ORDER CALLING BOND ELECTION

STATE OF TEXAS	§
COUNTY OF COOKE	§
GAINESVILLE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT	§

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees (the "Board") of the Gainesville Independent School District (the "District") has the power to issue bonds; and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that it is necessary and appropriate to call and conduct an election to obtain voter authorization for the issuance of such bonds; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF GAINESVILLE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT:

Section 1. Call of Election; Date; Eligible Electors; and Hours. An election (the "Election") shall be held on Saturday, May 3, 2025 ("Election Day"), which is seventy-eight (78) or more days from the date of the adoption of this order (the "Election Order"), within and throughout the territory of the District at which all resident, qualified electors of the District shall be entitled to vote. The Board hereby finds that holding the Election on such date is in the public interest. The hours during which the polling places are to be open on Election Day shall be as shown on **Exhibit A** which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference as a part hereof for all purposes.

Section 2. Voting Precincts; Polling Places; Election Officers. Except as otherwise provided herein, the Election Day precincts established, if any, for the purpose of holding the Election and the polling places designated for the Election precincts shall be as shown in **Exhibit A** to this Election Order. The presiding judges and alternate judges for the Election shall be appointed in accordance with the Texas Election Code (the "Election Code").

Each Presiding Judge shall appoint not less than two (2) or more than five (5) qualified clerks to serve and assist in holding said election; provided that if the Presiding Judge herein appointed actually serves, the Alternate Presiding Judge shall be one of the clerks.

In the event that the Superintendent, or his designee, shall determine from time to time that (a) a polling place hereafter designated shall become unavailable or unsuitable for such use, or it would be in the District's best interests to relocate such polling place, or (b) a presiding judge or alternate presiding judge hereafter designated shall become unqualified or unavailable, the Superintendent, or his designee, is hereby authorized to designate and appoint in writing a substitute polling place, presiding judge or alternate presiding judge, and correct or modify the exhibits to this Election Order, giving such notice as is required by the Election Code and as deemed sufficient.

<u>Section 3.</u> <u>Proposition.</u> At the Election there shall be submitted to the resident, qualified electors of the District the following proposition (the "Proposition"):

GAINESVILLE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT PROPOSITION A

THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$58,833,798 FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, ACQUISITION, RENOVATION AND EQUIPMENT OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS IN THE DISTRICT (INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, CONSTRUCTION, RENOVATIONS AND EQUIPMENT FOR, SAFETY AND SECURITY, AND ADDITIONAL GROWTH) AND THE LEVY OF TAXES SUFFICIENT TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL OF AND INTEREST ON THE BONDS. THIS IS A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE.

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Section 4. Ballot. The ballot shall conform to the requirements of the Election Code and shall have written or printed thereon the following:

OFFICIAL BALLOT

GAINESVILLE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT PROPOSITION A

[] FOR

THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$58,833,798 FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, ACQUISITION, RENOVATION AND EQUIPMENT SCHOOL BUILDINGS IN THE DISTRICT (INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, CONSTRUCTION, RENOVATIONS AND **EQUIPMENT** FOR, **SAFETY AND** SECURITY, AND ADDITIONAL GROWTH) AND THE LEVY OF TAXES SUFFICIENT TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL OF AND INTEREST ON THE BONDS. THIS IS A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE.

[] AGAINST

Section 5. Voting. Electronic voting machines may be used in holding and conducting the Election on Election Day; provided, however, in the event the use of such electronic voting machines is not practicable, the Election may be conducted on Election Day by the use of paper ballots (except as otherwise provided in this section). Electronic voting machines or paper ballots may be used for early voting by personal appearance (except as otherwise provided in this section). As and if required by the Election Code, the District shall provide at least one accessible voting system in each polling place used in the Election. Such voting system shall comply with Texas and federal laws establishing the requirement for voting systems that permit voters with physical disabilities to cast a secret ballot. As and if permitted by the Election Code, paper ballots may be used for early voting by mail.

Each voter desiring to vote in favor of the Proposition shall mark the ballot indicating "FOR" such Proposition, and each voter desiring to vote against the Proposition shall mark the ballot indicating "AGAINST" such Proposition. Voting shall be in accordance with the Election Code.

<u>Section 6.</u> <u>Early Voting.</u> The Board hereby appoints <u>Edwina Barnes</u> as the regular early voting clerk for the District. Early voting, both by personal appearance and by mail, will be conducted in accordance with the Election Code.

Early voting by personal appearance shall be conducted at the locations, on the dates and at the times as shown in **Exhibit A** which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference as a part hereof for all purposes. Early voting by personal appearance shall begin on Tuesday, April 22, 2025 and end on Tuesday, April 29, 2025.

For the use of those voters who are entitled by law to vote early by mail, the early voting clerk shall provide each voter with a ballot with instructions to mark the ballot indicating his or her vote "FOR" or "AGAINST" the Proposition. The mailing address to which ballot applications and ballots voted by mail may be sent is as follows: Edwina Barnes, Early Voting Clerk, 800 S. Morris Street, Gainesville, Texas 76240.

