officers and their designees, the employees and agents of the Board and the District are hereby authorized to take any and all actions in connection with the financing of said facilities and as may be necessary and consistent with the purposes of this Resolution.

Section 14. Authorization of Further Acts. The members of this Board, the Superintendent, and the Assistant Superintendent, Business Services of the District (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. 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 and such submitted measure shall be deemed ratified and approved by the Board.

Section 15. Effective Date. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption by the Board.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 12th day of June, 2024, by the Board of Trustees of Soquel Union Elementary School District, at Capitola, California, by the following vote:

AYES: Kallista Edmundson, Ted Donnelly, Amanda Jackson Miller, Ariel Gray

NOES: None

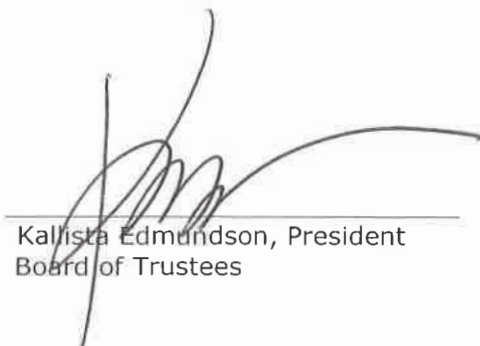
ABSENT: Robert Dickenson

ABSTAIN: None

ATTEST:



Scott Turnbull, Superintendent and
Secretary to the Board of Trustees



Kallista Edmundson, President
Board of Trustees

EXHIBIT "A"

FULL TEXT BALLOT PROPOSITION OF THE SOQUEL UNION ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOND ELECTION FOR NOVEMBER 5, 2024

By approval of this measure by at least fifty-five percent (55%) of the registered voters voting thereon, the Soquel Union Elementary School District shall be authorized to issue and sell bonds of up to \$73.0 million in aggregate principal amount to provide financing for the specific school facilities projects listed below in the Bond Project List, subject to all of the accountability safeguards specified herein.

ACCOUNTABILITY MEASURES

The provisions in this section are included in this proposition in order that the voters and taxpayers of the District may be assured that their money will be spent to address specific facilities needs of the District, all in compliance with the requirements of Article XIII A, section 1(b)(3) of the State Constitution, and the Strict Accountability in Local School Construction Bonds Act of 2000 (codified at Section 15264 *et seq.* of the California Education Code).

Evaluation of Needs. The Board has evaluated the facilities needs of the District and has identified projects to finance from a local bond measure at this time. The Board hereby certifies that it has evaluated safety, class size and information technology needs in developing the Bond Project List.

Independent Citizens' Oversight Committee. The Board shall establish or empower an existing independent Citizens' Oversight Committee in accordance with Education Code sections 15278-15282 and applicable Board policy, to ensure bond proceeds are expended only for the school facilities projects listed in the Bond Project List. An existing Citizens' Oversight Committee may be empowered by the Board to oversee the expenditure of bond proceeds from this measure. The committee shall be so empowered, or a new committee established, within sixty (60) days of the date when the Board enters the results of the election in its official minutes.

Annual Performance Audit. The Board shall 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.

Annual Financial Audit. The Board shall 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.

Annual Report to Board. Upon approval of this measure and the sale of any bonds approved, the Board shall take actions necessary to establish an account in which proceeds of the sale of bonds will be deposited. As long as any proceeds of the bonds remain unexpended, the Superintendent shall cause a report to be filed with the Board no later than January 1 of each year, commencing on the first January 1 after bonds have been issued and proceeds spent, stating (1) the amount of bond proceeds received and expended in the past fiscal year, and (2) the status of any project funded or to be funded from bond proceeds. The report may be incorporated into the annual budget, annual financial report, or other appropriate routine report to the Board.

BOND PROJECT LIST

Bond proceeds will be expended to modernize, replace, renovate, expand, construct, acquire, equip, furnish and otherwise improve the classrooms and school facilities of the District.

Unless otherwise noted, the projects in the Bond Project List are authorized to be completed at each or any of the District's sites, as shall be approved by the Board of Trustees.

- Repair or replace leaky roofs
- Make health, safety and security improvements
- Upgrade deteriorating plumbing and sewer systems
- Modernize/renovate outdated classrooms, restrooms and school facilities
- Upgrade inadequate electrical systems
- Replace outdated heating, ventilation and air-conditioning systems
- Upgrade playgrounds and playfields for school and community use
- Improve student access to computers and modern technology
- Upgrade P.E. fields and facilities for school and community use
- Make energy-efficiency improvements, including installing solar panels
- Federal and State-mandated Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA) safety upgrades including playground equipment replacement
- All Federal and State-mandated Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility upgrades including site access, parking, staff and student restrooms, relocation of some existing electrical devices, drinking fountains, playground equipment, etc.
- Upgrade school site parking, roadways, utilities and grounds
- Abate and remove hazardous materials identified prior or during construction
- Repair, replace and/or upgrade paved surfaces, turf, and other grounds to eliminate safety hazards
- Necessary site acquisition and preparation/restoration in connection with new construction, renovation or remodeling, or installation or removal of relocatable classrooms, including ingress and egress, removing, replacing, or installing irrigation, utility lines (such as gas lines, water lines, electrical lines, sewer lines, and communication lines), trees and landscaping, relocating fire access roads, and acquiring any necessary easements, licenses, or rights of way to the property

