#### PRELIMINARY OFFICIAL STATEMENT Dated July 28, 2025

NEW ISSUE - BOOK-ENTRY-ONLY

Enhanced/Unenhanced Ratings:

Due: as shown on the inside cover page hereto

S&P: "AAA" / "A+" PSF: "Guaranteed"

(See "OTHER PERTINENT INFORMATION – Municipal Bond Rating" herein and "APPENDIX D - THE PERMANENT SCHOOL FUND GUARANTEE PROGRAM" attached hereto.)

In the opinion of Tax Counsel (defined herein), assuming continuing compliance by the District (defined below) after the date of initial delivery of the Bonds (defined below) with certain covenants contained in the Bond Order (defined below) and subject to the matters set forth under "TAX MATTERS" herein, interest on the Bonds for federal income tax purposes under existing statutes, regulations, published rulings, and court decisions (i) is excludable from gross income pursuant to Section 103 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), and (ii) is not an item of tax preference for purposes of the federal alternative minimum tax imposed on individuals; however, such interest on the Bonds may be taken into account for the purpose of computing the federal alternative minimum tax imposed on certain corporations. See "TAX MATTERS" herein.

The District will NOT designate the Bonds as "Qualified Tax-Exempt Obligations" for financial institutions.



## \$19,800,000\* HAMILTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

(a political subdivision of the State of Texas located in Hamilton, Comanche and Mills Counties)

**UNLIMITED TAX SCHOOL BUILDING BONDS. SERIES 2025** 

Dated Date: August 15, 2025
Interest to Accrue from Date of Delivery

**AUTHORITY FOR ISSUANCE** ... The Hamilton Independent School District Unlimited Tax School Building Bonds, Series 2025 (the "Bonds") are being issued pursuant to the Constitution and general laws of the State of Texas (the "State" or "Texas"), including Sections 45.001 and 45.003(b)(1) of the Texas Education Code, as amended, an election held in the Hamilton Independent School District (the "District") on May 3, 2025 (the "Election"), and a bond order (the "Bond Order") to be adopted by the Board of Trustees of the District (the "Board") on August 4, 2025. The Bonds are direct and voted obligations of the District, payable from a continuing direct 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" herein.

**PAYMENT TERMS** ... Interest on the Bonds will accrue from the date of initial delivery to the Initial Purchaser (detailed below), will be payable commencing August 28, 2025 (an irregular interest payment date) and each February 15 and August 15 thereafter, 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 principal denominations of \$5,000 or any integral multiple thereof. The definitive Bonds will be registered and delivered to Cede & Co., as 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 the initial securities depository (the "Securities Depository") for the Bonds. Book-entry interests in the Bonds will be made available for purchase in multiples of \$5,000 of the principal amount. Purchasers of the Bonds ("Beneficial Owners") will not receive physical delivery of certificates representing their interest in the Bonds purchased. So long as DTC or its nominee is the registered owner of the Bonds, principal of and interest on the Bonds (as applicable) will be payable by the Paying Agent/Registrar, initially BOKF, NA, Dallas, Texas, to the Securities Depository, which will in turn remit such principal and interest to its participants, which will in turn remit such principal and interest to the Beneficial Owners of the Bonds. See "BOOK-ENTRY-ONLY SYSTEM" herein.

**PURPOSE** ... Proceeds from the sale of the Bonds will be used for (i) the construction, renovation, improvement, acquisition, expansion, and equipment of school buildings in the District, including repair and renovation to roofs, the elementary school and junior high school, and gymnasiums, including necessary sites, and the purchase of new school buses, and (ii) to pay for the costs of issuance of the Bonds. See "PLAN OF FINANCING – Purpose" and "– Sources and Uses of Funds" herein.

The District has received 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 the State of Texas approves the Bonds. See "APPENDIX D - THE PERMANENT SCHOOL FUND GUARANTEE PROGRAM" attached hereto.

For Maturity Schedule, Principal Amounts, Interest Rates, Initial Yields, CUSIP Numbers, and Redemption Provisions for the Bonds, see the inside cover page hereto.

The Bonds are offered for delivery when, as, and if issued and received by the Initial Purchaser named below (the "Initial Purchaser") and are subject to the approving opinion of the Attorney General of the State of Texas and the opinions of Frost Brown Todd LLP, Houston, Texas, Co-Bond Counsel and Tax Counsel, and Powell Law Group, LLP, Austin, Texas, Co-Bond Counsel. See "APPENDIX C – FORMS OF CO-BOND COUNSEL'S OPINION AND TAX COUNSEL'S OPINION" attached hereto. It is expected that the Bonds will be available for delivery through DTC on or about August 27, 2025\* (the "Date of Delivery").

BIDS DUE AUGUST 4, 2025 AT 10:00 A.M. (CDT)

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

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

\$19,800,000\*

# HAMILTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT (a political subdivision of the State of Texas located in Hamilton, Comanche and Mills Counties) UNLIMITED TAX SCHOOL BUILDING BONDS, SERIES 2025

**CUSIP No. Prefix 407864** (1)

\$ Serial Bonds\*

Maturity Date	Principal*	Interest Rate	<b>Initial Yield</b>	CUSIP No. (1)
(8/15)	(\$)	(%)	(%)	Suffix
2026	455,000			
2027	425,000			
2028	430,000			
2029	430,000			
2030	430,000			
2031	430,000			
2032	425,000			
2033	435,000			
2034	460,000			
2035	485,000			
2036	510,000			
2037	535,000			
2038	510,000			
2039	535,000			
2040	560,000			
2041	590,000			
2042	620,000			
2043	650,000			
2044	685,000			
2045	720,000			
2046	755,000			
2047	790,000			
2048	830,000			
2049	875,000			
2050	915,000			
2051	960,000			
2052	1,010,000			
2053	1,060,000			
2054	1,115,000			
2055	1,170,000			
_000	.,,			
	\$_,	<u>,</u> <sup>(1)</sup> Term Bon	ds	
% Term Bo	onds due Augus	t 15, 20 <sup>(1)</sup> , Price	d to Yield	_% CUSIP No. <sup>(1)</sup>

(Interest to accrue from the initial Date of Delivery)

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

<sup>(</sup>f) 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 Initial Purchaser, the District, or the Municipal Advisor is responsible for the selection or correctness of the CUSIP numbers set forth herein.

The District reserves the option to redeem the Bonds maturing on and after August 15, 2036, in whole or in part, before their respective scheduled maturity dates, in the principal amount of \$5,000 or any integral multiple thereof, on August 15, 2035, or on any date thereafter, at a redemption price equal to the principal amount thereof plus accrued interest to the date of redemption The Bonds maturing on August 15 in the years 20\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_ and, 20\_\_\_ (the "Term Bonds") are also subject to mandatory sinking fund redemption prior to stated maturity. See "THE BONDS – Redemption Provisions of the Bonds" herein.

#### HAMILTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 400 South College Hamilton, TX 76531

#### **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	Term Expiration
Dr. Charles Johnson	President	May 2028
Connie White	Vice-President	May 2026
Mica Baize	Secretary	May 2028
Ted Sellers	Trustee	May 2026
Andy Ivey	Trustee	May 2026
Andy Roberts	Trustee	May 2027
Alan Watson	Trustee	May 2027

#### **ADMINISTRATION - FINANCE RELATED**

<u>Name</u> <u>Position</u>

Jennifer Zschiesche Assistant Superintendent

Ken Alexander Director of Finance and Operations

#### **CONSULTANTS AND ADVISORS**

Auditors Singleton, Clark & Company, PC, Cedar Park, Texas

Co-Bond Counsel Frost Brown Todd LLP, Houston, Texas
Powell Law Group, LLP, Austin, Texas

Municipal Advisor Live Oak Public Finance, LLC, Austin, Texas

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#### **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 and in effect on the date of this Preliminary Official Statement ("Rule 15c2-12"), 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 Rule 15c2-12.

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 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 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 set forth herein has been obtained from sources that are believed to be reliable but is not guaranteed as to accuracy or completeness and is not to be construed as a representation by the Initial Purchaser.

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" attached hereto and "CONTINUING DISCLOSURE" herein 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 Initial Purchaser has provided the following sentence for inclusion in this Official Statement: The Initial Purchaser has reviewed the information in this Official Statement pursuant to their respective responsibilities to investors under the federal securities laws, but the Initial Purchaser does not guarantee the accuracy or completeness of such information.

The Municipal Advisor has provided the following sentence for inclusion in this Official Statement: The Municipal Advisor has 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 Municipal Advisor does 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 INITIAL PURCHASER 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 nor the Municipal Advisor makes 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" herein or the affairs of TEA described in "APPENDIX D - THE PERMANENT SCHOOL FUND GUARANTEE PROGRAM" attached hereto 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, AND 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 IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE.

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

#### **OFFICIAL STATEMENT SUMMARY**

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

THE DISTRICT ......The District is a political subdivision of the State located in Hamilton, Comanche and Mills Counties. The District is governed by a seven-member Board of Trustees (the "Board"). 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. Support services are supplied by consultants and advisors. See "INTRODUCTION - Description of the District" herein.

#### **AUTHORITY FOR**

ISSUANCE......The Bonds are issued pursuant to the Constitution and general laws of the State of Texas, Sections 45.001 and 45.003(b)(1) of the Texas Education Code, as amended, an election held on May 3, 2025 (the "Election"), and a bond order to be adopted by the Board on August 4, 2025 (the "Bond Order"). 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" herein.

THE BONDS ......The Bonds shall mature on the dates and in the amounts set forth on the inside cover page of this Official Statement. See "THE BONDS - Description of the Bonds" herein.

**DATED DATE** ......August 15, 2025.

#### **PAYMENT OF INTEREST ..**

Interest on the Bonds will accrue from the date of initial delivery to the Initial Purchaser (detailed below), will be payable commencing August 28, 2025 (an irregular interest payment date) and each February 15 and August 15 thereafter, until stated maturity or prior redemption, and will be calculated on the basis of a 360-day year of twelve 30-day months. See "THE BONDS - Description of the Bonds" herein.

REDEMPTION ......The District reserves the option to redeem the Bonds maturing on and after August 15, 2036, in whole or in part before their respective scheduled maturity dates, in the principal amount of \$5,000 or any integral multiple thereof, on August 15, 2035, or on any date thereafter, at a redemption price equal to the principal amount thereof plus accrued interest to the date of redemption. The Bonds maturing on August 15 in the years 20\_\_, 20\_\_ and 20\_\_ (the "Term Bonds") are also subject to mandatory sinking fund redemption prior to stated maturity. See "THE BONDS – Redemption Provisions of the Bonds" herein.

#### SECURITY FOR THE

BONDS ......The Bonds constitute direct obligations of the District payable from a continuing direct annual ad valorem tax levied against all taxable property located therein, without legal limitation as to rate or amount.

TAX MATTERS ......In the opinion of Frost Brown Todd LLP, Houston, Texas, Tax Counsel, under existing statutes, regulations, published rulings and court decisions, interest on the Bonds (i) is excludable from gross income of the owners thereof pursuant to Section 103 of the Code, and (ii) is not an item of tax preference for purposes of the federal alternative minimum tax imposed on individuals; however, such interest on the Bonds may be taken into account for the purpose of computing the federal alternative minimum tax imposed on certain corporations. See "TAX MATTERS" herein and "APPENDIX C -FORMS OF CO-BOND COUNSEL'S OPINION AND TAX COUNSEL'S OPINION" attached hereto.

#### NOT QUALIFIED TAX-

EXEMPT OBLIGATIONS......The District will NOT designate the Bonds as "Qualified Tax-Exempt Obligations" for financial institutions.

#### PERMANENT SCHOOL

FUND GUARANTEE ............The District has received 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 the State of Texas approves the Bonds. See "THE BONDS" - Permanent School Fund Guarantee" herein and "APPENDIX D - THE PERMANENT SCHOOL FUND GUARANTEE PROGRAM" attached hereto.

#### **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 "A+" by S&P Global Ratings, Inc. ("S&P") without regard to credit enhancement, and "AAA" by S&P by virtue of the guarantee of the Permanent School Fund of the State. See "APPENDIX D - THE PERMANENT SCHOOL FUND GUARANTEE PROGRAM" attached hereto.

USE OF PROCEEDS ...... Proceeds from the sale of the Bonds will be used for (i) the construction, renovation, improvement, acquisition, expansion, and equipment of school buildings in the District, including repair and renovation to roofs, the elementary school and junior high school, and gymnasiums, including necessary sites, and the purchase of new school buses, and (ii) to pay for the costs of issuance of the Bonds. See "PLAN OF FINANCING - Purpose" and "- Sources and Uses of Funds" herein.

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

The definitive Bonds will be initially registered and delivered only to Cede & Co., as nominee of DTC, pursuant to the Book-Entry-Only System described herein. Beneficial ownership of the Bonds may be acquired in principal denominations of \$5,000 of the principal amount or any integral multiple 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" herein.

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

#### PRELIMINARY OFFICIAL STATEMENT

#### Relating to

\$19,800,000\*

# HAMILTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT (a political subdivision of the State of Texas located in Hamilton, Comanche and Mills Counties) UNLIMITED TAX SCHOOL BUILDING BONDS, SERIES 2025

#### INTRODUCTION

This Official Statement, which includes the appendices attached hereto, and incorporated herein, provides certain information regarding the issuance of the \$19,800,000\* Hamilton Independent School District Unlimited Tax School Building Bonds, Series 2025 (the "Bonds"). The Bonds are being issued pursuant to the Constitution and the general laws of the State of Texas (the "State" or "Texas"), particularly Sections 45.001 and 45.003(b)(1) of the Texas Education Code, as amended, an election held in the Hamilton Independent School District (the "District") on May 3, 2025 (the "Election"), and that certain bond order (the "Bond Order") to be adopted by the District's Board of Trustees (the "Board") on August 4, 2025. 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" herein.

All financial and other information presented in this 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" herein.

Included in this 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 by writing the Hamilton Independent School District, 400 South College Hamilton, TX 76531 Attention: Superintendent of Schools and, during the offering period, from the District's Municipal Advisor, Live Oak Public Finance, LLC, 1515 S. Capital of Texas Hwy., Suite 206, Austin, Texas 78746, Attention: Christian Merritt, upon payment of reasonable copying, mailing and handling charges.

This Official Statement speaks only as of 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" herein for a description of the District's undertaking to provide certain information on a continuing basis.

#### **Description of the District**

The District is a political subdivision of the State located in Hamilton, Comanche and Mills Counties. The District is governed by a seven-member Board of Trustees (the "Board"). 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. Support services are supplied by consultants and advisors.

#### **PLAN OF FINANCING**

### **Purpose**

Proceeds from the sale of the Bonds will be used for (i) the construction, renovation, improvement, acquisition, expansion, and equipment of school buildings in the District, including repair and renovation to roofs, the elementary school and junior high school, and gymnasiums, including necessary sites, and the purchase of new school buses, and (ii) to pay for the costs of issuance of the Bonds. See "Sources and Uses of Funds" herein.

<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 into Construction Fund	\$
Costs of Issuance & Rounding Amount	
Initial Purchaser's Discount	
TOTAL USES	\$

#### THE BONDS

#### **Description of the Bonds**

The Bonds will be dated August 15, 2025 (the "Dated Date") and mature on August 15 in each of the years and in the amounts shown on the inside cover page of this Official Statement. Interest on the Bonds will accrue from the date of initial delivery to the Initial Purchaser (detailed below), will be payable commencing August 28, 2025 (an irregular interest payment date) and each February 15 and August 15 thereafter, 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 only in fully-registered form in denominations of \$5,000 of the principal amount 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 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 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 of the principal amount for any one maturity.

The definitive Bonds will initially be registered and delivered only to Cede & Co., as 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 of the principal amount or any integral multiple 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 (defined above) of the Bonds. See "BOOK-ENTRY-ONLY SYSTEM" herein.

#### **Authority for Issuance**

The Bonds are being issued pursuant to the Constitution and general laws of the State, particularly Sections 45.001 and 45.003(b)(1), Texas Education Code, as amended, the Election, and the Bond Order.

#### **Authorized But Unissued Bonds**

Following the issuance of the Bonds, the District will have \$0\* in authorized but unissued bonds remaining, as further described below. See "TABLE 9 - Authorized but Unissued Bonds" in APPENDIX A attached hereto.

A summary of the bonds authorized at said Election is as follows:

	Amount	Amount	Amount	Amount
Purpose	Authorized	Previously Issued	This Issue*	Remaining**
School Building & Buses	\$19,800,000	\$0	\$19,800,000	\$0

<sup>\*</sup> Includes premium on the Bonds to be deposited into the Construction Fund. Preliminary, subject to change.

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

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

#### **Security and Source of Payment**

The Bonds constitute direct obligations of the District payable from a continuing direct annual ad valorem tax levied against all taxable property located within the District, without legal limitation as to rate or amount. See "STATE AND LOCAL FUNDING OF SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN TEXAS" and "CURRENT PUBLIC SCHOOL FINANCE SYSTEM" herein. Additionally, the payment of the Bonds is expected to be guaranteed by the corpus of the Permanent School Fund of the State of Texas. See "APPENDIX D - THE PERMANENT SCHOOL FUND GUARANTEE PROGRAM" attached hereto.

#### **Permanent School Fund Guarantee**

The District has received conditional approval from the State Commissioner of Education (the "Education Commissioner") 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 certain conditions discussed under "APPENDIX D - THE PERMANENT SCHOOL FUND GUARANTEE PROGRAM" attached hereto, 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, Beneficial Owners will receive all payments due on the Bonds from the corpus of the Permanent School Fund.

#### **Redemption Provisions of the Bonds**

#### Optional Redemption

The District reserves the right to redeem the Bonds maturing on and after August 15, 2036, in whole or in part, in denominations of \$5,000 of the principal amount or any integral multiple thereof, on August 15, 2035 or any date thereafter, at the redemption price of par plus accrued interest to the date of redemption. When the Bonds or portions thereof have been called for redemption and due provisions have been made to redeem the Bonds, the amounts so redeemed shall be payable solely from the funds provided for redemption, and interest that would otherwise accrue on the Bonds or portions thereof called for redemption shall terminate on the date fixed for redemption.