Section 7. Conduct of Election. The Election shall be conducted by election officers, including the presiding judges and alternate judges or clerks appointed by the Board, in accordance with the Education Code, the Election Code and the Constitution and laws of the State and the United States of America. The President of the Board, the Superintendent, and their respective designees, are authorized to make corrections, changes, revisions and modifications to this Election Order, including the exhibits hereto, as are deemed necessary or appropriate to comply with applicable state and federal law and to carry out the intent of the Board, as evidenced in this Election Order. The Board shall be responsible for establishing the central counting station for the ballots cast in the Election and appointing the personnel necessary for such station. The Superintendent shall select a voting system permitted for use by applicable law.

Section 8. Election Materials. Election materials and notices shall be furnished to voters in English and Spanish to assist such language speaking voters in understanding and participating in the election process.

Section 9. Delivery of Voted Ballots; Counting; Tabulation; Canvassing of Returns; Declaring Results. The ballots shall be counted by one or more teams of election officers assigned by the presiding judges, each team to consist of two or more election officers. After completion of his responsibilities under the Election Code, including the counting of the voted ballots and the tabulation of the results, the presiding judge shall make a written return of the Election results to the District in accordance with the Election Code. The Board shall canvass the returns and declare the results of the Election.

If a majority of the resident, qualified electors of the District voting at the Election, including those voting early, shall vote in favor of the Proposition, then the issuance and sale of the bonds described in such Proposition shall be authorized in the maximum amount contained therein, and the bonds shall be issued and sold at the price or prices and in such denominations determined by the Board to be in the District's best interest.

Section 10. Training of Election Officials. Pursuant to the Election Code, a public school of instruction for all election officers and clerks may be held as arranged by the

Superintendent or designee using the standardized training program and materials developed and provided by the Secretary of State.

Section 11. Notice of Election. Notice of the Election, stating in substance the contents of this Election Order, shall be published one time in the English and Spanish languages, in a newspaper published within the District's territory or, if none is published in the District's territory, in a newspaper of general circulation in the District's territory, at least ten (10) days and no more than thirty (30) days prior to Election Day. Notice of the Election shall also be given by posting a substantial copy of this Election Order, in English and Spanish (i) on Election Day and, during early voting by personal appearance, in a prominent location at each polling place, (ii) not later than the twenty-first (21st) day before Election Day, in three (3) public places within the boundaries of the District, and (iii) if required by Section 4.003, Election Code, not later than the twenty-first (21st) day before Election Day, on the bulletin board used for posting notices of meetings of the Board. In addition, this Election Order (together with the notice of Election, the contents of the Proposition, and any sample ballot prepared for the Election) shall be posted on the District's website, in English and Spanish, during the twenty-one (21) days before the Election. A voter information document, in the form attached hereto as Exhibit B, shall also be posted in the same manner described in the two immediately preceding sentences, except that such document need not be posted on the bulletin board used for posting notices of meetings of the Board.

Section 12. Notice of Meeting. The Board officially finds, determines, recites and declares that written notice of the date, hour, place and subject of the meeting at which this Election Order is adopted was posted on a bulletin board located at a place convenient to the public at the District's administrative offices for a least seventy-two (72) hours preceding the scheduled time of the meeting; that a telephonic or telegraphic notice of such meeting was given to all news media who have consented to pay any and all expenses incurred by the District in connection with providing such notice, both as required by the Open Meetings Law, Chapter 551, Texas Government Code, as amended; and that such meeting was open to the public as required by law at all times during which this Election Order and the subject matter thereof was discussed, considered and formally acted upon.

Section 13. Mandatory Statement of Information.

(a) Pursuant to Section 3.009, Election Code: (i) the proposition language that will appear on the ballot is set forth in Section 4 of this Election Order, (ii) the purposes for which the bonds are to be authorized are set forth in Section 3 of this Election Order, (iii) the principal amount of bonds to be authorized is set forth in Section 3 of this Election Order, (iv) if the issuance of bonds is authorized by voters, taxes sufficient, without limit as to rate or amount, to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds, as set forth in Section 3 of this Election Order, (v) bonds authorized pursuant to this Election Order may be issued to mature over a number of years not to exceed the maximum number of years authorized by law and bearing interest at the rate or rates (not to exceed the maximum rate now or hereafter authorized by law), as authorized by law and determined by the Board, (vi) as of the date of the adoption of this Election Order, the aggregate amount of the outstanding principal of the District's debt obligations as of the date of the adoption of this Election Order, the aggregate amount of the outstanding interest of the District's debt

obligations as of the date of this Election Order is \$3,995,110.92 (including maintenance tax debt), and (viii) the District's ad valorem debt service tax rate as of the date of adoption of this Election Order is \$0.1030 per \$100 valuation of taxable property.