The listed projects will be completed as needed. Each project is assumed to include its share of furniture, equipment, architectural, engineering, and similar planning costs, program/project management, staff training expenses and a customary contingency for unforeseen design and construction costs. In addition to the listed projects stated above, the list also includes acquiring and constructing faculty and staff housing, the acquisition of a variety of instructional, maintenance and operational equipment, including the reduction or retirement of outstanding lease obligations and interim funding incurred to advance fund projects from the list; installation of signage and fencing; payment of the costs of preparation of all facility planning, facility studies, assessment reviews, facility master plan preparation and updates, environmental studies (including environmental investigation, remediation and monitoring), design and construction documentation, and temporary housing of dislocated District activities caused by construction projects. The upgrading of technology infrastructure includes, but is not limited to, computers, LCD projectors, portable interface devices, servers,

switches, routers, modules, sound projection systems, printers, digital white boards, document projectors, upgrade telephone/voice-over-IP, call manager and network security/firewall, wireless technology systems and other miscellaneous equipment and software. The allocation of bond proceeds will be affected by the District's receipt of State matching funds and the final costs of each project. In the absence of State matching funds, which the District will aggressively pursue to reduce the District's share of the costs of the projects, the District will not be able to complete some of the projects listed above. The budget for each project is an estimate and may be affected by factors beyond the District's control. Some projects throughout the District, such as gyms, fields and performing arts facilities, may be undertaken as joint use projects in cooperation with other local public or non-profit agencies. The final cost of each project will be determined as plans and construction documents are finalized, construction bids are received, construction contracts are awarded and projects are completed. Based on the final costs of each project, certain of the projects described above may be delayed or may not be completed. Demolition of existing facilities and reconstruction of facilities scheduled for repair and upgrade may occur, if the Board determines that such an approach would be more cost-effective in creating more enhanced and operationally efficient campuses. Necessary site preparation/restoration may occur in connection with new construction, renovation or remodeling, or installation or removal of relocatable classrooms, including ingress and egress, removing, replacing, or installing irrigation, utility lines, trees and landscaping, relocating fire access roads, and acquiring any necessary easements, licenses, or rights of way to the property. Proceeds of the bonds may be used to pay or reimburse the District for the cost of District staff when performing work on or necessary and incidental to bond projects. Bond proceeds shall only be expended for the specific purposes identified herein. The District shall create an account into which proceeds of the bonds shall be deposited and comply with the reporting requirements of Government Code § 53410.

EXHIBIT B

**BOND MEASURE
(Abbreviated Form)**

"To improve the quality of education; repair or replace leaky roofs; make health, safety and security improvements; and modernize/renovate outdated classrooms, restrooms and school facilities; shall Soquel Union Elementary School District's measure be adopted authorizing \$73,000,000 of bonds at legal rates, generating on average \$4,000,000 annually as long as bonds are outstanding from levies of approximately 3 cents per \$100 assessed value, with annual audits, independent citizens' oversight, NO money for administrative salaries and all money staying local?"

Bonds—YES _____

Bonds - NO _____

EXHIBIT C

TAX RATE STATEMENT


An election will be held in the Soquel Union Elementary School District (the "District") on November 5, 2024, to authorize the sale of up to \$73.0 million in bonds of the District to finance school facilities as described in the measure. If such bonds are authorized and sold, principal and interest on the bonds will be payable only from the proceeds of ad valorem tax levies made upon the taxable property in the District. The following information is provided in compliance with Sections 9400-9404 of the Elections Code of the State of California. Such information is based upon the best estimates and projections presently available from official sources, upon experience within the District, and other demonstrable factors.

Based upon the foregoing and projections of the District's assessed valuation, the following information is provided:

1. The best estimate of the average annual tax rate which would be required to be levied to fund this bond issue over the entire duration of the bond debt service, based on a projection of assessed valuations available at the time of filing of this statement, is \$28.50 per \$100,000 of assessed valuation. The final fiscal year in which the tax is anticipated to be collected is 2058-59.
2. The best estimate of the highest tax rate which would be required to be levied to fund this bond issue, based on a projection of assessed valuations available at the time of filing of this statement, is \$30.00 per \$100,000 of assessed valuation. It is estimated that such rate would be levied in fiscal year 2025-26.
3. The best estimate of the total debt service, including the principal and interest, that would be required to be repaid if all the bonds are issued and sold is approximately \$147.0 million.

Voters should note the estimated tax rate is based on the assessed value (not market value) of taxable property on the County's official tax rolls. In addition, taxpayers eligible for a property tax exemption, such as the homeowner's exemption, will be taxed at a lower effective tax rate than described above. Property owners should consult their own property tax bills and tax advisors to determine their property's assessed value and any applicable tax exemptions.

The attention of all voters is directed to the fact that the foregoing information is based upon projections and estimates only, which amounts are not maximum amounts and are not binding upon the District. The actual debt service, tax rates and the years in which they will apply may vary from those used to provide the estimates set forth above, due to factors such as variations in the timing of bond sales, the par amount of bonds sold and market interest rates available at the time of each sale, actual assessed valuations over the term of the bonds, and other factors. The date and amount of bonds sold at any given time will be determined by the District based on the need for project funds and other considerations. The actual interest rates at which the bonds will be sold will depend on conditions in the bond market at the time of sale. Actual future assessed valuations will depend upon the amount and value of taxable property within the District as determined by the County Assessor in the annual assessment and the equalization process.

By: 
Scott Turnbull, Superintendent
Soquel Union Elementary School District