#### **Mandatory Redemption**

The Bonds maturing on August 15 in the years 20\_\_, 20\_\_, 20\_\_ and 20\_\_ (the "Term Bonds") are also subject to mandatory sinking fund redemption prior to stated maturity from moneys required to be deposited into the Bond Fund for such purpose and shall be redeemed in part, by lot or other customary method, at the principal amount thereof plus accrued interest to the date of redemption in the following principal amounts on August 15 in each of the years as set forth below:

| \$             | Term Bond                |
|----------------|--------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|
| Due A          | August 15, 20            |
| Date<br>(8/15) | Principal Amount<br>(\$) |

The particular Term Bonds to be redeemed on each redemption date shall be chosen by lot by the Paying Agent/Registrar; provided, however, that the principal amount of Term Bonds for a Stated Maturity required to be redeemed on a mandatory redemption date may be reduced, at the option of the District, by the principal amount of Term Bonds of like maturity which, at least fifty (50) days prior to a mandatory redemption date, (1) shall have been acquired by the District at a price not exceeding the principal amount of such Term Bonds plus accrued interest to the date of purchase thereof, and delivered to the Paying Agent/Registrar for cancellation or (2) shall have been redeemed pursuant to the optional redemption provisions appearing below and not theretofore credited against a mandatory redemption requirement.

#### **Selection of Bonds for Redemption**

If fewer than all of the Bonds are to be redeemed, the District shall determine the amounts and maturities thereof to be so redeemed. If fewer than all the Bonds of any maturity are to be redeemed, the Paying Agent/Registrar (or DTC while the Bonds are in Book-Entry-Only form) shall determine by lot the Bonds, or portions thereof, within such maturity to be redeemed. If a Bond (or any portion of the principal sum thereof) shall have been called for redemption and notice of such redemption shall have been given, such Bond (or the principal amount thereof to be redeemed) shall become due and payable on such redemption date and interest thereon shall cease to accrue from

and after the redemption date, provided funds for the payment of the redemption price and accrued interest thereon are held by the Paying Agent/Registrar on the redemption date.

#### **Notice of Redemption**

No fewer than thirty (30) days prior to a redemption date for the Bonds, the District shall cause a notice of redemption to be sent by United States mail, first class, postage prepaid, to each registered owner of a Bond to be redeemed, in whole or in part, at the address of the holder appearing on the Bond Registrar at the close of business on the business day next preceding the date of mailing such notice. ANY NOTICE OF REDEMPTION SO MAILED SHALL BE CONCLUSIVELY PRESUMED TO HAVE BEEN DULY GIVEN IRRESPECTIVE OF WHETHER ONE OR MORE BONDHOLDERS FAILED TO RECEIVE SUCH NOTICE. NOTICE HAVING BEEN SO GIVEN, THE BONDS CALLED FOR REDEMPTION SHALL BECOME DUE AND PAYABLE ON THE SPECIFIED REDEMPTION DATE, AND NOTWITHSTANDING THAT ANY BOND OR PORTION THEREOF HAS NOT BEEN SURRENDERED FOR PAYMENT, INTEREST ON SUCH BOND OR PORTION THEREOF SHALL CEASE TO ACCRUE.

#### **DTC Redemption Provisions**

The Paying Agent/Registrar and the District, so long as the 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 so 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 for redemption. See "BOOK-ENTRY-ONLY SYSTEM" herein.

#### **Defeasance**

Any Bond(s) will be deemed paid and shall no longer be considered to be outstanding within the meaning of the Bond Order when payment of the principal of and interest on such Bond(s) to its stated maturity or redemption date has been made or will have been provided by depositing with an authorized escrow agent: (1) cash in an amount sufficient to make such payment; (2) Government Obligations (defined below) certified, in the case of a net defeasance, by an independent public accounting firm of national reputation, the District's Municipal Advisor, the Paying Agent/Registrar, or another qualified third party certifying such maturities and interest payment dates and bear such interest as will, without further investment or reinvestment of either the principal amount thereof or the interest earnings therefrom, be sufficient to make such payment; or (3) a combination of moneys and Government Obligations together so certified sufficient to make such payment.

The Bond Order provides that "Government Obligations" means: (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 and that, on the date the governing body of the District authorizes the defeasance, are rated as to investment quality by a nationally recognized investment rating firm not less than "AAA" or its equivalent; (c) noncallable obligations of a state or an agency or a county, municipality, or other political subdivision of a state that on the date the governing body of the District adopts or approves the proceedings authorizing the financial arrangements have been refunded and that are, on the date of the governing body of the District authorizes the defeasance, rated as to investment quality by a nationally recognized investment rating firm not less than "AAA" or its equivalent; or (d) any additional securities and obligations hereafter authorized by Texas law as eligible for use to accomplish the discharge of obligations such as the Bonds. Authorized District officials may limit these eligible securities as deemed necessary, in connection with the sale of the Bonds. There is no assurance that the ratings for U.S. Treasury securities acquired to defease any Bonds, or those for any other Government Obligations, will be maintained at any particular rating category. Further, there is no assurance that current Texas law will not be amended in a manner that expands or contracts the list of permissible defeasance securities (such list consisting of those securities identified in clauses (a) through (c) above), or any rating requirement thereon, that may be purchased with defeasance proceeds relating to the Bonds ("Defeasance Proceeds"), though the District has reserved the right to utilize any additional securities for such purpose in the event the aforementioned list is expanded. Because the Bond Order does not contractually limit such permissible defeasance securities and expressly recognizes the ability of the District to use lawfully available Defeasance Proceeds to defease all or any portion of the Bonds, registered owners of the Bonds are deemed to have consented to the use of Defeasance Proceeds to purchase such other defeasance securities, notwithstanding the fact that such defeasance securities may not be of the same investment quality as those currently identified under Texas law as permissible defeasance securities.

Upon such deposit as described above, such Bonds shall no longer be regarded to be outstanding or unpaid. After firm banking and financial arrangements for the discharge and final payment 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 has 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 such Bonds for redemption, (ii) gives notice of the reservation of that right to the owners of such 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.

#### **Amendments to Bond Order**

The District may amend the Bond Order without the consent of any beneficial owner in any manner not detrimental to the interests of the beneficial owners, including the curing of any ambiguity, inconsistency, or formal defect or omission therein. In addition, the District may, with the written consent of the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the Bonds then outstanding, amend, add to, or rescind any of the provisions of the Bond Order; except that, without the consent of all of the beneficial owners of the Bonds then outstanding, no such amendment, addition, or rescission shall (i) extend the time or times of payment of the principal of and interest on the Bonds, reduce the principal amount thereof or the rate of interest thereof or in any other way modify the terms of payment of the principal or interest on the Bonds, (ii) give any preference to any Bond over any other Bond, or (iii) reduce the percentage of the aggregate principal amount of Bonds required to be held for beneficial owners for consent to any amendment, addition, or waiver, or rescission.

#### **Default and Remedies**

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 the 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 registered owners 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. 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" attached hereto 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 Co-Bond Counsel will note that all opinions relative to the enforceability of the Bond Order and the Bonds are qualified with respect to the customary rights of debtors relative to their creditors and general principles of equity which 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 receipt of an approving opinion of the Attorney General of the State of Texas and the opinion of the District's Co-Bond Counsel, Frost Brown Todd LLP, Houston, Texas, and Powell Law Group, LLP, Austin, Texas.

#### **Delivery**

When issued; anticipated to occur on or about August 27, 2025.\*

#### **Future Issues**

After issuance of the Bonds, the District will have \$0\* in authorized but unissued ad valorem tax bonds. The District's voters could authorize the issuance of additional new money bonds at a future election. In addition, 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 and operations taxes, public property finance contractual obligations payable from its collection of debt service taxes, delinquent tax notes, and leases for various purposes payable from State appropriations and surplus maintenance and operations taxes.

#### REGISTRATION, TRANSFER AND EXCHANGE

#### Paying Agent/Registrar

The initial Paying Agent/Registrar is BOKF, NA, Dallas, Texas. 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 is the close of business on the last business day of the month preceding each interest payment date; provided, however, that the Record Date for the August 28, 2025 interest payment is the Date of Delivery.

In the event of a non-payment of interest on a scheduled payment date, and for thirty (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 fifteen (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(s) will be delivered by the Paying Agent/Registrar in lieu of the Bond(s) 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. A new Bond(s) issued in an exchange or transfer of a Bond(s) 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 Bond(s) 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. Any new Bond(s) registered and delivered in an exchange or transfer shall be in authorized denominations and for a like kind and aggregate principal amount and having the same maturity or maturities as the Bond(s) 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 Bond(s).

#### **Limitation on Transfer of Bonds**

Neither the District nor the Paying Agent/Registrar are required (i) to make any transfer or exchange during a period beginning at the opening of business forty-five (45) days before the day of the first mailing of a notice of redemption of Bonds and ending at the close of business on the day of such mailing, or (ii) to transfer or exchange any Bonds so selected for redemption when such redemption is scheduled to occur within forty-five (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.

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

#### **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's 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 and the Municipal Advisor believe the source of such information to be reliable, but take no responsibility for the accuracy or completeness thereof.

The District cannot and does 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 maturity of the Bonds, each in the aggregate principal amount of such maturity, and will be deposited with DTC.

DTC, the world's largest securities 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 fewer 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.

#### 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.

#### THE PERMANENT SCHOOL FUND GUARANTEE PROGRAM

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.

#### 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 Hamilton County Appraisal District, Mills County Appraisal District, and Comanche County Appraisal District (Collectively, the "Appraisal Districts"). Except as generally described below, the Appraisal Districts are required to appraise all property within the Appraisal Districts 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 Districts are 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 Districts 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.

Unless extended by the Legislature, through December 31, 2026, an appraisal district is prohibited from increasing the appraised value of real property during the 2024 tax year on certain non-homestead properties (the "Subjected Property") whose appraised values are not more than \$5 million dollars (the "Maximum Property Value") to an amount not to exceed 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. The Maximum Property Value 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. For the 2025 tax year, the Maximum Property Value was increased to \$5,160,000.

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.

The appraisal values set by the Appraisal Districts 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" herein.

#### **State-Mandated Homestead Exemptions**

During the 89th 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. Subject to the Governor's signing of the relevant legislation and contingent on voter approval at a Statewide election to be held on November 4, 2025, legislation passed by both houses of the Legislature would increase: (1) the State mandated general homestead exemption from \$100,000 to \$140,000, and (2) the additional exemption on the residence homesteads of those at least sixty-five (65) years of age or disabled from \$10,000 to \$60,000.

The District is still in the process of reviewing legislation passed during the 89th Regular Session. At this time, the District cannot make any representations as to the full impact of such legislation. Further, the District can make no representations or predictions regarding the scope of legislation that may be considered in any special session or the potential impact of such legislation at this time, but it intends to monitor applicable legislation related thereto.

#### **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 residence homesteads (but not less than \$5,000); and (2) an additional exemption of at least \$3,000 of the appraised value of the residence 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 residence 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 reducing or repealing an 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 residence 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 residence homestead qualified for such exemption. This freeze is transferable to a different residence homestead if a qualifying taxpayer moves and, under certain circumstances, is also transferable to the surviving spouse of a person 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 maximum compressed rate of the maintenance and operations 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. Subject to voter approval at a Statewide election to be held on November 4, 2025, legislation passed by the Legislature and signed by the Governor during the 89th Regular Session would provide to a person an exemption from taxation by a taxing unit of \$125,000 of the appraised value of the tangible personal property the person owns that is held or used for the production of income and has taxable situs at the same location in the taxing unit. A person who leases tangible personal property is also entitled to a tax exemption of \$125,000, regardless of where the property is located in the taxing unit).

#### Freeport and Goods-in-Transit 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 fewer 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 outside of the State, stored in a location that is not owned by the owner of the goods and are transported to another location within or outside of 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 retail manufactured housing inventory, or a dealer's motor vehicle, vessel and outboard motor, 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. <u>Beginning with the 2026 tax year, all intangible personal property is exempt from State taxation.</u>

#### 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. The Texas Legislature amended Section 11.35, Texas Tax Code, to clarify that "damage" for the purposes of such statute is limited to "physical damage." For more information on the exemption, reference is made to Section 11.35, Texas 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" herein.

#### **Tax Limitation Agreements**

The Texas Economic Development Act (former Chapter 313, Texas Tax Code, as amended ("Chapter 313")) previously allowed school districts to grant limitations on appraised property values to certain entities to encourage economic development within the school district. Generally, during the last eight (8) years of 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 was not fully taxable was excluded from the school district's taxable property values. Therefore, a school district was not 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. See "CURRENT PUBLIC SCHOOL FINANCE SYSTEM - State Funding for School Districts" herein.

#### **Tax Abatement Agreements**

Taxing units may also enter into tax abatement agreements to encourage economic development. Under the agreements, a property owner agrees to construct certain improvements on its property. The taxing unit, in turn, agrees not to levy a tax on all or part of the increased value attributable to the improvements until the expiration of the agreement. The abatement agreement could last for a period of up to 10 years.

During the regular session of the 88th Texas Legislature, House Bill 5, codified as Chapter 403, Subchapter T, Texas Government Code, as amended ("Chapter 403T"), was enacted into law. Chapter 403T was intended as a replacement of former Chapter 313, but it contains significantly different provisions than the prior program under Chapter 313. Under Chapter 403T, a school district may offer a 50% abatement on taxable value for maintenance and operations ad valorem taxes for certain eligible projects, except that projects in a federally designated economic opportunity zone receive a 75% abatement. Chapter 403T 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 Chapter 403T. Eligible projects must involve manufacturing, provision of utility services, including dispatchable electric generation facilities, facilities related to the development of natural resources, facilities engaged in the research, development or manufacture of high-tech equipment or technology, or critical infrastructure projects and projects must create and maintain jobs, as well as meet certain minimum investment requirements.

For a discussion of how the various exemptions described above are applied by the District, see "THE PROPERTY TAX CODE AS APPLIED TO THE DISTRICT" herein.

#### **District and Taxpayer Remedies**

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

Owners of certain property (being (i) commercial real and personal property, (ii) real and personal property of utilities, (iii) industrial and manufacturing real and personal property, and (iv) multifamily residential real 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 1.2 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 \$61,349,201 for the 2025 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" herein. 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 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" herein 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 Districts have the responsibility for appraising property in the District as well as other taxing units in the respective County. The Appraisal Districts are governed by a board of directors appointed by members of the governing bodies of various political subdivisions within the applicable County.

Property within the District is assessed as of January 1 of each year, taxes become due October 1 of the same year and become delinquent on February 1 of the following year.

The District does not tax personal property not used in the production of income, such as personal automobiles.

The District's taxes are collected by Hamilton Central Appraisal District.

The District does not allow split payments of taxes and does not give discounts for early payment of taxes.

The District has established a tax abatement program to encourage economic development. The District grants tax abatements.

The District does not grant an additional local exemption of up to 20% of the market value of residence homesteads, minimum exemption \$5.000.

The District grants a State mandated \$100,000 general residence homestead exemption.

The District grants a State mandated \$10,000 residence homestead exemption for persons 65 years of age or older or disabled persons.

The District grants a State mandated residence homestead exemption for disabled veterans.

The District does not tax non-business personal property.

Ad valorem taxes are not levied by the District against the exempt value of residence homesteads for the payment of debt.

The District has not taken action to tax freeport property.

The District taxes goods-in-transit.

Charges for penalties and interest on the unpaid balance of delinquent taxes are as follows:

Month	Cumulative Penalty	Cumulative Interest	Total
February	6%	1%	7%
March	7%	2%	9%
April	8%	3%	11%
May	9%	4%	13%
June	10%	5%	15%
July	12%	6%	18%

(a) After July, the penalty remains at 12%, and interest accrues at a rate of one percent (1%) for each month or portion of a month the tax remains unpaid. A delinquent tax continues to accrue interest as long as the tax remains unpaid, regardless of whether a judgment for the delinquent tax has been rendered. The purpose of imposing such interest penalty is to compensate the taxing unit for revenue lost because of the delinquency. In addition, if an account is delinquent in July, an attorney's collection fee of up to 20% may be added to the total tax penalty and interest charge.

#### 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 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" herein.

#### **CURRENT PUBLIC SCHOOL FINANCE SYSTEM**

#### Overview

The following language constitutes only a summary of the Finance System as it is currently structured. The information contained under the captions "CURRENT PUBLIC SCHOOL FINANCE SYSTEM" and "TAX RATE LIMITATIONS" is subject to change, and only reflects the District's understanding based on information available to the District as of the date of this Official Statement. Certain of the information provided below is contingent on voter approval of a constitutional amendment that will be submitted to the voters at an election to be held on November 4, 2025. See "– 2025 Legislative Sessions," below. 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. Additionally, prospective investors are encouraged to review the Property Tax Code (as defined herein) for definitive requirements for the levy and collection of ad valorem taxes and the calculation of the defined tax rates.

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 at a rate intended to create a surplus in M&O tax revenues to pay the district's debt service. Current law also requires school districts 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 also is subject to wide variation; however, the public school finance funding formulas are designed generally to equalize, on a per student basis, local funding generated by a school district's M&O tax rate.

#### 2025 Legislative Sessions

The Texas Legislature (the "Legislature") meets in regular session in odd numbered years for 140 days. The regular session of the 89th Texas Legislature commenced on January 14, 2025 and concluded on June 2, 2025 (the "89th Regular Session"). During the 89th Regular Session, the Legislature considered a general appropriations act and legislation affecting the Finance System (as defined herein) and ad valorem taxation procedures and exemptions, and investments, among other legislation affecting school districts and the administrative agencies that oversee school districts. Contingent on voter approval at a Statewide election to be held on November 4, 2025, legislation passed by both houses of the Legislature would increase: (1) effective January 1, 2025, the State mandated general homestead exemption from \$100,000 to \$140,000, (2) effective January 1, 2025, the additional exemption on the residence homesteads of those at least sixty-five (65) years of age or older and the disabled from \$10,000 to \$60,000, and (3) effective January 1, 2026, the exemption for tangible personal property used in the "production of income" from \$2,499 to \$125,000. Additionally, legislation passed by the Legislature and signed into law by the Governor would authorize roughly \$8.5 billion in funding for public schools and would provide districts with a \$55 per-student increase to their base funding, as well as provide districts with additional funding for teacher and staff salaries, educator preparation, special education, safety requirements and early childhood learning. Finally, legislation passed by the Legislature and signed into law by the Governor will create an education savings account program (commonly referred to as vouchers) for students that attend private schools or home school. Such program could impact attendance in the District by incentivizing students to homeschool or attend private schools, which could negatively affect the District's attendance based funding.

The District is still in the process of reviewing legislation passed during the 89th Regular Session. At this time, the District cannot make any representations as to the full impact of such legislation.

