

**AN ORDER CALLING A BOND ELECTION TO BE HELD BY THE ATHENS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, MAKING PROVISION FOR THE CONDUCT OF THE ELECTION, AND RESOLVING OTHER MATTERS RELATED TO THAT ELECTION**

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees (the *Board*) of the Athens INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT (the *District*), located in Henderson, Anderson, and Van Zandt Counties, Texas (individually, the *County*, collectively, the *Counties*), finds and determines that a special election (the *Election*) should be held to determine whether the District will be authorized to issue bonds in the amount and for the purposes identified in this order (the *Order*); and

WHEREAS, the District will contract with the elections administrator of Henderson County (the *Administrator*) to conduct all aspects of the Election for all registered voters of the District; and

WHEREAS, the Election may be held jointly with other political subdivisions (collectively, the *Participants*) pursuant to a joint election or similar agreement according to the Texas Election Code, as amended (the *Code*); and

WHEREAS, the Board hereby finds and determines that the anticipated capital improvements identified in Measure A and corresponding Proposition A may be submitted to the qualified voters of the District as a single measure and corresponding proposition pursuant to Section 45.003(g) of the Texas Education Code because these capital improvements will be predominantly used for educational and administrative purposes, none of which are the type of facilities described in Section 45.003(g)(1-6); and

WHEREAS, the Board hereby finds and determines that the actions described above are in the best interests of the residents of the District; now, therefore,

BE IT ORDERED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE ATHENS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT THAT:

SECTION 1. Election Ordered; Purpose; Amount. The Election will be held in the ATHENS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT on May 3, 2025 (*Election Day*), which is a uniform election date under the Code and is 78 or more days from the date of the adoption of this Order, for the purpose of submitting the following legal questions to the qualified voters of the District:

Measure A

Should the Board of Trustees of the Athens Independent School District be authorized to issue and sell bonds of the District, in one or more series, in the aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$121,500,000 for the purposes of designing, constructing, renovating, improving, upgrading, updating, modernizing, acquiring, and equipping school facilities (and any necessary or related removal of existing facilities) and the purchase of the necessary sites for school facilities, with the bonds to mature, bear interest, and be issued and sold as permitted by law,

and will the Board of Trustees of the District be authorized to levy and pledge, and cause to be assessed and collected, annual ad valorem taxes on all taxable property in the District sufficient, without limit as to rate or amount, to pay the principal of and interest on these bonds?

SECTION 2. Ballots. The official ballots will permit voters to vote "FOR" or "AGAINST" the measure above with the following ballot language:

ATHENS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT PROPOSITION A

THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$121,500,000 FOR SCHOOL FACILITIES AND THE LEVY OF TAXES SUFFICIENT TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL OF AND INTEREST ON THE BONDS. THIS IS A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE.

SECTION 3. Polling Details.

A. One or more District election precincts are established for Election Day from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. with one or more corresponding polling places as identified on Exhibit A to this Order. As permitted by the Code, polling places may be changed without further Board action; any changes will not affect this Order or subsequent notice of election.

B. Exhibit A also includes the places, dates, and hours for early voting in person. As permitted by the Code, these details may be changed without further Board action; any changes will not affect this Order or subsequent notice of election. Applications for voting by mail should be received no later than the close of business on April 22, 2025. Applications should be sent to the Early Voting Clerk named below. If an application for ballot by mail is faxed or emailed (or if a federal postcard application is faxed), the applicant must also mail the original.

SECTION 4. Election Officials. To the extent required by the Code or other applicable law, the appointment of election officials at polling locations will include a person fluent in the Spanish language.

A. The Administrator will appoint Presiding Judges, Alternate Presiding Judges, and Election Clerks.

B. The Early Voting Clerk is: Paula Ludtke; mailing address: P.O. Box 2720, Athens, TX 75751; physical address: 201 East Larkin, Athens, TX 75751; phone: (903) 675-6149; fax: (903) 675-6101; and email: hcelections@henderson-county.com. The Early Voting Clerk will appoint the Deputy Early Voting Clerks.