- (b) Based upon the bond market conditions at the date of adoption of this Order, the maximum interest rate for any series of the bonds is estimated to be 5%. Such estimate considers several factors, including the issuance schedule, maturity schedule and the expected bond ratings of the proposed bonds. Such estimated maximum interest rate is provided as a matter of information but is not a limitation on the interest rate at which the bonds or notes, or any series thereof, may be sold. In addition, the estimate contained in this subsection (b) is (i) based on certain assumptions (including assumptions concerning prevailing market and economic conditions at the time(s) of issuance of the bonds) and derived from projections obtained from the District's financial advisor, (ii) subject to change to the extent that actual facts, circumstances and conditions prevailing at the time that the bonds are issued differ from such assumptions and projections, (iii) provided solely in satisfaction of the requirements of Section 3.009, Election Code, and for no other purpose, without any assurance that such projections will be realized, and (iv) not intended to and does not give rise to a contract with voters or limit the authority of the Board to issue bonds in accordance with the Proposition submitted by this Election Order.
- Section 14. Authority of the Superintendent. The Superintendent shall have the authority to take, or cause to be taken, all reasonable or necessary actions to ensure that the Election is fairly held and returns properly counted and tabulated for canvass by the Board, which actions are hereby ratified and confirmed. Without limiting the generality of the immediately preceding sentence, the Superintendent and his designees are hereby authorized to complete and update, as necessary, **Exhibit A** hereto with polling location and other information upon the availability of such information.
- Section 15. Authorization to Execute. The President or Vice President of the Board is authorized to execute and the Secretary of the Board is authorized to attest this Election Order on behalf of the Board; and the President or Vice President of the Board is authorized to do all other things legal and necessary in connection with the holding and consummation of the Election.
- <u>Section 16.</u> <u>Effective Date.</u> This Election Order is effective immediately upon its passage and approval.

[signature page follows]

PASSED AND APPROVED FEBRUARY 10, 2025.

President, Board of Trustees

ATTEST:

Secretary, Board of Trustees

(SEAL)

EXHIBIT A

ELECTION DAY VOTING POLLING LOCATION AND TIMES

Date: May 3, 2025

Hours: 7:00 AM - 7:00 PM

Location: Gainesville Civic Center, 311 S. Weaver Street, Gainesville, Texas 76240

EARLY VOTING POLLING LOCATION AND TIMES

Early voting by personal appearance will be conducted weekdays between the hours of 8:00 am and 5:00 pm at the Gainesville Civic Center, 311 S. Weaver Street, Gainesville, Texas 76240 beginning April 22, 2025 and ending April 29, 2025.

EXHIBIT B

VOTER INFORMATION DOCUMENT

GAINESVILLE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT PROPOSITION A

[] FOR

THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$58,833,798 FOR CONSTRUCTION, ACQUISITION, RENOVATION AND EQUIPMENT OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS IN THE DISTRICT (INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, CONSTRUCTION, RENOVATIONS AND **EQUIPMENT** FOR, SAFETY AND SECURITY, AND ADDITIONAL GROWTH) AND THE LEVY OF TAXES SUFFICIENT TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL OF AND INTEREST ON THE BONDS. THIS IS A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE.

[] AGAINST

1.	Principal of the debt obligations to be authorized	\$ 58,833,798.00
2.	Estimated interest for the debt obligations to be authorized*	\$ 51,068,077.00
3.	Estimated combined principal and interest required to pay on time and in full the debt obligations to be authorized *	\$109,901,875.00
4.	As of the date of the adoption of the District's Election Order, the aggregate amount of outstanding principal of the District's outstanding debt obligations	\$ 19,197,979.00
5.	As of the date of the adoption of the District's Election Order, the aggregate amount of outstanding interest on the District's outstanding debt obligations	\$ 3,995,110.92
6.	As of the date of the adoption of the District's Election Order, the estimated combined principal and interest on the District's outstanding debt obligations	\$ 23,193,089.92
7.	Other information that the District considers relevant or necessary to explain the information	N/A

Based on the information and assumptions provided in the table above, the estimated maximum annual increase in the amount of taxes that would be imposed on a residence homestead in the District with a taxable appraised value of \$100,000 to repay the proposed bonds, if approved, is $\underline{\$0}$. This figure assumes application of a homestead exemption of \$100,000. This estimate assumes average annual growth of District's taxable assessed valuation of $\underline{5.00}\%$ per year through the tax year $\underline{2027}$ and assumes no growth thereafter. The District assumes that the proposed bonds will be issued in an amortization that does not exceed the maximum number of years authorized by law and that will produce relatively overall consistent levels of debt service in each year while taking into account the District's existing debt amortization schedule.

^{*} The interest on the proposed bonds was estimated at a rate of 5.00% (which the District believes is a conservative estimate) based on market conditions as of <u>January 31, 2025</u>, and therefore, the interest payable on the proposed bonds may be less than, or more than, the amounts set forth above based on market conditions at the time of sale of the proposed bonds to be authorized under the Proposition.