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 a special session to begin on July 21, 2025. The initial agenda for the special session includes the following items: (i) regulation of products derived from hemp, (ii) real property recording requirements, (iii) impact and production fees for certain water projects and regulations of wells, (iv) affirmative defense to prosecution for victims of human trafficking or compelled prostitution, (v) operations of cement kilns and production of aggregates near semiconductor facilities, and (vi) the operation and administration of the judicial branch of state government. The Governor may add additional items to the call at any time.

The District can make no representations or predictions regarding the scope of additional legislation that may be considered during this or any called special sessions or the potential impact of such legislation at this time, but it intends to monitor applicable legislation related thereto.

### 2023 Regular and Special Legislative Sessions

The regular session of the 88th Texas Legislature began on January 10, 2023, and adjourned on May 29, 2023 (the "88th Regular Session"). The Governor called and the Legislature concluded four Special Sessions during the 88th Texas Legislature (such Special Sessions, together with the 88th Regular Session, collectively referred to herein as 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 \$4,000,000,000,000 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 during any previous special sessions of the 88th Texas Legislature.

During the second called special session, legislation was passed, and at an election held in the State on November 7, 2023, voters approved a State constitutional amendment 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; (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) prohibited 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. This legislation 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 the fourth called special session the Legislature considered (i) "legislation relating to primary and secondary education, including the establishment of an education savings account program, the certification, compensation, and health coverage of certain public school employees, the public school finance system, special education in public schools, measures to support the education of public school students that include certain educational grant programs, reading instruction, and early childhood education, the provision of virtual education, and public school accountability;" and (ii) "legislation related to school safety measures and related state funding mechanisms." The session adjourned on December 5, 2023 without any action on these items.

#### **Local Funding for School Districts**

A school district's M&O tax rate is composed of 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. The formulas for the State Compression Percentage and Maximum Compressed Tax Rate (each as described below) are designed 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 Legislature by the State Comptroller) has increased by at least 2.5% over the prior year; and (3) the prior year State Compression Percentage. For any year, the maximum State Compression Percentage is 93%. For the State fiscal year ending in 2026, the State Compression Percentage is set at 63.22%.

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 two alternative calculations: (1) the school district's current year SCP multiplied by \$1.00; or (2) a percentage determined by formula if the school district experienced a year-over-year increase in property value of at least 2.5% (if the increase in property value is less than 2.5%, then MCR is equal to the prior year MCR). 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 instead equal to the school district's prior year 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 2025 Legislative Session, the Legislature reduced the maximum MCR for the 2025-2026 school year. The MCR for the 2025-2026 school year is \$0.6322 and the floor is \$0.5689.

In calculating and making available school districts' MCRs for the 2025-2026 school year, the TEA shall calculate and make available the rates as if the increase in the residence homestead exemption under Section 1-b(c), Article VIII, Texas Constitution, as proposed by the 89th Legislature, Regular Session, 2025, took effect. Such calculation for the 2025-2026 school year expires September 1, 2026. Subject to voter approval at a Statewide election to be held on November 4, 2025, the residential homestead exemption under Section 1-b(c), Article VIII, Texas Constitution would increase (1) the State mandated general homestead exemption from \$100,000 to \$140,000, and (2) the additional exemption on the residence homesteads of those at least sixty-five (65) years of age or disabled from \$10,000 to \$60,000. If adopted, the proposed constitutional amendment takes effect for the tax year beginning January 1, 2025.

If the increase in the residence homestead as proposed by constitutional amendment does not take effect, beginning on September 1, 2025, and up until September 1, 2029, the Education Commissioner may adjust school districts' MCRs for the 2025-2026 school year accordingly. Before making an adjustment, the Education Commissioner shall notify and must receive approval from the Legislative Budget Board and the office of the Governor.

<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. 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" herein.

#### **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 actual 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 to 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" herein), Tier Two funding may not be used for the payment of debt service or capital outlay.

The 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 2026-2027 State fiscal biennium, the 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 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 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, other than students in average daily attendance who do not reside in the district and are enrolled in a full-time virtual program, 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 the 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 plus the guaranteed yield increment adjustment (the "GYIA") 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 GYIA is established by October 1 of each even-numbered year for the subsequent biennium. For the 2026-27 biennium, the GYIA is set at \$55. 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 compensation allotment to increase teacher retention in disadvantaged or rural school districts. A school district's total Tier One funding, divided by the district's basic allotment, is a school district's measure of students in "Weighted Average Daily Attendance" ("WADA"), which serves to calculate Tier Two funding.

The fast growth allotment weights change to 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 \$320 million for each year of the 2026-2027 State fiscal biennium.

<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 Basic Allotment multiplied by 0.02084. For the 2026-2027 State fiscal biennium, school districts are guaranteed a yield on each Golden Penny levied of \$129.52 per student in WADA. Copper Pennies generate a guaranteed yield per student in WADA equal to the school district's Basic Allotment multiplied by 0.008. For the 2026-2027 State fiscal biennium, school districts are guaranteed a yield on each Copper Penny levied of \$49.72 per student in WADA.

Existing Debt Allotment, Instructional Facilities Allotment, and New Instructional Facilities Allotment. 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 the program first began in 1997. New awards of IFA are only available if appropriated funds are allocated for such purpose by the 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 leasepurchase 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. A school district may use additional state aid received from an IFA award only to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds for which the district received the aid. 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 2026-2027 State fiscal biennium, the Legislature did not appropriate any funds for new IFA awards; however, awards previously granted in years the 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 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 2026-2027 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 2026-2027 State fiscal biennium on new bonds issued by school districts in the 2026-2027 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. See "State Funding for School Districts – Tax Rate and Funding Equity" below.

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, or a renovated portion of an instructional facility to be used for the first time to provide high-cost

and undersubscribed career and technology education programs, as determined by the Education Commissioner. In the 2025 Legislative Sessions, the Legislature appropriated funds in the amount of \$150,000,000 for each fiscal year of the 2026-2027 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.

For the 2026-2027 school year, school districts will be held harmless and entitled to additional state aid to the extent that state and local revenue used to service eligible debt is less than the state and local revenue that would have been available to the district under state law providing for state aid to districts to account for increases in the general residence homestead exemption and the elderly or disabled tax ceiling as such state law existed on January 1, 2025, if any increase in a residence homestead exemption under the Texas Constitution, and any additional limitation on tax increases under the elderly or disabled tax ceiling had not occurred.

#### **Local Revenue Level in Excess of Entitlement**

A school district that has sufficient property wealth per student in ADA to generate local revenues on the school district's Tier One Tax Rate and Copper Pennies in excess of the school district's respective funding entitlements (a "Chapter 49 school district"), is subject to the local revenue reduction provisions contained in Chapter 49, 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 in excess of entitlement, 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.

Recapture is measured by the "local revenue level" (being the M&O tax revenues generated in a school district) in excess of the entitlements appropriated by the Legislature each fiscal biennium. Therefore, school districts are guaranteed that recapture will not reduce revenue below their statutory entitlement.

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. A district that enters into an agreement to exercise an option to reduce the district 's local revenue level in excess of entitlement under options (3), (4), or (5) for the 2025-2026 school year and that has not previously held an election to exercise said options may request and may receive approval from the Education Commissioner to delay the date of the election otherwise required to be ordered before September 1. The Education Commissioner shall set a date by which each district that receives approval to delay an election must order the election and requires the Education Commissioner, not later than the 2026-2027 school year, to order detachment and annexation of district property or consolidation as necessary to reduce the district's excess local revenue to the level established by law for a district that receives approval to delay an election and subsequently fails to hold the election or does not receive voter approval at the election. A district that receives approval of a request to delay the date of an election shall pay for credit purchased in equal monthly payments as determined by the Education Commissioner beginning March 15, 2026, and ending August 15, 2026. Alternatively, the district may pay for credit purchased with one lump sum payment made not later than August 15, 2026, provided that the district notifies the Education Commissioner of the district's election to pay through a lump sum not later than March 15, 2026.

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 2024-2025 fiscal year, the District was not designated as an "excess local revenue" district by the TEA. Accordingly, the District has not been required to exercise one of the wealth equalization options permitted under applicable State law. As a district with local revenue less than the maximum permitted level, the District may benefit in the future by agreeing to accept taxable property or funding assistance from, or agreeing to consolidate with, a property-rich district to enable such district to reduce its wealth per student to the permitted level.

A district's "excess local revenues" must be tested for each future school year and, if it exceeds the maximum permitted level, the district must reduce its wealth per student by the exercise of one of the permitted wealth equalization options. Accordingly, if the district's wealth per student should exceed the maximum permitted value in future school years, it will be required to exercise one or more one of the permitted wealth equalization options. If the District were to consolidate (or consolidate its tax base for all purposes) with a property-poor 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.

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**

A school district is authorized to levy M&O taxes subject to approval of a proposition submitted to district voters. The maximum M&O tax rate that may be levied by a district cannot exceed the voted maximum rate or the maximum rate described in the succeeding paragraphs. The District is authorized to levy a M&O tax rate pursuant to the approval of the voters of the District at an election held on March 7, 1968, under Article 2784e-1, Texas Revised Civil Statutes Annotated, as amended (now codified as Section 45.003, Texas Education Code, as amended).

The maximum M&O tax rate per \$100 of taxable assessed 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 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" herein.

Section 45.0031 of the Texas Education Code, as amended, requires a school district to demonstrate to the Attorney General of the State of Texas 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 or 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 I&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 Sections 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 of Public Accounts.

#### **DEBT LIMITATIONS**

Under State law, there is no explicit bonded indebtedness limitation, although the tax rate limits described above under "TAX RATE LIMITATIONS" effectively impose a limit on the incurrence of debt. Such tax rate limits require school districts to demonstrate the ability to pay "new debt" from a tax rate of \$0.50. In demonstrating compliance with the requirement, a district may take into account State equalization payments and, if compliance with such requirement is contingent on receiving state assistance, a district may not adopt a tax rate for a year for purposes of paying the principal of and interest on the bonds unless the district credits to the interest and sinking fund for the bonds the amount of State assistance received or to be received in that year. The State Attorney General reviews a district's calculations showing the compliance with such test as a condition to the legal approval of the debt. As stated above, the Bonds are issued as new debt and subject to this limitation.

#### 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 pan 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 THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 7. TEACHER RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF TEXAS PENSION PLAN - " as set out in the audited financial statements of the District for the year ended August 31, 2024, as set forth in APPENDIX B attached 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 TRS. TRS-Care provides health care coverage for certain persons (and their dependents) who retired under TRS. See "NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 9. OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB) PLAN – TRS-CARE" in the audited financial statements of the District for the year ended August 31, 2024, as set forth in APPENDIX B attached hereto.

In June 2012, the Government Accounting Standards Board ("GASB") issued Statement No. 68 Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions, which was later amended by GASB Statement No. 71 Pension Transition for Contributions Made Subsequent to the Measurement Date, each in an effort to improve accounting and financial reporting by state and local governments related to pensions. GASB Statement No. 68 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. See "CHANGE IN NET ASSETS" in APPENDIX B attached hereto. GASB Statement No. 68 applies only to pension benefits and does not apply to OPEB or TRS-Care related liabilities. At the conclusion of the 2023-2024 fiscal year, the District had a net pension liability of \$4,159,769.

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**

Available District funds are invested as authorized by State law and in accordance with investment policies approved by the Board.

Under State law, the District is authorized to make investments meeting the requirements of the Public Funds Investment Act (Chapter 2256, Texas Government Code, as amended) (the "PFIA"), which currently include (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 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 FDIC or the NCUSIF, or their respective successors, or 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 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 fewer, 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 fewer 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 seg.); 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 guaranteed 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 and are pledged to the District and deposited with the District or a third party selected and approved by the District.

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, (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.

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 District's Board of Trustees 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 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 District's Board of Trustees.

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 delivery of the Bonds is subject to receipt of the approving opinion of the Attorney General of the State of Texas, to the effect that the Bonds are valid and legally binding obligations of the District payable from the proceeds of an annual ad valorem tax levied, without legal limit as to rate or amount, upon all taxable property in the District, and based upon examination of such transcript of proceedings, the opinion of Co-Bond Counsel, Frost Brown Todd LLP, Houston, Texas, and Powell Law Group, LLP, Austin, Texas, that the Bonds are valid and legally binding obligations of the District. Tax Counsel will deliver its opinion that interest on the Bonds is excludable from gross income for federal income tax purposes under Section 103(a) of the Code and other matters as set forth under "TAX MATTERS" herein. Copies of the opinions of Co-Bond Counsel and Tax Counsel issued in connection with the issuance of the Bonds are attached hereto as APPENDIX C – FORMS OF CO-BOND COUNSEL OPINION AND TAX COUNSEL'S OPINION. The legal fees to be paid to Co-Bond Counsel and Tax Counsel are contingent upon the sale and delivery of the Bonds.

Co-Bond Counsel was not requested to participate, and did not take part, in the preparation of the Official Statement, and such firms have not assumed any responsibility with respect thereto or undertaken independently to verify any of the information contained therein, except that, in their capacity as Co-Bond Counsel, such firms have reviewed the information under the captions "THE BONDS" (exclusive of the subcaptions "Payment Record," "Future Issues," "Permanent School Fund Guarantee" and "Default and Remedies," as to which no opinion is expressed), "STATE AND LOCAL FUNDING OF SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN TEXAS," "CURRENT PUBLIC SCHOOL FINANCE SYSTEM," "TAX RATE LIMITATIONS," "LEGAL MATTERS" (excluding the information under the subcaption "Litigation," as to which no opinion is expressed), "CONTINUING DISCLOSURE" (excluding the information under the subcaption "Compliance with Prior Agreements," as to which no opinion is expressed), "LEGAL INVESTMENTS AND ELIGIBILITY TO SECURE PUBLIC FUNDS IN TEXAS" and "OTHER PERTINENT INFORMATION – Registration and Qualification of Bonds for Sale" in the Official Statement and such firms are of the opinion that the information relating to the Bonds and the legal issues contained under such captions and subcaptions is an accurate description of the laws and legal issues addressed therein and, with respect to the Bonds, such information conforms to the Bond Order. Tax 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 verity any of the information contained herein,

except that, in its capacity as Tax Counsel, such firm has reviewed the information under the caption "TAX MATTERS" in the Official Statement and such firm is of the opinion that the information relating to the Bonds and the legal issues contained under such caption is an accurate description of the laws and legal issues addressed therein and, with respect to the Bonds, such information conforms to the Bond Order.

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

At the time of the initial delivery of the Bonds, one or more officials of the District will provide the Initial Purchaser with a certificate to the effect that, to the best of their knowledge, except as disclosed in this Official Statement, (i) 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 and (ii) 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**

#### Tax Exemption

The delivery of the Bonds is subject to the opinion of Tax Counsel to the effect that interest on the Bonds for federal income tax purposes (i) is excludable from gross income of the owners thereof pursuant to Section 103 of the Code, and (ii) is not an item of tax preference for purposes of the federal alternative minimum tax imposed on individuals; however, such interest on the Bonds may be taken into account for the purpose of computing the federal alternative minimum tax imposed certain on corporations. The statutes, regulations, rulings, and court decisions on which such opinion is based are subject to change. A form of Tax Counsel's opinion appears in APPENDIX C attached hereto.

For tax years beginning after December 31, 2022, corporations that are classified as an "applicable corporation" (as defined in Section 59(k) of the Code) may be subject to an alternative minimum tax imposed under section 55 of the Code on their "adjusted financial statement income" (as defined in Section 56A of the Code) for such taxable year. Because interest on tax-exempt obligations, such as the Bonds, is included in an applicable corporation's "adjusted financial statement income," ownership of the Bonds could subject an applicable corporation to alternative minimum tax consequences.

In rendering the foregoing opinions, Frost Brown Todd LLP, Houston, Texas, as Tax Counsel, will rely upon representations and certifications of the District made in certificates pertaining to the use, expenditure, and investment of the proceeds of the Bonds and will assume continuing compliance by the District with the provisions of the Bond Order subsequent to the issuance of the Bonds. The Bond Order contains covenants by the District with respect to, among other matters, the use of the proceeds of the Bonds and the facilities financed therewith by persons other than state or local governmental units, the manner in which the proceeds of the Bonds are to be invested, the periodic calculation and payment to the United States Department of the Treasury (the "Treasury") of arbitrage "profits" from the investment of the proceeds, and the reporting of certain information to the Treasury. Failure to comply with any of these covenants may cause interest on the Bonds to be includable in the gross income of the owners thereof from the date of the issuance of the Bonds.

Except as described above, Frost Brown Todd LLP, Houston, Texas, as Tax Counsel, will express no other opinion with respect to any other federal, state or local tax consequences under present law, or proposed legislation, resulting from the receipt or accrual of interest on, or the acquisition or disposition of, the Bonds. Tax Counsel's opinion is not a guarantee of a result, but represents its legal judgment based upon its review of existing statutes, regulations, published rulings and court decisions and the representations and covenants of the District described above. No ruling has been sought from the Internal Revenue Service (the "IRS") with respect to the matters addressed in the opinion of Tax Counsel, and Tax Counsel's opinion is not binding on the IRS. The IRS has an ongoing program of auditing the tax-exempt status of the interest on municipal obligations. If an audit of the Bonds is commenced, under current procedures the IRS is likely to treat the District as the "taxpayer," and the owners of the Bonds would have no right to participate in the audit process. In responding to or defending an audit of the tax-exempt status of the interest on the Bonds, the District may have different or conflicting interests from the owners of the Bonds. Public awareness of any audit of the Bonds could adversely affect the value and liquidity of the Bonds during the pendency of the audit, regardless of its ultimate outcome.

#### **Tax Changes**

Existing law may change to reduce or eliminate the benefit to bondholders of the exclusion of interest on the Bonds from gross income for federal income tax purposes. Any proposed legislation or administrative action, whether or not taken, could also affect the value and marketability of the Bonds. It is uncertain whether this legislation will be enacted and, if so, whether it will be enacted in its current form.

Prospective purchasers of the Bonds should consult with their own tax advisors with respect to any proposed or future changes in tax law.

#### **Ancillary Tax Consequences**

Prospective purchasers of the Bonds should be aware that the ownership of tax-exempt obligations such as the Bonds may result in collateral federal tax consequences to, among others, financial institutions, property and casualty insurance companies, life insurance companies, certain foreign corporations doing business in the United States, S corporations with subchapter C earnings and profits, owners of an interest in a financial asset securitization investment trust ("FASIT"), individual recipients of Social Security or Railroad Retirement benefits, individuals otherwise qualifying for the earned income tax credit and taxpayers who may be deemed to have incurred or continued indebtedness to purchase or carry, or who have paid or incurred certain expenses allocable to, tax-exempt obligations. Prospective purchasers should consult their own tax advisors as to the applicability of these consequences to their particular circumstances.