C. The Administrator is authorized to establish an Early Voting Ballot Board and to designate the Presiding Judge of the Early Voting Ballot Board and, if needed, the members of Signature Verification Committee.

D. The District is authorized to use a Central Counting Station (the *Station*) if needed. The Administrator or the Administrator's designee is appointed as the Manager of the Station with the authority to appoint the Tabulation Supervisor, the Programmer, and any Clerks.

SECTION 5. Qualified Voters. The District's qualified voters (as defined by the Code) will be entitled to vote in the Election at the dates, times, and places reflected on Exhibit A.

SECTION 6. Legal Compliance. The Election and notice of Election will be held and conducted according to the Code and other applicable law. To the extent required by law, materials relating to the Election will be printed in English, Spanish, and any other required language.

SECTION 7. Debt Obligations. The following information is calculated based on bond market conditions as of the date of the adoption of this Order; is further explained in one or more voter information documents attached to this Order as exhibits; and is not intended to serve as a cap or other restriction should the bonds be authorized at the Election.

A. The aggregate amount of the outstanding principal of the District's debt totaled \$x (including maintenance tax debt, if any).

B. The aggregate amount of the interest owed on the District's debt obligations, through respective maturity, totaled \$x.

C. The District levied an ad valorem debt service tax rate for its outstanding debt obligations of \$x per \$100 of taxable assessed valuation.

D. The maturity date of the proposed bonds will not exceed the maximum number of years authorized by law.

E. The maximum interest rate for any series of bonds authorized at the Election is x% (expressed as a net effective interest rate).

SECTION 8. Contracting Authority. The Board authorizes the District's President of the Board, the Superintendent of Schools, or their designees to negotiate and enter into one or more joint election agreements, election services contracts, or similar contracts with the Counties and any Participants if desired or if required to comply with applicable law.

SECTION 9. Modifications. The Board acknowledges that information required to complete the Exhibits to this Order may not be available when the Election is ordered, and the Board therefore authorizes the District's Superintendent of Schools, the President of the Board, or their designees to correct, modify, or change the Exhibits to the extent permitted by applicable law. Additionally, the Board authorizes these individuals to make technical modifications to this Order that are necessary for compliance with applicable law or to carry out the intent of the Board as evidenced in this Order.

**SECTION 10. Findings.** The recitals contained in the preamble of this Order are found to be true.

**SECTION 11. Conflicts.** All orders and resolutions, or parts thereof, which are in conflict or inconsistent with any provision of this Order are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict, and the provisions of this Order will be and remain controlling as to the matters ordered herein.

**SECTION 12. Controlling Law.** This Order will be construed and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas and the United States of America.

**SECTION 13. Open Meetings.** It is officially found, determined, and declared that the meeting at which this Order is adopted was open to the public and public notice of the time, place, and subject matter of the public business to be considered at such meeting, including this Order, was given, all as required by Chapter 551, as amended, Texas Government Code.

**SECTION 14. Severability.** If any provision of this Order or the application of this Order to any person or circumstance is held invalid, then the remainder of this Order remains effective.

**SECTION 15. Effective Date.** This Order is effective immediately upon its approval.

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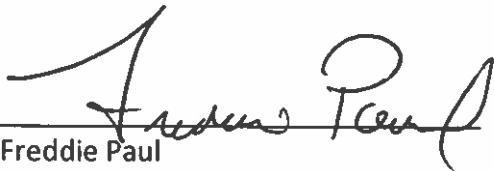
PASSED AND APPROVED on February 13, 2025.

ATHENS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT



Alicea Elliott  
President, Board of Trustees

ATTEST:



Freddie Paul  
Secretary, Board of Trustees

(DISTRICT SEAL)

[Signature Page to Bond Election Order]