#### **Tax Accounting Treatment of Discount Bonds**

Any Bonds that have an original yield above their interest rate, as set forth herein (for purposes of this section, the "Tax-Exempt OID Bonds"), are being initially offered and sold to the public at an original issue discount ("OID") from the amounts payable at maturity thereon. OID is the excess of the stated redemption price of a bond at maturity (the face amount) over the "issue price" of such bond. The issue price is the initial offering price to the public (other than to bond houses, brokers or similar persons acting in the capacity of Initial Purchaser or wholesalers) at which a substantial amount of bonds of the same maturity are sold pursuant to that initial offering. For federal income tax purposes, OID on each bond will accrue over the term of the bond. The amount accrued will be based on a single rate of interest, compounded semiannually (the "yield to maturity") and, during each semi-annual period, the amount will accrue ratably on a daily basis. The OID accrued during the period that an initial purchaser of a Tax-Exempt OID Bond at its issue price owns it is added to the purchaser's tax basis for purposes of determining gain or loss at the maturity, redemption, sale or other disposition of that Tax-Exempt OID Bond. In practical effect, accrued OID is treated as stated interest, that is, excludible from gross income for federal income tax purposes.

In addition, original issue discount that accrues in each year to an owner of a Tax-Exempt OID Bond is included in the calculation of the distribution requirements of certain regulated investment companies and may result in some of the ancillary federal income tax consequences discussed above. Consequently, owners of any Tax-Exempt OID Bond should be aware that the accrual of original issue discount in each year may result in an corporate alternative minimum tax liability, if applicable, additional distribution requirements or other ancillary federal income tax consequences although the owner of such Tax-Exempt OID Bond has not received cash attributable to such original issue discount in such year.

Owners of Discount Bonds should consult with their own tax advisors with respect to the determination for federal income tax purposes of accrued interest upon disposition of Discount Bonds and with respect to the state and local tax consequences of owning and disposing of Discount Bonds. It is possible that, under applicable provisions governing determination of state and local income taxes, accrued interest on the Discount Bonds may be deemed to be received in the year of accrual even though there will not be a corresponding cash payment.

#### **Tax Accounting Treatment of Premium Bonds**

"Acquisition Premium" is the excess of the cost of a bond over the stated redemption price of such bond. Any Bonds that are being sold at original yield below their interest rate, as set forth herein (collectively, the "Premium Bonds"), are being initially offered and sold to the public with Acquisition 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 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. This amount is amortized ratably over that semiannual period on a daily basis. 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 is amortized during the period of ownership. For federal income tax purposes, the amount of Acquisition Premium on the Premium Bonds must be amortized and will reduce the bondholder's adjusted basis in that bond; however, no amount of amortized Acquisition Premium on the Premium Bonds may be deducted in determining bondholder's taxable income for federal income tax purposes. 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. A purchaser of a Premium Bond in the initial public offering who holds that Premium Bond to maturity (or, in the case of a callable Premium Bond, to its earlier call date that results in the lowest yield on that Premium Bond) will realize no gain or loss upon the retirement of that Premium Bond.

Purchasers of the Premium Bonds should consult with their own tax advisors with respect to the determination of amortizable bond premium on Premium Bonds for federal income tax purposes and with respect to the state and local tax consequences of owning and disposing of Premium Bonds.

#### State, Local and Foreign Taxes

Investors should consult their own tax advisors concerning the tax implications of the purchase, ownership or disposition of the Bonds under applicable state or local laws. Foreign investors should also consult their own tax advisors regarding the tax consequences unique to investors who are not United States persons.

#### Information Reporting and Backup Withholding

Subject to certain exceptions, information reports describing interest income, including original issue discount, with respect to the Bonds will be sent to each registered holder and to the Internal Revenue Service. Payments of interest and principal may be subject to backup withholding under section 3406 of the Code if a recipient of the payments fails to furnish to the payor such owner's social security number or other taxpayer identification number ("TIN"), furnishes an incorrect TIN, or otherwise fails to establish an exemption from the backup withholding tax. Any amounts so withheld would be allowed as a credit against the recipient's federal income tax. Special rules apply to partnerships, estates and trusts, and in certain circumstances, and in respect of Non-U.S. Holders, certifications as to foreign status and other matters may be required to be provided by partners and beneficiaries thereof.

#### **Future and Proposed Legislation**

Tax legislation, administrative actions taken by tax authorities, or court decisions, whether at the Federal or state level, may adversely affect the tax-exempt status of interest on the Bonds under Federal or state law and could affect the market price or marketability of the Bonds. Any such proposal could limit the value of certain deductions and exclusions, including the exclusion for tax-exempt interest. The likelihood of any such proposal being enacted cannot be predicted. Prospective purchasers of the Bonds should consult their own tax advisors regarding the foregoing matters.

#### 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.

#### **CONTINUING DISCLOSURE**

In the Bond Order, the District will make 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 Securities and Exchange Commission's Rule 15c2-12 ("Rule 15c2-12"). Under the agreement, the District will be obligated to provide certain updated financial information and operating data annually, and timely notice of specified material events, to the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board (the "MSRB"). This information will be available to the public free of charge from the MSRB via the Electronic Municipal Market Access ("EMMA") system at <a href="https://www.emma.msrb.org">www.emma.msrb.org</a>, as further described below under "Availability of Information from MSRB."

#### **Annual Reports**

The District will provide in an electronic format as prescribed by the MSRB certain updated financial information and operating data to the MSRB annually. The information to be updated includes all quantitative financial information and operating data with respect to the District of the general type included in this Official Statement in APPENDIX A under Tables numbered 1 through 5 and Tables 7 through 14, and in APPENDIX B attached hereto. The District will update and provide this information within twelve months after the end of each fiscal year.

The District will provide certain updated financial information and operating data to the MSRB annually via EMMA. The information to be updated includes all quantitative financial information and operating data with respect to the District of the general type included in this

Official Statement in APPENDIX A under Tables numbered 1 through 5 and Tables 7 through 14, and in APPENDIX B attached hereto. The District will update and provide this information within six (6) months after the end of any such fiscal year.

Financial information and operating data to be provided hereunder may be set forth in full in one or more documents or may be included by specific reference to any document (including an official statement, other offering document, or financial report) available to the public on the MSRB's Internet Web site or filed with the SEC in such format and manner as permitted by Rule 15c2-12. The updated information will include audited financial statements if the District commissions an audit and it is completed by the required time. If audited financial statements are not available within twelve (12) months after any such fiscal year end, the District will provide to the MSRB unaudited financial statements within such 12-month period and audited financial statements when and if such audited financial statements become available. Any such financial statements will be prepared in accordance with the accounting principles described in APPENDIX B or such other accounting principles as the District may be required to employ from time to time pursuant to State law or regulation.

The District's current fiscal year end is August 31<sup>st</sup>. Accordingly, it must provide updated information by the last day of February in each year, unless it changes its fiscal year. If the District changes its fiscal year, it will file notice of such change with the MSRB.

#### **Notice of Certain Events**

The District will file with the MSRB notice of any of the following events with respect to the Bonds in a timely manner (not more than ten (10) business days after occurrence of the event): (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, which shall occur as described below; (13) the consummation of a merger, consolidation, or acquisition involving the District 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 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 (as defined by Rule 15c2-12, which includes certain debt, debt-like, and debt-related obligations), if material, or agreement to covenants, events of default, remedies, priority rights, or other similar terms of any such 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 any such 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 (with the exception of the Texas Permanent School Fund guarantee), or liquidity enhancement. In addition, the District will provide timely notice of any failure by the District to provide information, data, or financial statements in accordance with its agreement described above under "Annual Reports." The District will provide each notice described in this paragraph to the MSRB.

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, and (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.

#### **Limitations and Amendments**

The District has agreed to update information and to provide notices of specified events only as described above. The District has 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 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 or beneficial owners of Bonds may seek a writ of mandamus to compel the District to comply with its agreement.

The District may amend its continuing disclosure agreement 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 (1) the agreement, as amended, would have permitted an underwriter to purchase or sell Bonds in the offering described herein 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 (2) either (a) the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding Bonds consent 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 beneficial owners of the Bonds. The District may also repeal or amend these provisions 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, but in either case only if and to the extent that the provisions of this sentence would not prevent an underwriter from lawfully purchasing or selling 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 amends its agreement, it must include with the next financial information and operating data provided in accordance with its 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 information and data provided.

#### **Compliance with Prior Agreements**

During the past five years, the District has complied in all material respects with all continuing disclosure agreements made in accordance with Rule 15c2-12.

#### **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.

#### 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.

It is the obligation of the Initial Purchaser to register or qualify the sale of the Bonds under the securities laws of any jurisdiction which so requires. The District agrees to cooperate, at the Initial Purchaser's written request and sole expense, in registering or qualifying the Bonds or in obtaining an exemption from registration or qualification in any state where such action is necessary; provided, however, that the District shall not be required to qualify as a foreign corporation or to execute a general or special consent to service of process in any jurisdiction.

### **Municipal Bond Rating**

The Bonds are expected to be rated "AAA" by S&P Global Ratings, Inc. ("S&P") 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 "A+" by S&P 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.

#### **Municipal Advisor**

Live Oak Public Finance, LLC (the "Municipal Advisor") is employed as the Municipal Advisor to the District in connection with the issuance of the Bonds. The Municipal Advisor's fee for services rendered with respect to the sale of the Bonds is contingent upon the issuance and delivery of the Bonds. Live Oak Public Finance, LLC, in its capacity as Municipal Advisor, has relied on the opinions of Co-Bond Counsel and Tax 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 Municipal Advisor has provided the following sentence for inclusion in this Official Statement. The Municipal 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 Municipal Advisor does not guarantee the accuracy or completeness of such information.

#### Sale of Bonds

After requesting competitive bids for the Bonds, the District has accepted a bid tendered by \_\_\_\_\_\_ (the "Initial Purchaser") to purchase the Bonds at the rates shown on the inside cover page of this Official Statement at a price of \$\_\_\_\_\_. No assurance can be given that any trading market will be developed for the Bonds after their initial sale by the District. The District has no control over the prices at which the Bonds will initially be re-offered to the public.

#### **Use of Audited Financial Statements**

Singleton, Clark & Company, PC, Cedar Park, Texas ("Singleton"), the District's independent auditor, has not been engaged to perform and has not performed, since the date of the report included herein, any procedures on the financial statements addressed in that report. Singleton" has not performed any procedures relating to this Official Statement.

#### **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.

#### Information from External Sources

References to web site 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 web sites and the information or links contained therein are not incorporated into, and are not part of, this Official Statement for purposes of, and as that term is defined in, SEC Rule 15c2-12.

#### **Certification of the Official Statement**

At the time of payment for and delivery of the Bonds, the Initial Purchaser will be furnished a certificate, executed by a proper officer acting in his or her official capacity, substantially to the effect that to the best of his or her knowledge and belief: (a) no event affecting the District has occurred since the date of the Official Statement that should be disclosed in the Official Statement for the purpose for which it is to be used or which it is necessary to disclose therein in order to make the statements and information therein, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading in any material respect as of the closing date, and the information contained in the Official Statement is correct in all material respects and, as of the date of the Official Statement did not, and as of the Closing Date

does not, contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements made therein, in the light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading; and (b) there has been no material adverse change in the financial condition of the District since the date of the last audited financial statements of the District.

#### **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.

This Official Statement will be approved by the Board of the District for distribution in accordance with provisions of the SEC's Rule codified at 17 C.F.R. Section 240.15c2-12, as amended.

The Bond Order will approve the form and content of this Official Statement and any addenda, supplement or amendment thereto and will authorize its further use in the reoffering of the Bonds by the Initial Purchaser.

/s	
President, Board of Trustees	

HAMILTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

ATTEST:	
/s/	
Secretary, Board of Trustees	

# **APPENDIX A**

# SELECTED FINANCIAL INFORMATION REGARDING THE DISTRICT

TABLE 1 - Valuation, Exemption & Tax Supported Debt (1)

<u>District Direct Debt</u> 2025 Tax Year Net Taxable Valuation <sup>(1)</sup>	\$767,842,951
Outstanding Unlimited Tax Debt (July 28, 2025) Plus: The Bonds (2)	\$0 19,800,000
Total Direct Debt (3)	\$19,800,000
As a % of 2023 Assessed Valuation (3)	3.01%
As a % of 2024 Assessed Valuation (3)	2.86%

<sup>(1)</sup> Source: Hamilton, Comanche and Mills County Appraisal Districts Certified Values. Taxable values contained in Appendix A do not reflect potential increase in homestead exemptions.

TABLE 2 - Historical Net Taxable Assessed Valuation (1)

	Tax Year 2025	Tax Year 2024	Tax Year 2023	Tax Year 2022	Tax Year 2021
Gross Value	\$2,821,688,138	\$2,776,964,477	\$2,498,647,095	\$2,260,633,641	\$1,491,638,607
Less: Exemptions/Reductions	\$2,053,845,187	\$2,085,238,591	\$1,840,313,783	\$1,660,706,479	\$1,067,780,734
Net Taxable Value	\$767,842,951	\$691,725,886	\$658,333,312	\$599,927,162	\$423,857,873

<sup>(1)</sup> Source: Hamilton, Comanche and Mills County Appraisal Districts. Taxable values contained in Appendix A do not reflect potential increase in homestead exemptions.

TABLE 3 - Valuation and Tax Supported Debt History

Fiscal Year Ended 8/31	Estimated Population <sup>(1)</sup>	Taxable Assessed Valuation <sup>(2)</sup>	Taxable Assessed Valuation Per Capita	Total Tax Supported Debt Outstanding		Ratio of Tax Supported Debt to Assessed Valuation	Tax Supporte Debt Pe Capita	r
2022	5,440	\$423,857,873	\$77,915	\$ -		0.00%	\$	-
2023	5,561	599,927,162	107,881	-		0.00%		-
2024	5,576	658,333,312	118,066	=		0.00%		-
2025	5,760	691,725,886	120,091	19,800,000	(3)	2.86%	3,4	-38
2026	5,563	767,842,951	138,027	19,345,000	(3)	2.52%	3,4	77

<sup>(1)</sup> Source: The Municipal Advisory Council of Texas.

<sup>(2)</sup> Preliminary, subject to change.

<sup>(3)</sup> Includes the Bonds. Preliminary, subject to change.

<sup>(2)</sup> Source: The Hamilton, Comanche and Mills County Appraisal Districts. Taxable values contained in Appendix A do not reflect potential increase in homestead exemptions.

<sup>(3)</sup> Includes the Bonds. Preliminary, subject to change.

TABLE 4 - Tax Rate, Levy, and Collections History (1)

Figeal		Tavabla				_	Percent Collected (2	
Fiscal Year Ended	Tax Year	Taxable Assessed Valuation	Total Tax Rate	M&O Tax Rate	I&S Tax Rate	Tax Levy	Current	Total
2021	2020	\$360,781,415	\$1.0564	\$1.0564	\$0.0000	\$109,491,758	98.36%	100.47%
2022	2021	423,857,873	0.9603	0.9603	0.0000	98,065,892	97.74%	99.17%
2023	2022	599,927,162	0.9429	0.9429	0.0000	5,727,096	97.39%	98.83%
2024	2023	658,333,312	0.7575	0.7575	0.0000	4,097,430	98.05%	100.74%
2025	2024	691,725,886	0.7575	0.7575	0.0000	4,365,562	98.82%	98.82%

<sup>(1)</sup> Source: Hamilton, Comanche and Mills County Appraisal Districts and District's Audited Financial Statements. Taxable values contained in Appendix A do not reflect potential increase in homestead exemptions.

TABLE 5 - Ten Largest Taxpayers (1)

Taxpayer Name	Property Type	AV	% of Total (2)
Grizzly Ridge Solar LLC	Solar Farm	\$104,002,630	15.04%
Breviloba LLC	Natural Gas Pipeline	30,723,360	4.44%
Bridgetex Pipeline	Oil & Gas Pipeline	12,138,870	1.75%
Atmos Energy/Mid-Tex PI	Natural Gas Pipeline	8,620,360	1.25%
CTA-H LLC	Commercial Land	7,282,720	1.05%
Magellan Pipeline Co LP	Oil & Gas Pipeline	7,085,970	1.02%
Texas-New Mexico Power Co	Electric Utility/Power Plant	6,550,150	0.95%
Pedersons Natural Farms Inc	Meat Products	5,171,380	0.75%
Riverside Ranch LLC	Ranch	4,621,480	0.67%
Odom Paul And Susan	Individual	3,583,860	0.52%
Top 10 Totals:		\$189,780,780	27.44%

<sup>(1)</sup> Source: Municipal Advisory Council of Texas.

<sup>(2)</sup> Excludes penalties and interest.

<sup>(2)</sup> As shown in the table above, the ten largest taxpayers in the District currently account for over 27% of the District's tax base, including the District's top two taxpayers accounting for approximately 19% of the District's tax base with the majority of such property comprised of minerals and related business activities. Adverse developments in economic conditions, especially in the oil and gas industries, could adversely impact the businesses that own such properties in the District and the tax values in the District, resulting in less local tax revenue. If any major taxpayer were to default in the payment of taxes, the ability of the District to make timely payment of debt service on the Bonds will be dependent on its ability to enforce and liquidate its tax lien, which is a time-consuming process, or, perhaps, to sell tax anticipation notes until such amounts could be collected, if ever.

TABLE 6 - Estimated Overlapping Debt Statement (1)

			Percent	Amount
Taxing Body	Amount	As Of	Overlapping	Overlapping
Comanche Co	\$3,840,000	6/30/2025	3.27%	\$125,568
Comanche Co Con Hosp D.	3,649,000	6/30/2025	3.36%	122,606
Hamilton Co	1,425,000	6/30/2025	57.42%	818,235
Hamilton, City of	-	6/30/2025	100.00%	-
Mills Co	5,365,000	6/30/2025	0.89%	47,749
Total Overlapping Debt				\$1,114,158
Hamilton Independent School District (2)	\$19,800,000			
Total Direct and Overlapping Debt (2)	\$20,914,158			
Ratio of Net Direct & Overlapping Debt to	Net Taxable V	aluation <sup>(2)</sup>		2.72%
Per Capita Direct & Overlapping Debt (2)				\$3,631

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>(1)</sup> Source: The Municipal Advisory Council of Texas.

<sup>(2)</sup> Includes the Bonds. Preliminary, subject to change.

**TABLE 7 – Pro-Forma Tax Supported Debt Service Requirements** 

Plus: The Bonds (1)(2)

Fiscal Year Ending 8/31	Principal	Interest	Total
2025	\$ -	\$ 2,849	\$ 2,849
2026	455,000	988,709	1,443,709
2027	425,000	998,450	1,423,450
2028	430,000	972,950	1,402,950
2029	430,000	947,150	1,377,150
2030	430,000	921,350	1,351,350
2031	430,000	895,550	1,325,550
2032	425,000	869,750	1,294,750
2033	435,000	844,250	1,279,250
2034	460,000	818,150	1,278,150
2035	485,000	794,000	1,279,000
2036	510,000	769,750	1,279,750
2037	535,000	744,250	1,279,250
2038	510,000	717,500	1,227,500
2039	535,000	692,000	1,227,000
2040	560,000	665,250	1,225,250
2041	590,000	637,250	1,227,250
2042	620,000	607,750	1,227,750
2043	650,000	576,750	1,226,750
2044	685,000	544,250	1,229,250
2045	720,000	510,000	1,230,000
2046	755,000	474,000	1,229,000
2047	790,000	436,250	1,226,250
2048	830,000	396,750	1,226,750
2049	875,000	355,250	1,230,250
2050	915,000	311,500	1,226,500
2051	960,000	265,750	1,225,750
2052	1,010,000	217,750	1,227,750
2053	1,060,000	167,250	1,227,250
2054	1,115,000	114,250	1,229,250
2055	1,170,000	58,500	1,228,500
Total	\$19,800,000	\$18,315,158	\$38,115,158

Average Annual Debt Service Requirement Maximum Annual Debt Service Requirement \$1,270,410 \$1,443,709

 <sup>(1)</sup> Preliminary, subject to change.
 (2) Interest calculated at assumed rates for purposes of illustration. Preliminary, subject to change.

Interest & Sinking Fund Balance, 09/01/24 (Beginning) (1)		\$15,371
Estimated Tax Supported Debt Service Requirements for FYE 2025	\$ -	
Projected Interest & Sinking Fund Local Revenue	-	
EDA/IFA from Texas Education Agency (2)	-	
ASAHE from Texas Education Agency (2)	-	
Transfers In/(Out)	-	
Projected Interest & Sinking Fund Balance, 08/31/25 (Ending)		\$15,371
Net Increase/(Decrease) in Fund Balance		\$ -

<sup>(1)</sup> Source: The District's Audited Financial Statements.

# TABLE 9 - Authorized but Unissued Bonds (1)

A summary of the bonds authorized is as follows:

Date Authorized	Purpose	Amount Authorized	Amount Previously Issued	Amount This Issue <sup>(1)(2)</sup>	Authorized but Unissued
5/3/2025	School Building and Buses	\$19,800,000	\$0	\$19,800,000	\$0

<sup>(1)</sup> Source: Preliminary, subject to change.

# TABLE 10 - Other Obligations (1)

As of August 31, 2024, the District did not have any outstanding long term debt obligations.

# TABLE 11 - Current Investments as of August 31, 2024 (1)

Investments held at June 30, 2025 consisted of the following:

Description	Market Value	% of Total
Local government Investment Pools		
TexPool Investments	1,352,251	100.00%
Total Investments	\$1,352,251	100.00%

<sup>(1)</sup> Source: The District's records as of June 30, 2025.

<sup>(2)</sup> Source: Texas Education Agency 2024-2025 Summary of Finances dated May 15, 2025.

<sup>(2)</sup> Includes any premium allocations that the District intends to apply against voted authorization. Preliminary, subject to change.

<sup>(1)</sup> Source: The District's Audited Financial Statements.

TABLE 12 - Schedule of General Fund Revenues and Expenditure History (1)

		Fiscal Ye	ar Ended Augus	t 31,	
	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	2022	<u>2021</u>	2020
REVENUES:					
Local and Intermediate Sources	\$4,906,022	\$5,418,205	\$4,088,877	\$3,792,247	\$3,539,076
State Program Revenues	6,864,576	5,072,310	6,506,108	6,282,923	6,349,145
Federal Program Revenues	-	-	-	-	21,091
Total Revenues	\$11,770,598	\$10,490,515	\$10,594,985	\$10,075,170	\$9,909,312
EXPENDITURES:					
Instruction	\$6,440,901	\$6,520,037	\$6,074,384	\$5,682,421	\$5,510,053
Instructional Resources & Media Services	90,630	24,267	21,081	77,348	91,391
Curriculum and Instructional Staff Development	100,886	211,472	174,263	150,497	153,310
Instructional Leadership	-	-	-	-	-
School Leadership	647,888	624,969	631,193	580,507	577,358
Guidance, Counseling & Evaluation Services	267,531	243,789	206,052	237,027	228,753
Health Services	141,707	114,844	131,276	71,862	74,079
Student Transportation	593,646	394,754	332,928	400,833	359,710
Food Services	3,629	2,900	-	-	-
Extracurricular Activities	567,550	531,085	528,925	455,590	462,832
General Administration	665,258	675,511	592,761	492,141	474,834
Facilities Maintenance & Operations	1,554,211	1,303,838	935,070	957,630	1,009,944
Security and Monitoring Services	70,600	104,494	53,330	25,280	16,489
Principal on Long Term Debt	-	-	-	-	-
Interest on Long Term Debt	-	-	-	-	-
Bond Issuance Cost and Fees	-	-	-	-	-
Facilities, Acquisition & Construction Payments to Fiscal Agents/Member Districts of	103,187	76,673	126,884	69,188	430,508
SSA	30,643	-	24,425	372,833	425,914
Other Intergovernmental	238,685	248,430	164,194	143,256	144,703
Total Expenses	\$11,516,952	\$11,077,063	\$9,996,766	\$9,716,413	\$9,959,878
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues					
Over (Under) Expenditures	\$253,646	(\$586,548)	\$598,219	\$358,757	(\$50,566)
Other Financing Sources and (Uses):					
Proceeds from Sale of Capital Assets	-	-	117,500	-	-
Transfers In	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers Out	(173,446)	(79,368)	-	(58,715)	(94,062)
Other Uses	-	-	-	-	-
Total Other Financing Sources and (Uses	(\$173,446)	(\$79,368) (\$45,000)	\$117,500	(\$58,715)	(\$94,062)
Extraordinary Items		Ç73 <b>7</b>			
Net Change in Fund Balances	80,200	(710,916)	715,719	300,042	(144,628)
Fund Balances - Beginning	\$3,853,886	\$4,564,802	\$3,849,083	\$3,549,041	\$3,693,669
Fund Balances - Ending	\$3,934,086	\$3,853,886	\$4,564,802	\$3,849,083	\$3,549,041

<sup>(1)</sup> Source: District's Audited Financial Statements.

<sup>(2)</sup> The Estimated General Fund Balance as of August 31, 2025 is expected to be approximately \$4,934,000.

	Fiscal Year Ended August 31,				
	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
ASSETS AND OTHER DEBITS:					
Cash & Temporary Investments	\$1,469,897	\$2,046,758	\$3,646,506	\$2,618,361	\$2,004,840
Investments	1,302,333	2,383,005	791,743	787,751	1,786,716
Property Taxes - Delinquent	194,192	224,357	162,076	129,217	145,680
Allowance for Uncollectible Taxes	(19,420)	(22,437)	(16,209)	(12,922)	(14,567)
Due from Other Governments	318,121	-	-	35,671	8,689
Due from Other Funds	695,578	993,966	638,866	1,037,608	265,589
Due from Trust and Custodial Funds	300,419	300,419	300,419	-	-
Other Receivables	6,498	6,498	6,498	-	-
Deferred Expenditures	513,044	50,438	53,053	59,787	59,787
Total Assets	\$4,780,662	\$5,983,004	\$5,582,952	\$4,655,473	\$4,256,734
LIABILITIES:					
Accounts Payable	\$29,244	\$89,616	\$55,454	\$37,186	\$42,575
Payroll Deductions Payable	40,284	120,074	129,195	135,679	4,077
Accrued Wages Payable	542,852	535,181	517,968	473,317	461,383
Due to Other Funds	32,475	17,605	20,793	17,604	36,396
Due to Other Governments	-	-	-	-	10,399
Due to Student Groups	-	-	-	-	-
Accrued Expenditures	26,934	27,169	27,619	26,309	21,750
Unearned Revenues	15	1,137,553	121,254	-	
Total Liabilities	\$671,804	\$1,927,198	\$872,283	\$690,095	\$576,580
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES					
Unavailable Revenues - Property Taxes	\$174,772	\$201,920	\$145,867	\$116,295	\$131,113
Total Deferred Inflows	\$174,772	\$201,920	\$145,867	\$116,295	\$131,113
FUND BALANCES:					
Restricted for:					
Prepaid Items	\$513,044	\$50,438	\$53,053	\$59,787	\$59,787
Retirement of Long-Term Debt	-	-	-	-	-
Committed for:					
Construction	-	-	-	-	-
Capital Expenditure of Equipment	-	-	-	300,180	300,180
Other Committed Fund Balance	510,000	510,000	510,000	510,000	510,000
Unassigned	2,911,042	3,293,448	4,001,749	2,979,116	2,679,074
Total Fund Balances	\$3,934,086	\$3,853,886	\$4,564,802	\$3,849,083	\$3,549,041
Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows	<b></b>	<b></b>	<b>4 - - -</b>	<b></b>	
and Fund Balances	\$4,780,662	\$5,983,004	\$5,582,952	\$4,655,473	\$4,256,734

<sup>(1)</sup> Source: District's Audited Financial Statements.

TABLE 14 - Tax Adequacy

2026 Net Principal and Interest Requirements	\$1,443,709
\$0.1919 Tax Rate at 98% Collections Produces	\$1,444,021 (1)(2)
Average Annual Debt Service Requirements (2026-2055)	\$1,270,410
\$0.1689 Tax Rate at 98% Collections Produces	\$1,270,949 (1)(2)
Maximum Annual Debt Service Requirements (2026)	\$1,443,709
\$0.1919 Tax Rate at 98% Collections Produces	\$1,444,021 (1)(2)

<sup>(1)</sup> Based upon 2025 Taxable Assessed Valuation of \$767,842,951 at a 98% collections rate.

<sup>(2)</sup> Includes the Bonds, Preliminary, subject to change.

#### **APPENDIX B**

# **AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The information contained in this appendix consists of the Hamilton Independent School District Audited Financial Statements (the "Report") for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2024.

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.

# HAMILTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

ANNUAL FINANCIAL AND COMPLIANCE REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2024



# HAMILTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT ANNUAL FINANCIAL AND COMPLIANCE REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2024

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# HAMILTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT ANNUAL FINANCIAL AND COMPLIANCE REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2024

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# CERTIFICATE OF BOARD

Hamilton Independent School District Name of School District	Hamilton County	097-902 CoDist. Number
We, the undersigned, certify that the attache	ed annual financial report	s of the above named school district were
reviewed and (check one) appro meeting of the Board of Trustees of such sch		d for the year ended August 31, 2024, at a day of January, 2025.
Mich Bruse) Signature of Board Secretary		Signature of Board President
If the Board of Trustees disapproved of (attach list as necessary)	the auditor's report, the	ne reason(s) for disapproving it is (are):

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FINANCIAL SECTION

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#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of Trustees of Hamilton 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 Hamilton Independent School District (the "District"), as of and for the year ended August 31, 2024, 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, 2024, and the respective changes in financial position, and the respective budgetary comparison for the General Fund 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 Auditor's 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.

#### Responsibilities 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.

# Auditor's 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 auditor's 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 section which precedes the basic financial statements and the pension and other post-employment benefits liabilities related schedules following the notes to the financial statements 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 schedules of non-major governmental funds, and the 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 a required part 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 or to 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 schedules of non-major governmental funds 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 within the annual report. The other information comprises exhibits required by the Texas Education Agency which present property tax collection and receivable information, budget-to-actual comparison for the Child Nutrition Fund, and information related to expenditure levels of selected state funding allotments. Our opinions on the basic financial statements do not cover this 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

Singleton, Clark & Company, PC

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued our report dated November 22, 2024 on our consideration of Hamilton Independent School 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 solely 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.

Singleton, Clark & Company, PC

Cedar Park, Texas

November 22, 2024

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#### MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

In this section of the Annual Financial and Compliance Report, we, the managers of Hamilton Independent School District (the "District") discuss and analyze the financial performance of the District for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2024. Please read this information in conjunction with the District's basic financial statements, which follow this section.

# FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- The District's net position for governmental activities decreased by \$528,336 as a result of this year's current operations, to end at \$7,922,095.
- Total governmental funds of the District (the General Fund plus all Special Revenue Funds and the Debt Service Fund) reported an overall fund balance increase of \$78,880, to end at \$3,949,457.
- The General Fund of the District reported a fund balance increase of \$80,200 for the year, to end at \$3,934,086.

#### OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL SECTION

The Financial Section is the most substantial part of this Annual Financial and Compliance Report. It consists of the independent auditor's report, management's discussion and analysis (this section), a set of basic financial statements with required note disclosures, and finally, required supplementary information and other supporting statements and schedules as applicable.

#### Independent Auditor's Report

State law requires the District's financial statements to be audited by an independent certified public accountant each year. The primary purpose of the annual audit is for the auditor to express an opinion as to whether the financial statements of the District appear to be free from material misstatement. The audit is required to be conducted 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. The District received an *Unmodified* opinion on its financial statements this year.

#### Management's Discussion and Analysis

The Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) section of the report is intended to introduce the financial statements and to provide discussion and analysis regarding the financial performance of the District during the year. The MD&A is written by management of the District and provides for a less formal presentation of the financial activities of the District than is found within the basic financial statements themselves.

# Basic Financial Statements

The Basic Financial Statements consist of a series of financial statements and required note disclosures. These statements include government-wide financial statements which present the District in a consolidated and long-term manner using full-accrual accounting similar to that of a business enterprise, and fund financial statements which present a more detailed view of the District using a more short-term view and traditional modified-accrual governmental accounting. These financial statements are followed with detailed notes which provide narrative explanations and additional data for full disclosure of information.

#### Required Supplementary Information

The previously discussed Management's Discussion and Analysis section is considered to be required supplementary information, however, the governmental reporting framework requires that it be presented before the financial statements. When applicable, additional required supplementary information must follow the financial statements. Within this financial report, the District presents required schedules related to its participation in the Teacher Retirement System of Texas and the Texas Public School Retired Employees Group Insurance Plan.

# Combining and Individual Fund Statements and Schedules

The combining statements provide detailed information about the District's nonmajor funds. While the primary financial statements present the nonmajor funds in a consolidated manner, the combining statements list all of the nonmajor funds separately, each in its own column. In addition, this section also includes schedules required by the Texas Education Agency to report tax collection information and budget to actual information for the District's child nutrition functions.

#### OVERVIEW OF THE FEDERAL AWARDS SECTION

#### Report on Internal Controls and Compliance

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, the auditor is required to consider the internal controls the District has in place over financial reporting and whether any noncompliance with rules, laws, and regulations was noted during the audit. This report describes the scope of the testing of internal control and compliance, however, it does not provide an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control or on compliance.

### Report on Compliance and Internal Control for Each Major Program

Because the District expended more than \$750,000 in federal grant awards, an additional independent auditor's report on compliance and internal control over the District's major federal grant programs was required. This report provides an opinion by the independent audit firm that the District complied, in all material respects, with the requirements applicable to the federal grants received and expended.

# Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards

The Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (SEFA) provides a detailed listing of the federal grant awards received by the District during the year. This listing includes federal grant names, identification numbers, and amounts expended.

#### Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs

The Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs provides an overall summary of auditor results, including identification of the type of opinion on the financial statements, whether any significant deficiencies or material weaknesses in internal controls were observed by the audit firm, and whether any material noncompliance was noted. This schedule also lists information related to the audit of the District's major federal programs and lists any audit findings reported by the audit firm for the year.

#### Reporting the District as a Whole

# The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities

The analysis of the District's overall financial condition and operations begins with the government-wide financial statements which immediately follow this section. The government-wide financial statements include the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities. The primary purpose of these financial statements is to show whether the District is better off or worse off as a result of the year's activities. The Statement of Net Position includes all the District's assets, deferred outflows, liabilities, and deferred inflows at the end of the year while the Statement of Activities includes all the revenues and expenses generated by the District's operations during the year. These apply the accrual basis of accounting which is the basis used by private sector companies.

All of the current year's revenues and expenses are taken into account regardless of when cash is received or paid. The District's revenues are divided into those provided by outside parties who share the costs of some programs, such as tuition received from students from outside the District and grants provided by the U.S. Department of Education to assist children with disabilities or from disadvantaged backgrounds (program revenues), and revenues provided by the taxpayers or by the State of Texas in equalization funding processes (general revenues). All the District's assets are reported whether they serve the current year or future years. Liabilities are considered regardless of whether they must be paid in the current or future years.

The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities report the District's net position and changes in net position. The District's net position (the difference between assets, deferred outflows, liabilities, and deferred inflows) provides one measure of the District's financial health. Over time, increases or decreases in the District's net position are one indicator of whether its financial health is improving or deteriorating. To fully assess the overall health of the District, however, you should consider nonfinancial factors as well, such as changes in the District's average daily attendance or its property tax base and the condition of the District's facilities.

In the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities, school districts divide up their financial activities as follows:

- Governmental activities School districts report basic services here, including the instruction of students, counseling, co-curricular activities, child nutrition services, transportation, maintenance, community services, and general administration. Property taxes, state block grants based on student attendance and demographics, and other state and federal grants finance most of these activities.
- Business-type activities School districts may charge a fee to "customers" to help it cover all or most
  of the cost of services it provides for child care programs or other activities that closely model a
  business venture.

Our school district reported governmental activities this year, however, we did not engage in business-type activities.

# Reporting the District's Most Significant Funds

#### Fund Financial Statements

The fund financial statements follow the government-wide statements and provide detailed information about the most significant funds of the District, not the District as a whole. Laws and regulations require the District to establish separate funds, such as for grants received from the state and federal government, money received from bond issues for capital projects, or for money raised specifically for debt service purposes, in order to clearly display financial accountability for use of these funds.

School districts use two different kinds of funds for operations, governmental funds and proprietary funds, which use different accounting approaches.

- A school district will use *governmental funds* to account for basic services. These use modified accrual accounting (a method that measures the receipt and disbursement of cash and all other financial assets that can be readily converted to cash) and report balances that are available for future spending. The governmental fund statements provide a detailed short-term view of the District's general operations and the basic services it provides. We describe the differences between governmental activities (reported in the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities) and governmental funds in reconciliation schedules following each of the fund financial statements.
- A school district will use *proprietary funds* to account for the activities for which it charges users (whether outside customers or other units of the District). Proprietary funds use the same accounting methods employed in the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities. In fact, when a district utilizes enterprise funds, (one category of proprietary funds) these are the business-type activities reported in the government-wide statements but they contain more detail and additional information, such as cash flows. Internal service funds (the other category of proprietary funds) report activities that provide supplies and services for a district's other programs and activities, such as a district's self-insurance programs.

Our District reported several governmental funds this year, however, we did not utilize proprietary funds.

#### The District as Trustee

#### Reporting the District's Fiduciary Responsibilities

The District is the trustee, or fiduciary, for money raised by student activities and alumni scholarship programs. All of the District's fiduciary activities are reported in separate Statements of Fiduciary Net Position and Changes in Fiduciary Net Position on pages that follow the governmental fund and proprietary fund financial statements. We exclude these resources from the District's other financial statements because the District cannot use these assets to finance its operations. The District is however responsible for applying sound financial internal controls over these funds and for ensuring that these resources are used for their intended purposes.

#### **GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL ANALYSIS**

The following analysis focuses on the net position (Table I) and changes in net position (Table II) of the District's governmental activities.

Net position of the District's governmental activities decreased from \$8,450,431 to \$7,922,095. Unrestricted net position – the part of net position that can be used to finance day-to-day operations without constraints established by debt covenants, enabling legislation, or other legal requirements – was (\$1,814,661) at August 31, 2024. The decrease in governmental net position was primarily due to changes in the measurement of the District's Net Pension Liability.

# TABLE I HAMILTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NET POSITION

	Governmental Activities	Governmental Activities	Cl
	2024	2023	Change
Current & Other Assets	\$ 4,845,950	\$ 6,124,884	\$ (1,278,934)
Capital Assets	9,719,911	9,940,302	(220,391)
Total Assets	14,565,861	16,065,186	(1,499,325)
Deferred Outflows of Resources	5,544,973	5,075,097	469,876
Current Liabilities	720,247	2,050,771	(1,330,524)
Long-Term Liabilities	6,774,743	5,605,943	1,168,800
Total Liabilities	7,494,990	7,656,714	(161,724)
Deferred Inflows of Resources	4,693,749	5,033,138	(339,389)
Net Position:			
Net Investment in Capital Assets	9,719,911	9,940,302	(220,391)
Restricted	16,845	16,798	47
Unrestricted	(1,814,661)	(1,506,669)	(307,992)
Total Net Position	\$ 7,922,095	\$ 8,450,431	\$ (528,336)

# TABLE II HAMILTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT CHANGES IN NET POSITION

	Governmental Activities 2024	Governmental Activities 2023	Change
Revenues:			
Program Revenues:			
Charges for Services	\$ 56,159	\$ 58,877	\$ (2,718)
Operating Grants & Contributions	1,918,217	2,130,325	(212,108)
General Revenues:			
Maintenance & Operations Taxes	4,146,909	5,259,208	(1,112,299)
Debt Service Taxes	99	368	(269)
State Aid - Formula Grants	6,352,215	4,599,931	1,752,284
Grants & Contributions not Restricted	70,035	36,197	33,838
Investment Earnings	121,859	95,086	26,773
Miscellaneous	575,248	82,999	492,249
Total Revenue	13,240,741	12,262,991	977,750
Expenses:			
Instruction	7,517,563	7,263,083	254,480
Instructional Resources & Media Services	131,153	127,364	3,789
Curriculum & Instructional Staff Development	105,258	216,331	(111,073)
School Leadership	677,463	624,972	52,491
Guidance, Counseling, & Evaluation Services	378,052	331,819	46,233
Health Services	144,890	113,670	31,220
Student Transportation	435,315	376,240	59,075
Food Services	682,986	598,903	84,083
Extracurricular Activities	569,479	545,254	24,225
General Administration	758,131	687,277	70,854
Facilities Maintenance and Operations	1,600,537	1,632,751	(32,214)
Security and Monitoring Services	215,058	116,185	98,873
Payments to Fiscal Agent of SSA	314,507	372,849	(58,342)
Other Intergovernmental Charges	238,685	248,430	(9,745)
Total Expenses	13,769,077	13,255,128	513,949
Extraordinary Item	<u>-</u>	(45,000)	45,000
Change in Net Position	(528,336)	(1,037,137)	508,801
Net Position at 9/1/23 and 9/1/22	8,450,431	9,487,568	(1,037,137)
Net Position at 8/31/24 and 8/31/23	\$ 7,922,095	\$ 8,450,431	\$ (528,336)

#### THE DISTRICT'S FUNDS

As the District completed this annual period, the General Fund reported an ending fund balance of \$3,934,086, which is \$80,200 greater than last year's total of \$3,853,886. The increase in fund balance is mainly attributable to greater than originally anticipated state program revenues.

The District's ESEA, Title I, Part A Grant Fund, a major fund for the year ended August 31, 2024, reported \$200,280 in federal program revenues and related expenditures, and an ending fund balance of \$-0-.

The District's TCLAS – ESSER III Grant Fund, a major fund for the year ended August 31, 2024, reported \$176,603 in federal program revenues and related expenditures, and an ending fund balance of \$-0-.

The District's other governmental funds reported combined ending fund balances of \$15,371. This combined balance is \$1,320 less than the previous year and relates primarily to a decrease in the Child Nutrition Fund balance.

Over the course of the year, the Board of Trustees generally revises the District's budget based on financial updates provided by management of the District. These amendments involve moving funds from programs that did not need all the resources originally appropriated to them to programs with resource needs, or to react to originally unforeseen circumstances, such as unanticipated new revenues or unavoidable new costs. Budgetary amendments made during the year to the Instruction, Student Transportation, Facilities Maintenance & Operations, and Facilities Acquisition & Construction functions and the Transfers Out line item in the General Fund and the Food Services Function in the Child Nutrition Fund were considered significant.

#### CAPITAL ASSET AND DEBT ADMINISTRATION

#### **Capital Assets**

As of August 31, 2024, the District had \$9,719,911 (net of accumulated depreciation) invested in a broad range of capital assets, including facilities and equipment for instruction, transportation, athletics, administration, and maintenance.

A summary of the ending balances of capital assets by major category for both 2024 and 2023 is as follows:

	Governmental Activities	Governmental Activities	
	2024	2023	Change
Land	\$ 1,019,074	\$ 1,018,074	\$ 1,000
Buildings	16,346,619	16,218,432	128,187
Furniture and Equipment	3,334,083	3,093,923	240,160
Total	20,699,776	20,330,429	369,347
Less Accumulated Depreciation	(10,979,865)	(10,390,127)	(589,738)
Capital Assets, Net of Depreciation	\$ 9,719,911	\$ 9,940,302	\$ (220,391)
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#### **Debt**

As of August 31, 2024, the District did not have any outstanding long term debt obligations.

#### ECONOMIC FACTORS AND NEXT YEAR'S BUDGETS AND RATES

The District's elected and appointed officials considered many factors when setting the fiscal year 2024-2025 budget and tax rates. Those factors include property values, changes in enrollment, the economy, projections of future budget years, and legislative mandates. The District has adopted a General Fund budget of approximately \$12.3 million for the 2024-2025 fiscal year. This reflects an approximate increase of \$1.5 million in originally budgeted expenditures from the fiscal year 2023-2024 adopted budget to the fiscal year 2024-2025.

For the 2024-2025 budget year, the District has held constant its maintenance and operations tax rate at \$0.7575 per hundred of taxable value. The District currently does not have a debt service tax rate.

#### CONTACTING THE DISTRICT'S FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, customers, investors, 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 Hamilton Independent School District, 400 South College Street, Hamilton, Texas, 76531, or by calling (254) 386-3149.

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**BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS** 

# HAMILTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT STATEMENT OF NET POSITION AUGUST 31, 2024

	Primary Government
Data	1
Control	Governmental
Codes	Activities
ASSETS	
1110 Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 1,598,152
1120 Investments - Current	1,302,333
1225 Property Taxes Receivable, net	176,246
1240 Due from Other Governments	949,258
1267 Due from Custodial Funds	300,419
1290 Other Receivables, net	6,498
1410 Deferred Expenditures or Expenses	513,044
Capital Assets:	
1510 Land Purchase and Improvements	1,019,074
1520 Buildings and Improvements, net	7,890,269
1530 Furniture and Equipment, net	810,568
Total Assets	14,565,861
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES	
1705 Deferred Outflows-Pension	2,801,980
1706 Deferred Outflows-OPEB	2,742,993
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	5,544,973
LIABILITIES	
2110 Accounts Payable	32,677
2150 Payroll Deductions and Withholdings	40,284
2160 Accrued Wages Payable	590,567
2200 Accrued Expenses	30,201
2300 Unavailable Revenue	26,518
Noncurrent Liabilities:	
Net Pension Liability	4,159,769
2545 Other Post-Employment Benefits Liability	2,614,974
2000 Total Liabilities	7,494,990
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES	
2605 Deferred Inflows-Pension	887,709
2606 Deferred Inflows-OPEB	3,806,040
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	4,693,749
NET POSITION	
3200 Net Investment in Capital Assets	9,719,911
Restricted for:	
3850 Debt Service	16,845
3900 Unrestricted	(1,814,661)
3000 Total Net Position	\$ 7,922,095

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

# HAMILTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2024

							Ne	et (Expense)
							Rev	. & Changes
			Program Revenues				in 1	Net Position
		1		3		4		6
Data					C	perating	Pı	rimary Gov.
Contr	ol		Cha	arges for	Gr	ants and	Go	vernmental
Codes	;	Expenses	S	ervices	Cor	ntributions		Activities
Prim	ary Government:							
G	OVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES:							
11	Instruction	\$ 7,517,563	\$	-	\$	845,128	\$	(6,672,435)
12	Instructional Resources & Media Services	131,153		-		35,556		(95,597)
13	Curriculum & Instructional Staff Development	105,258		-		51		(105,207)
23	School Leadership	677,463		-		7,658		(669,805)
31	Guidance, Counseling, & Evaluation Services	378,052		-		82,177		(295,875)
33	Health Services	144,890		-		1,654		(143,236)
34	Student Transportation	435,315		-		2,480		(432,835)
35	Food Services	682,986		21,353		437,707		(223,926)
36	Extracurricular Activities	569,479		27,131		2,784		(539,564)
41	General Administration	758,131		7,675		55,525		(694,931)
51	Facilities Maintenance and Operations	1,600,537		-		27,699		(1,572,838)
52	Security and Monitoring Services	215,058		-		135,934		(79,124)
93	Payments to Fiscal Agent of SSA	314,507		-		283,864		(30,643)
99	Other Intergovernmental Charges	238,685		-				(238,685)
TG	Total Governmental Activities:	13,769,077		56,159		1,918,217		(11,794,701)
TP	TOTAL PRIMARY GOVERNMENT:	\$ 13,769,077	\$	56,159	\$	1,918,217		(11,794,701)
	General Revenues:							
	Taxes:							
	MT Property Taxes, Levied f	for General Purp	oses					4,146,909
	DT Property Taxes, Levied f	for Debt Service						99
	SF State Aid - Formula Grants	S						6,352,215
	GC Grants and Contributions,	not Restricted						70,035
	IE Investment Earnings							121,859
	MI Miscellaneous Local and	Intermediate Re	venu	e				575,248
	Total General Revenues							11,266,365
	CN Change in Net Position							(528,336)
	NB Net Position Beginning							8,450,431
	NE Net Position Ending						\$	7,922,095
m.		0.11						

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

# HAMILTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT BALANCE SHEET GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS AUGUST 31, 2024

			10				
Data							
Contro	ol		General	ESI	EA, Title I,	T	CLAS -
Codes			Fund		Part A	E	SSER III
ASSI	ETS						
1110	Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$	1,469,897	\$	-	\$	-
1120	Investments - Current		1,302,333		-		-
1220	Property Taxes - Delinquent		194,192		-		-
1230	Allowance for Uncollectible Taxes (Credit)		(19,420)		-		-
1240	Due from Other Governments		318,121		230,567		182,490
1260	Due from Other Funds		695,578		-		14,871
1267	Due from Trust and Custodial Funds		300,419		-		-
1290	Other Receivables		6,498		-		-
1410	Deferred Expenditures		513,044		-		-
1000	Total Assets	\$	4,780,662	\$	230,567	\$	197,361
LIAE	BILITIES						
2110	Accounts Payable	\$	29,244	\$	-	\$	-
2150	Payroll Deductions and Withholdings		40,284		-		-
2160	Accrued Wages Payable		542,852		19,958		-
2170	Due to Other Funds		32,475		209,511		197,361
2200	Accrued Expenditures		26,934		1,098		-
2300	Unavailable Revenues		15		-		-
2000	Total Liabilities		671,804		230,567		197,361
DEFI	ERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES						
2600	Deferred Inflows-Unavailable Revenues		174,772		=		-
	Total Deferred Inflows of Resources		174,772		-		-
FUN:	D BALANCES	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·					_
	Nonspendable:						
3430	Prepaid Items		513,044		=		-
	Restricted for:						
3480	Retirement of Long-Term Debt		=		=		-
	Committed for:						
3545	Other Committed Fund Balance		510,000		=		-
3600	Unassigned Fund Balance		2,911,042		=		-
3000	Total Fund Balances		3,934,086		-		-
4000	Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows, and Fund Balances	\$	4,780,662	\$	230,567	\$	197,361
TD1							

	98			
		Total		
Other	Go	vernmental		
Funds		Funds		
\$ 128,255	\$	1,598,152		
-		1,302,333		
1,639		195,831		
(165)		(19,585)		
218,080		949,258		
15,035		725,484		
=		300,419		
=		6,498		
-		513,044		
\$ 362,844	\$	5,571,434		
\$ 3,433	\$	32,677		
-		40,284		
27,757		590,567		
286,137		725,484		
2,169		30,201		
26,503		26,518		
345,999		1,445,731		
1,474		176,246		
1,474		176,246		
		512.044		
-		513,044		
15,371		15,371		
13,371		13,371		
-		510,000		
		2,911,042		
15,371		3,949,457		
\$ 362,844	\$	5,571,434		

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# HAMILTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT RECONCILIATION OF THE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS BALANCE SHEET TO THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION AUGUST 31, 2024

			1
1	Total Fund Balances - Governmental Funds  Capital assets used in governmental activities are not current financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the governmental funds.		\$ 3,949,457
	Governmental capital assets \$ 20,6	599,776	
	Less accumulated depreciation (10,9	979,865)	9,719,911
2	Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and, therefore, are not reported in the funds.		
	Net pension liability (4,1	159,769)	
	Net OPEB liability (2,6	514,974)	(6,774,743)
3	Deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to pensions and other post-employment benefits are applicable to future periods and, therefore, are not reported in the funds.		
	Deferred outflows of resources related to pensions 2,8	301,980	
	Deferred inflows of resources related to pensions (8	387,709)	
	Deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB 2,7	742,993	
	Deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB (3,8)	306,040)	851,224
4	Property taxes are recognized as revenue in the governmental funds when collected, but recognized on the Statement of Activities in the year levied. Therefore, property taxes receivable, net of allowance for uncollectible accounts, is added to the Statement of Net Position for governmental		
	activities.	_	176,246
29	Net Position of Governmental Activities	_	\$ 7,922,095

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

# HAMILTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2024

		10				
Data						
Contr	ol	General	ESE	EA, Title I,	T	CLAS -
Codes		Fund		Part A		SSER III
REV	ENUES					
5700	Local and Intermediate Sources	\$ 4,906,022	\$	-	\$	-
5800	State Program Revenues	6,864,576		-		-
5900	Federal Program Revenues	-		200,280		176,603
5020	Total Revenues	11,770,598		200,280		176,603
EXPl	ENDITURES					
0011	Instruction	6,440,901		157,910		126,603
0012	Instructional Resources & Media Services	90,630		34,454		-
0013	Curriculum & Instructional Staff Development	100,886		-		-
0023	School Leadership	647,888		-		-
0031	Guidance, Counseling & Evaluation Services	267,531		7,916		-
0033	Health Services	141,707		-		-
0034	Student Transportation	593,646		-		-
0035	Food Services	3,629		-		-
0036	Extracurricular Activities	567,550		-		-
0041	General Administration	665,258		-		50,000
0051	Facilities Maintenance and Operations	1,554,211		-		-
0052	Security and Monitoring Services	70,600		-		-
0081	Facilities Acquisition and Construction	103,187		-		-
0093	Payments to Fiscal Agent of SSA	30,643		-		-
0099	Other Intergovernmental Charges	238,685		-		-
6030	Total Expenditures	11,516,952		200,280		176,603
1100	Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over					
	(Under) Expenditures	253,646		-		-
OTH	ER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)					
7915	Transfers In	-		-		-
8911	Transfers Out	(173,446)		-		-
7080	Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	(173,446)		=		=
1200	Net Change in Fund Balance	80,200		-		
0100	Fund Balance - Beginning	 3,853,886				
3000	Fund Balance - Ending	\$ 3,934,086	\$	-	\$	

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

	98			
		Total		
Other	Go	vernmental		
Funds		Funds		
\$ 21,542	\$	4,927,564		
456,852		7,321,428		
995,298		1,372,181		
1,473,692		13,621,173		
486,741		7,212,155		
-		125,084		
-		100,886		
-		647,888		
71,946		347,393		
-		141,707		
-		593,646		
646,191		649,820		
-		567,550		
-		715,258		
24,001		1,578,212		
135,715		206,315		
-		103,187		
283,864		314,507		
-		238,685		
1,648,458		13,542,293		
(174,766)		78,880		
173,446		173,446		
-		(173,446)		
173,446		-		
 (1,320)		78,880		
16,691		3,870,577		
\$ 15,371	\$	3,949,457		

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# HAMILTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT RECONCILIATION OF THE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2024

	Total Net Change in Fund Balances – Governmental Funds		\$ 78,880
1	Governmental funds report the portion of capital outlay for capitalized assets		
	as expenditures. However, in the Statement of Activities, the costs of those		
	assets are allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation expense.		
	Expenditures for capitalized assets	\$ 369,347	
	Less current year depreciation	(589,738)	(220,391)
2	Property taxes are recognized as revenue in the governmental funds when collected but recognized on the Statement of Activities in the year levied. Therefore the uncollected amount of the current year levy is added to current year property to revenue on the Statement of Activities.		(27, 200)
	year property tax revenue on the Statement of Activities.		(27,290)
3	Governmental funds report pension contributions as expenditures. However, pension contributions are reported as deferred outflows of resources on the Statement of Net Position if made after the net pension liability measurement date. In addition, the change in the net pension liability, adjusted for changes in deferred pension items, is reported as pension expense in the Statement of		
	Activities.		(564,172)
4	Governmental funds report OPEB contributions as expenditures. However, OPEB contributions are reported as deferred outflows of resources on the Statement of Net Position if made after the net OPEB liability measurement date. In addition, the change in the net OPEB liability, adjusted for changes in deferred OPEB items, is reported as OPEB expense in the Statement of		
	Activities.		204,637
29	Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities		\$ (528,336)

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

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# HAMILTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE BUDGET AND ACTUAL – GENERAL FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2024

Data			5 1				Actual	• •	
Contro			Budgeted	An		•	Amounts		iance With
Codes			Original		Final	(GA	AP BASIS)	Fin	al Budget
	ENUES	_		_		_			
5700	Local & Intermediate Sources	\$	5,383,000	\$	5,383,000	\$	4,906,022	\$	(476,978)
5800	State Program Revenues		5,526,000		5,576,000		6,864,576		1,288,576
5020	Total Revenues		10,909,000		10,959,000		11,770,598		811,598
EXPI	ENDITURES								
	Current:								
0011	Instruction		6,313,764		6,616,169		6,440,901		175,268
0012	Instructional Resources & Media Svcs.		90,360		92,000		90,630		1,370
0013	Curriculum & Instructional Staff Dev.		76,500		109,000		100,886		8,114
0023	School Leadership		637,224		650,000		647,888		2,112
0031	Guidance, Counseling & Evaluation Svcs.		293,919		293,919		267,531		26,388
0033	Health Services		113,200		143,000		141,707		1,293
0034	Student Transportation		364,981		604,981		593,646		11,335
0035	Food Services		-		5,000		3,629		1,371
0036	Extracurricular Activities		541,817		565,817		567,550		(1,733)
0041	General Administration		688,450		688,450		665,258		23,192
0051	Facilities Maintenance & Operations		1,284,000		1,540,000		1,554,211		(14,211)
0052	Security and Monitoring Services		29,785		72,000		70,600		1,400
	Capital Outlay:								
0081	Facilities Acquisition & Construction		_		104,000		103,187		813
	Intergovernmental:				•				
0093	Payments to Fiscal Agent of SSA		99,000		160,000		30,643		129,357
0099	Other Intergovernmental Charges		278,000		278,000		238,685		39,315
6030	Total Expenditures		10,811,000		11,922,336		11,516,952		405,384
1100	Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues				<u> </u>		<u> </u>		
	Over (Under) Expenditures		98,000		(963,336)		253,646		1,216,982
OTH	ER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)		, 0,000		(5 00 ,000 0)				-,,
8911	Transfers Out		(98,000)		(178,000)		(173,446)		4,554
7080	Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)		(98,000)		(178,000)		(173,446)		4,554
1200	Net Change in Fund Balances		-		(1,141,336)		80,200		1,221,536
0100	Fund Balance-September 1 (Beginning)		3,853,886		3,853,886		3,853,886		-,221,330
3000	Fund Balance-August 31 (Ending)	\$	3,853,886	\$	2,712,550	\$	3,934,086	\$	1,221,536
	tes to the financial statements are an internal next of t	$\dot{=}$		Ψ	2,112,330	Ψ	3,73 1,000	Ψ	1,221,330

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

# HAMILTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION FIDUCIARY FUNDS AUGUST 31, 2024

	865
Data	
Control	
Codes	Custodial Fund
ASSETS	
1110 Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 625,442
1290 Other Receivables	340
1000 Total Assets	625,782
LIABILITIES	
Current Liabilities:	
2170 Due to Other Funds	300,419
2000 Total Liabilities	300,419
NET POSITION	
Restricted for:	
3800 Individuals and Organizations	325,363
3000 Total Net Position	\$ 325,363

# HAMILTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION FIDUCIARY FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2024

			865
Data			
Contro	ol .		
Codes		Custo	odial Fund
ADD	ITIONS		
	Contributions:		
5744	Foundations, Gifts, and Bequests	\$	10,963
5750	Fundraising Activities		220,720
5020	Total Contributions		231,683
	Investment Earnings:		
5742	Interest, Dividends, and Other		1,620
	Total Additions		233,303
DED	UCTIONS		
6300	Supplies and Materials		2,864
6400	Other Operating Costs		312,350
6030	Total Deductions		315,214
1200	Net Increase/(Decrease) in Fiduciary Net Position		(81,911)
0100	Net Position - Beginning		407,274
3000	Net Position - Ending	\$	325,363
The no	tes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.		

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#### 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### The Financial Reporting Entity

This report includes those activities, organizations and functions related to Hamilton Independent School District (the "District"), which are controlled by or dependent upon the District's governing body, the Board of Trustees (the "Board"). The Board, a seven member group, is the level of government having governance responsibilities over all activities related to public elementary and secondary school education within the jurisdiction of the District. Since the District receives funding from local, state, and federal government sources, it must comply with the requirements of the entities providing those funds. However, the District is not included in any other governmental "reporting entity" as defined by Statement No. 14 of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB), since Board members are elected by the public and have decision making authority. Furthermore, there are no legally separate organizations, known as "component units", included within the reporting entity.

The accounting policies of the District comply with the rules prescribed by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) in its Financial Accountability System Resource Guide (FASRG). These accounting policies conform to generally accepted accounting principles applicable to state and local governments.

#### **Government-wide and Fund 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 District. The effect of interfund activity has been removed from these statements. Governmental activities, which are supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues, are reported separately from business-type activities, which rely on fees and charges for support. Currently however, the District has no business-type activities.

The statement of activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of a given function are offset by program revenues. Direct expenses are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function. 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 and 2) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function. Taxes and other items not properly included among program revenues are reported instead as general revenues.

Separate financial statements are provided for governmental funds, proprietary funds, and fiduciary funds, even though the latter are excluded from the government-wide financial statements. Major individual governmental funds are reported as separate columns in the fund financial statements.

# Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting, and Financial Statement Presentation

The government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting, as are the proprietary fund financial statements. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Custodial funds have no measurement focus. 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. Amounts reported as program revenues include 1) charges to customers or applicants for goods, services, or privileges provided and 2) operating grants and contributions. Internally dedicated resources are reported as general revenues rather than as program revenues. Likewise, general revenues include all taxes. As a general rule, the effect of interfund activity has been eliminated from the government-wide financial statements.

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 government considers revenues to be available if they are collected within sixty days of the end of the current fiscal period. Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. However, debt service expenditures are recorded only when payment is due.

Major revenue sources considered susceptible to accrual include state and federal program revenues and property taxes. No accrual for property taxes collected within sixty days of year end has been made as such amounts are deemed immaterial; delinquent property taxes at year end are reported as deferred inflows of resources within the governmental fund financial statements.

Proprietary funds distinguish operating revenues and expenses from nonoperating items. Operating revenues and expenses generally result from providing services and producing and delivering goods in connection with a proprietary fund's principal ongoing operations. All revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are reported as nonoperating revenues and expenses.

# **Major Funds and Fund Types**

The District reports the following major governmental funds:

The General Fund includes financial resources that are not required to be reported separately in another fund. It is a budgeted fund, and any unrestricted fund balances are considered to be resources available for current operations.

The ESEA, Title I, Part A Fund, a major special revenue fund, is used to account for the receipt and disbursement of funds restricted for the purpose of this federal program.

The TCLAS – ESSER III Fund, a major special revenue fund, is used to account for the receipt and disbursement of funds restricted for the purpose of this federal program.

Additionally, the District reports the following fund types:

Special Revenue Funds are governmental funds which include resources restricted, committed, or assigned for specific purposes by a grantor or the Board. Federally financed programs where unused balances are returned to the grantor at the close of specified project periods are accounted for in these funds.

Custodial Funds are fiduciary funds used to account for resources held for others in a custodial capacity. The District utilizes this fund type to account for funds held on behalf of student clubs and organizations.

#### **Budgetary Information**

Budgets are prepared annually for the General Fund and the Child Nutrition Fund on the modified accrual basis, which is consistent with generally accepted accounting principles. A formal budget is prepared by the end of August and is adopted by the Board at a public meeting after public notice of the meeting has been given no earlier than the 30th day or later than the 10th day before the public hearing. The legal level of control for budgeted expenditures is the function level within the budgeted funds. Amendments to the budget are required prior to expending amounts greater than the budgeted amounts at the function level. Budgets are controlled at the departmental or campus level, the same level at which responsibility for operations is assigned. The budget was monitored by the administration throughout the year and amendments were brought to the Board as needed.

# Assets, Deferred Outflows of Resources, Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Net Position or Fund Balance

<u>Investments</u> - The District's investment policies and types of investments are governed by Section 2256 of the Texas Government Code ("Public Funds Investment Act"). The types of investments allowed under the Public Funds Investment Act are detailed in Note 2 - Deposits and Investments. The District's management believes that it complied with the requirements of the Public Funds Investment Act and the District's investment policies. The District accrues interest on temporary investments based on the terms and effective interest rates of the specific investments. Temporary investments throughout the year consisted of investments in external investment pools, which are recognized at amortized cost, and money market accounts.

<u>Inventories</u> - Inventories are generally not recorded in the General Fund or Child Nutrition Fund due to amounts of expendable supplies held or purchased food not being deemed material. When inventories are recorded, they are charged to expenditures when consumed. Amounts recorded are offset by a fund balance classification titled "nonspendable" which indicates that the inventory does not represent "available expendable resources."

<u>Capital Assets</u> - Capital assets, which include land, buildings and improvements, construction in progress, furniture and equipment, and vehicles are reported in the governmental activities column in the government-wide financial statements. Capital assets are defined by the District as assets with an initial, individual cost of at least \$5,000 and a useful life of greater than one year. Such assets are recorded at historical cost, if purchased, or estimated fair value at the date of donation, if donated. The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the assets or materially extend assets lives are not capitalized. Capital assets (other than land and construction in progress) are depreciated using the straight line method over the following estimated useful lives: buildings and improvements - fifteen to thirty years, furniture and equipment - three to twenty years, and vehicles - five to ten years.

<u>Prepaid Items</u> - Certain payments to vendors reflect costs applicable to future accounting periods and are recorded as prepaid items in both the government-wide and fund financial statements. Prepaid items are charged to expenditures when consumed. When prepaid items are recorded, they are charged to expenditures when the value represented by the prepaid item has been used. Amounts recorded are offset by a fund balance classification titled "nonspendable" which indicates that the prepaid item amount does not represent "available expendable resources."

Ad Valorem Property Taxes - Delinquent taxes, when received, are prorated between maintenance and debt service based on rates adopted for the year of the levy. Allowances for uncollectibles within the General and Debt Service Funds are based upon historical experience in collecting property taxes. Uncollectible personal property taxes are periodically reviewed and written off, but the District is prohibited from writing off real property taxes without specific statutory authority from the Texas Legislature.

<u>Accumulated Sick Leave Liability</u> - The State of Texas (the "State") has created a minimum sick leave program consisting of five days of sick leave per year with no limit on accumulation and transferability among districts for every person regularly employed in Texas public schools. Each district's local Board is required to establish a sick leave plan. Local school districts may provide additional sick leave beyond the state minimum.

<u>Pensions</u> - 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 benefit terms. Investments are reported at fair value.

Other Post-Employment Benefits - The fiduciary net position of the Teacher Retirement System of Texas TRS Care Plan (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 other post-employment benefits, 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.

<u>Deferred Outflows and Deferred Inflows of Resources</u> - The District complies with GASB Statement No. 63, *Financial Reporting of Deferred Outflows of Resources, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Net Position*, which provides guidance for reporting the financial statement elements of deferred outflows of resources, which represent a consumption of the District's net position that is applicable to a future reporting period, and deferred inflows of resources, which represent the District's acquisition of net position applicable to a future reporting period.

The District complies with GASB Statement No. 65, *Items Previously Reported as Assets and Liabilities*, which establishes accounting and financial reporting standards that reclassify, as deferred outflows of resources or deferred inflows of resources, certain items that were previously reported as assets and liabilities and recognizes, as outflows of resources or inflows of resources, certain items that were previously reported as assets and liabilities.

<u>Fund Balance/Deficit</u> - The District complies with GASB Statement No. 54, *Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions*, which establishes fund balance classifications that comprise a hierarchy based primarily on the extent to which a government is bound to observe constraints imposed upon the use of the resources reported in governmental funds.

<u>Statement of Cash Flows</u> - For purposes of the statement of cash flows when Proprietary Funds are used, cash and cash equivalents include demand deposits.

<u>Fair Value Measurements</u> - The District adopted GASB Statement No. 72, *Fair Value Measurement and Application*, which defines fair value as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction. Fair value accounting requires characterization of the inputs used to measure fair value into a three-level fair value hierarchy as follows below:

- Level 1 inputs are based on unadjusted quoted market prices for identical assets or liabilities in an active market the entity has the ability to access
- Level 2 inputs are observable inputs that reflect the assumptions market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability developed based on market data obtained from sources independent from the entity
- Level 3 are unobservable inputs that reflect the entity's own assumptions about the assumptions market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability developed based on the best information available

There are three general valuation techniques that may be used to measure fair value:

- Market approach uses prices generated by market transactions involving identical or comparable assets or liabilities
- Cost approach uses the amount that currently would be required to replace the service capacity of an asset (replacement cost)
- Income approach uses valuation techniques to convert future amounts to present amounts based on current market expectations

#### **Data Control Codes**

The Data Control Codes shown on the financial statements refer to the account code structure prescribed by the FASRG. TEA requires school districts to display these codes in their financial statements to ensure accuracy in building a state-wide data base for policy development and funding plans.

#### 2. DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

The Public Funds Investment Act authorizes the District to invest in funds under a written investment policy, which is approved annually by the Board. The primary objectives of the District's investment strategy for operating and custodial funds, in order of priority, are safety, investment liquidity, and maturity sufficient to meet anticipated cash flow requirements. The primary objective of the District's investment strategy for Debt Service and Capital Projects Funds is sufficient investment liquidity to meet related obligations.

The District is authorized to invest in the following investment instruments provided that they meet the guidelines established in the investment policy:

- Obligations of, or guaranteed by, governmental entities
- Certificates of deposit and share certificates
- Fully collateralized repurchase agreements
- Securities lending programs
- Banker's acceptances
- Commercial paper
- No-load money market mutual funds and no-load mutual funds
- Guaranteed investment contracts as an investment vehicle for bond proceeds
- Public funds investment pools

The District's funds are required to be deposited and invested under the terms of a depository contract pursuant to the School Depository Act. The depository bank deposits for safekeeping and trust with the District's agent 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 of approved securities is waived only to the extent of the dollar amount of Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation ("FDIC") insurance. Therefore the District is not exposed to custodial credit risk.

Under the depository contract, the District, at its own discretion, may invest funds in time deposits and certificates of deposit provided by the depository bank at interest rates approximating United States Treasury Bill rates.

At August 31, 2024, the carrying amount of the District's deposits was \$2,223,595 and the bank balance was \$2,894,051. The District's deposits with financial institutions at August 31, 2024 and during the year ended August 31, 2024 were entirely covered by FDIC insurance or by pledged collateral held by the District's agent bank in the District's name. The deposits were collateralized in accordance with Texas law and the District maintains copies of all safekeeping receipts in the name of the District.

The District maintains a cash pool consisting of demand deposits. The combined pool is available for use by most Special Revenue Funds. If a fund overdraws its share of the pool, the overdraft is reported as an interfund payable in that fund. The offsetting interfund receivable is reported in the General Fund.

The following is disclosed regarding coverage of combined balances on the date of highest deposit:

- a) Name of depository bank: Cadence Bank, Texas
- b) The amount of bond and/or security pledged as of the date of the highest combined balance on deposit was \$6,092,922.
- c) The largest cash, savings and time deposit combined account balance amounted to \$4,213,802 and occurred during the month of February 2024.
- d) Total amount of FDIC coverage at the time of highest combined balance was \$250,000.

Investments held at August 31, 2024 consisted of the following:

		Weighted	
		Average	
		Maturity	Standard &
Investment Type	Fair Value	(Days)	Poor's Rating
Local Government Investment Pools:			
TexPool	\$ 1,302,333	1	AAAm
Total Investments	\$ 1,302,333		

The District had investments in one external local governmental investment pool at August 31, 2024, consisting of the Texas Local Governmental Investment Pool ("TexPool").

TEXPOOL is a local government investment pool. It offers a safe, efficient, and liquid investment alternative to local governments in the State of Texas. The primary objectives of the pool are to preserve capital and protect principal, maintain sufficient liquidity, provide safety of funds and investments, diversify to avoid unreasonable or avoidable risks, and maximize the return on the pool. Cities, counties, school districts, institutions of higher education, special districts, and other public entities of Texas make up the investor base.

TEXPOOL was originally rated in March 1995, but effective April 2002, the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts contracted with Federated Investors, Inc. for the day-to-day operations of TEXPOOL. Federated Investors, Inc. performs the pool's investment management and custodial functions. It also provides the marketing function, working closely with participants. Federated Securities Corp. acts as the distributor for the portfolio. Oversight of TEXPOOL continues to be provided by the Texas Comptroller, as well as the TEXPOOL advisory board. In January 1995, the advisory board adopted and implemented long-term policy changes to provide for a stable net asset value (NAV) pool, which, in effect, operates like an SEC regulated Rule 2a-7 money-market fund. These changes were made to ensure a more conservative investment strategy and to provide a much higher level of investment safety for local government funds.

<u>Credit Risk</u> - Credit risk is the risk that an issuer or other counterparty to an investment will not fulfill its obligations. The ratings of securities by nationally recognized agencies are designed to give an indication of credit risk. At August 31, 2024, investments were included in local governmental investment pools with ratings from Standard & Poor's in compliance with the District's investment policy.

<u>Custodial Credit Risk</u> - Deposits are exposed to custodial credit risk if they are not covered by depository insurance and the deposits are uncollateralized, collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution, or collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution's trust department or agent but not in the District's name. Investment securities are exposed to custodial credit risk if the securities are uninsured, are not registered in the name of the District, and are held by either the counterparty or the counterparty's trust department or agent but not in the District's name. At August 31, 2024, the District was not exposed to custodial credit risk.

<u>Concentration of Credit Risk</u> - Concentration of credit risk is the risk of loss attributed to the magnitude of a government's investments in a single issuer. Information regarding investments in any one issuer that represents five percent or more of the District's total investments must be disclosed under GASB Statement No. 40, excluding investments issued or explicitly guaranteed by the U.S. government. At August 31, 2024, the District had 100% of its investments local governmental investment pools.

<u>Interest Rate Risk</u> - As a means of minimizing risk of loss due to interest rate fluctuations, the District's investment policy requires that maturities will not exceed the weighted average maturity of 180 days for any internally created pool fund group and one year from the time of purchase for any other individual investment. The Board may specifically authorize a longer maturity for a given investment, within legal limits. The District considers the holdings in the local governmental investment pools to have a one day weighted average maturity due to the fact that the share position can usually be redeemed each day at the discretion of the shareholders, unless there has been a significant change in value. At August 31, 2024, investments were included in local government investment pools which have a weighted average maturity of one day.

#### 3. PROPERTY TAXES

The Texas Legislature in 1979 adopted a comprehensive Property Tax Code (the "Code") which established a county-wide appraisal district and an appraisal review board in each county in the State. The Hamilton Central Appraisal District (the "Appraisal District") is responsible for the recording and appraisal of all property in the District. Under the Code, the school board sets the tax rates on property and the Hamilton County Tax Assessor/Collector provides tax collection services. The Appraisal District is required under the Code to assess property at 100% of its appraised value. Further, real property must be reappraised at least every three years. Under certain circumstances, taxpayers and taxing units, including the District, may challenge orders of the Appraisal Review Board through various appeals and, if necessary, legal action.

Property taxes are levied as of October 1 in conformity with Subtitle E, Texas Property Tax Code. Taxes are due on receipt of the tax bill and are delinquent if not paid before February 1 of the year following the year in which imposed. On January 1 of each year, a tax lien attaches to property to secure the payment of all taxes and penalties and interest that are ultimately imposed. Property tax revenues are considered available when they become due or past due and receivable within the current period, including those property taxes expected to be collected during a 60 day period after the end of the District's fiscal year. The assessed value at January 1, 2023, upon which the October 2023 levy was based was \$540,914,851. The District levied taxes based on a combined tax rate of \$0.7575 per \$100 of assessed valuation for local maintenance (general governmental services) and debt service.

#### 4. DUE FROM/TO OTHER GOVERNMENTS

The District participates in a variety of federal and state programs from which it receives grants to partially or fully fund certain activities. The District also receives entitlements from the State through the School Foundation and Per Capita Programs. Grants and entitlements are recorded as revenue when earned, therefore at year end amounts earned but not yet received in cash may be recorded as due from the grantor government. Amounts already received in cash but not yet earned are recorded as due to the grantor government.

A summary of amounts recorded as Due From/Due To Other Governments in the basic financial statements as of August 31, 2024 are summarized below:

Due From Other Governments:							No	on-Major	
	(	General	ESI	EA, Title I,	T	CLAS -	Gov	ernmental	
		Fund		Part A	Е	SSER III		Funds	Total
Governmental Activities:							,		
Foundation & Per Capita Entitlements	\$	318,121	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$ 318,121
State Grants		-		-		-		147,186	147,186
Federal Grants		-		230,567		182,490		70,894	483,951
Total - Governmental Activities	\$	318,121	\$	230,567	\$	182,490	\$	218,080	\$ 949,258

#### 5. INTERFUND RECEIVABLES, PAYABLES, AND TRANSFERS

During the course of operations, the individual funds of the District may engage in temporary borrowings of money between one another to meet liquidity needs. These interfund receivables and payables are recorded on the balance sheet of the loaning fund as "Due from Other Funds" and on the balance sheet of the borrowing fund as "Due to Other Funds". Amounts are repaid when funds are available in the borrowing fund.

Individual funds may also make payments between one another which are intended to be permanent and therefore not repaid. These transactions are recorded on the statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balance as "Transfers Out" for the paying fund and "Transfers In" for the receiving fund.

During the year, the General Fund transferred \$173,446 to the Child Nutrition Fund to provide for supplemental financing needs.

The composition of interfund balances as of August 31, 2024 was as follows:

Receivable Fund	Payable Fund	 Amount
General Fund	General Fund	\$ 2,569
	Special Revenue Funds	635,815
	Debt Service Fund	57,194
	Custodial Fund	 300,419
Total General Fund		995,997
Special Revenue Funds	General Fund	18,985
Total Special Revenue Funds		 18,985
Debt Service Fund	General Fund	 10,921
Total Debt Service Fund		10,921
Grand Total		\$ 1,025,903

#### 6. CAPITAL ASSETS

Capital asset activity for the year ended August 31, 2024 was as follows:

	Beginning Balance 9/1/23	Additions	Retirements	Ending Balance 8/31/24
Governmental Activities:			,	,
Capital Assets, not Being Depreciated:				
Land	\$ 1,018,074	\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ 1,019,074
Total Capital Assets, not Being Depreciated	1,018,074	1,000	-	1,019,074
Capital Assets, Being Depreciated:				
Buildings and Improvements	16,218,432	128,187	-	16,346,619
Furniture and Equipment	3,093,923	240,160		3,334,083
Total Capital Assets, Being Depreciated	19,312,355	368,347	-	19,680,702
Less Accumulated Depreciation for:				
Buildings and Improvements	(8,036,934)	(419,416)	-	(8,456,350)
Furniture and Equipment	(2,353,193)	(170,322)		(2,523,515)
Total Accumulated Depreciation	(10,390,127)	(589,738)	_	(10,979,865)
Governmental Activities Capital Assets, Net	\$ 9,940,302	\$ (220,391)	\$ -	\$ 9,719,911

Depreciation expense was charged to the functions of the District as follows:

	Depreciation	
Function	Allocation	
Instruction	\$	340,364
Instructional Resources & Media Services		5,498
Curriculum & Instructional Staff Development		4,434
School Leadership		28,476
Guidance, Counseling & Evaluation Services		15,269
Health Services		6,228
Student Transportation		26,092
Food Services		28,561
Extracurricular Activities		24,945
General Administration		31,437
Facilities Maintenance and Operations		69,366
Security and Monitoring Services		9,068
Totals	\$	589,738

#### 7. TEACHER RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF TEXAS PENSION PLAN

#### A. Pension Plan Description

The Teacher Retirement System of Texas (TRS or System or Plan) is a public employee retirement system (PERS) that is a multiple-employer, cost-sharing, defined benefit pension plan with a special funding situation. The Plan is administered by the Board of Trustees of TRS. Information regarding the Board of TRS and its composition can be found within the separately issued TRS Annual Comprehensive Financial Report within Note 1 to the financial statements. That report may be obtained online at www.trs.texas.gov; by writing to TRS at 1000 Red River Street, Austin, Texas, 78701-2698; or by calling (512) 542-6592.

Benefits are established or amended under the authority of the Texas Constitution, Article XVI, Section 67 and by the Legislature in the Texas Government Code, Title 8, Subtitle C. The Board of Trustees does not have the authority to establish or amend benefits.

#### B. Benefits Provided

TRS provides retirement, disability, and death benefits. Membership in the Plan includes 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 exempt from membership under Texas Government Code, Title 8, Section 822.002.

State law requires the plan to be actuarially sound in order for the legislature to consider a benefit enhancement, such as a supplemental payment to the retirees. The pension became actuarially sound in May 2019 when the 86th Texas legislature approved the TRS Pension Reform Bill (SB12) that provided gradual contribution increases from the state, participating employers and active employees for the fiscal years 2019 through 2024.

#### C. Contributors to the Plan

Contributors to the Plan include active members, employers, and the State of Texas as the only non-employer contributing entity. The State is also the employer for senior colleges, medical schools, and state agencies, including TRS. In each respective role, the State contributes to the plan in accordance with State Statutes and the General Appropriations Act.

The number of participating employers during fiscal year 2023 are disclosed in the following table.

1,020
200
50
48
20
9
2
1
1,350

Plan membership as of August 31, 2022 is shown in the following table. Because the actuarial valuation was based on a roll forward from fiscal year 2022 (see Section F), the Plan membership counts are as of August 31, 2022.

Pension Plan Membership	
Inactive plan members or beneficiaries	475,952
currently receiving benefits	
Inactive plan members entitled to but	544,537
not yet receiving benefits	
Active plan members	928,418
	1,948,907

The Average Expected Remaining Service Life (AERSL) of 5.6705 years is based on membership information as of the beginning of the fiscal year.

#### D. Contributions

Contribution requirements are established or amended pursuant to the following state laws:

- Article 16, Section 67 of the Texas Constitution requires the legislature to establish a member contribution rate of not less than 6 percent of the member's annual compensation and a state contribution rate of not less than 6 percent and not more than 10 percent of the aggregate annual compensation paid to members of the System during the fiscal year.
- Government Code section 821.006 prohibits benefit improvements if it increases the amortization period of TRS' unfunded actuarial liability to greater than 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 this manner are determined by the System's actuary.

As the non-employer contributing entity, the State of Texas contributes to the retirement system the current employer contribution rate times the aggregate annual compensation of all members of the Plan during the fiscal year, reduced by the employer contributions described on the following page.

All participating employers and the State of Texas, as the employer for senior universities and medical schools, are required to pay the employer contribution rate in the following situations:

- On the portion of a 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 or all of an employee's salary is paid by federal, private, local or non-educational and general funds
- When the employing district is a public junior college or junior college district, the employer shall contribute to the retirement system an amount equal to 50 percent of the state contribution rate for certain instructional or administrative employees and 100 percent of the state contribution rate for all other employees.

Contribution rates and amounts for active employees, participating employers, and the State of Texas for the current and prior fiscal year are shown below.

Contribution Rates	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>
Members	8.00%	8.25%
Employer	8.00%	8.25%
State of Texas (NECE)	8.00%	8.25%
Contribution Amounts		
Members	\$ 529,403	\$ 544,303
Employer	312,594	320,965
State of Texas (NECE)	375,961	388,878

Employers are also required to pay surcharges in the following cases:

- All public schools, charter schools and regional education service centers must contribute 1.8 percent of the member's salary beginning in fiscal year 2023, gradually increasing to 2 percent in fiscal year 2025.
- When employing a retiree of TRS, the employer shall pay an amount equal to the member contribution and the state contribution as an employment after retirement surcharge.

#### E. Net Pension Liability

Components of the Net Pension Liability of the Plan as of August 31, 2023 are disclosed below.

Components of Pension Liability	<u>Total</u>
Total Pension Liability	\$ 255,860,886,500
Less: Plan Fiduciary Net Position	(187,170,535,558)
Net Pension Liability	\$ 68,690,350,942
Net Position as Percentage of Total Pension Liability	73.15%

#### F. Actuarial Methods and Assumptions

#### Roll Forward

The actuarial valuation was performed as of August 31, 2022. Update procedures were used to roll forward the total pension liability to August 31, 2023.

The total pension liability is determined by an annual actuarial valuation. The actuarial methods and assumptions were selected by the Board of Trustees based upon analysis and recommendations by the System's actuary. The Board of Trustees has sole authority to determine the actuarial assumptions used for the Plan. The actuarial methods and assumptions were primarily based on a study of actual experience for the four year period ending August 31, 2021 and were adopted in July 2022.

The post-retirement mortality rates for healthy lives were based on the 2021 TRS of Texas Healthy Pensioners Mortality Tables, with full generational projection using the ultimate improvement rates from the most recently published projection scale ("U-MP"). The active mortality rates were based on the published PUB(2010) Mortality Tables for Teachers, below median, also with full generational mortality.

The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments is 7.00 percent. The long-term expected rate of return on plan investments was determined using a building-block method in which best-estimate 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 the System's target asset allocation as of August 31, 2023 are summarized in the chart below.

		Long-Term	Expected
	Target	Expected	Contribution to Long-
	Allocation	Geometric Real	Term Portfolio
Asset Class	0/0**	Rate of Return*	Returns
Global Equity			_
USA	18.0%	4.0%	1.0%
Non-U.S. Developed	13.0%	4.5%	0.9%
Emerging Markets	9.0%	4.8%	0.7%
Private Equity*	14.0%	7.0%	1.5%
Stable Value			
Government Bonds	16.0%	2.5%	0.5%
Absolute Return*	0.0%	3.6%	0.0%
Stable Value Hedge Funds	5.0%	4.1%	0.2%
Real Return			
Real Estate	15.0%	4.9%	1.1%
Energy, Natural Resources and Infrastructure	6.0%	4.8%	0.4%
Commodities	0.0%	4.4%	0.0%
Risk Parity	8.0%	4.5%	0.4%
Asset Allocation Leverage			
Cash	2.0%	3.7%	0.0%
Asset Allocation Leverage	-6.0%	4.4%	-0.1%
Inflation Expectation			2.3%
Volatility Drag****			-0.9%
Expected Return	100.0%		8.0%

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

<sup>\*\*</sup>Target allocations are based on the FY2023 policy model.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> Capital Market Assumptions come from Aon He witt (as of 6/30/2023)

<sup>\*\*\*\*</sup>The volatility drag results from the conversion between arithmetic and geometric mean returns.

The following table discloses the assumptions that were applied to this measurement period.

#### **Actuarial Methods and Assumptions**

Valuation Date August 31, 2022 rolled forward

to August 31, 2023

Actuarial Cost Method Individual Entry Age Normal

Asset Valuation Method Fair Value Single Discount Rate 7.00%
Long-Term Expected Rate 7.00%

Municipal Bond Rate as of August 2023 4.13% - 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

Municipal GO AA Index."

Last year ending August 31 in Projection Period (100 years) 2122

Inflation 2.30%

Salary Increases 2.95% to 8.95% including inflation

Ad hoc post-employment benefit changes None

The actuarial assumptions used in the determination of the total pension liability are the same assumptions used in the actuarial valuation as of August 31, 2022. For a full description of these assumptions please see the actuarial valuation report dated November 22, 2022.

#### Discount Rate

A single discount rate of 7.00 percent was used to measure the total pension liability. The single discount rate was based on the expected rate of return on plan investments of 7.00 percent. The projection of cash flows used to determine this single discount rate assumed that contributions from active members, employers and the nonemployer contributing entity will be made at the rates set by the Legislature during the 2019 legislative session. It is assumed that future employer and state contributions will be 9.50 percent of payroll in fiscal year 2024 increasing to 9.56 percent in fiscal year 2025 and thereafter. This includes all employer and state contributions for active and rehired retirees.

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

#### G. Change of Assumptions Since the Prior Measurement Date

The actuarial assumptions and methods are the same as used in the determination of the prior year's Net Pension Liability.

#### H. Changes in Benefit Provisions Since Prior Measurement Date

The Texas 2023 Legislature passed legislation that provides a one-time stipend to certain retired teachers. The stipend was paid to retirees beginning in September of 2023. The Legislature appropriated funds to pay for this one-time stipend so there will be no impact on the Net Pension Liability of TRS. In addition, the Legislature also provided for a cost of living adjustment (COLA) to retirees which was approved during the November 2023 election which will be paid January 2024. Therefore, this contingent liability was not reflected as of August 31, 2023.

#### I. Sensitivity of the Net Pension Liability to the Single Discount Rate Assumption

The following table presents the net pension liability of the plan using the discount rate of 7.00 percent, and what the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower (6.00 percent) or one percentage point higher (8.00 percent) than the current rate.

Sensitivity of the Net Pension Liability to the Single Discount Rate Assumption					
	1% Decrease 6.00%	Current Single Discount Rate 7.00%	1% Increase 8.00%		
District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability:	\$ 6,219,084	\$ 4,159,769	\$ 2,447,446		

J. District Net Pension Liabilities, Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions, and Pension Expense

The Net Pension Liability of the Plan as a whole was last measured as of August 31, 2023 and the total pension liability used to calculate the Net Pension Liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The District was assigned a proportion of the Plan's Net Pension Liability based on the District's contributions to the Plan relative to the contributions of all employers for the period September 1, 2022 through August 31, 2023.

The table below presents a two-year comparison of the District's assigned proportion and resulting proportionate share of the collective Net Pension Liability, as well as the State's proportionate share of the Net Pension Liability associated with the District.

Measurement		
31/22	8/31/23	Change
51816636 0.	.000060558267	0.000008741631
3,076,220 \$	4,159,769	\$ 1,083,549
4,944,636	5,158,662	214,026
8,020,856 \$	9,318,431	\$ 1,297,575
	51/22 51816636 0 3,076,220 \$ 4,944,636	51816636       0.000060558267         3,076,220       \$ 4,159,769         4,944,636       5,158,662

At August 31, 2024, Hamilton Independent School 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:

	Deferred Outflows	Deferred Inflows
	of Resources	of Resources
Differences between expected and actual economic experience	\$ 148,214	\$ 50,370
Changes in actuarial assumptions	393,433	96,282
Difference between projected and actual investment earnings	1,299,802	694,455
Changes in proportion and difference between the employer's		
contributions and the proportionate share of contributions	639,566	46,602
Contributions paid to TRS subsequent to the measurement date	320,965	-
Total	\$ 2,801,980	\$ 887,709

The net amounts of the employer's balances of deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to pensions (not including the deferred contribution paid subsequent to the measurement date) will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

Measurement Year Ended	Pension Expense	
August 31,	Amount	
2024	\$ 368,504	
2025	260,679	
2026	647,157	
2027	254,406	
2028	62,560	
Thereafter	-	

For the year ended August 31, 2024, Hamilton Independent School District recognized pension expense of \$564,172 and revenue of \$778,913 for support provided by the State.

#### 8. EMPLOYEE HEALTH CARE COVERAGE

During the year ended August 31, 2024, employees of the District were covered by the state-wide health insurance plan, TRS Active Care. The District contributed \$300 per month per employee to the Plan, the State provided an additional \$75 per month per employee, and employees, at their option, authorized payroll withholdings to pay contributions or premiums for dependents. TRS manages TRS Active Care. The plan is administered by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Texas while Express Scripts was assigned the prescription drug plan.

#### 9. OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB) PLAN – TRS-CARE

#### A. Plan Description

The Texas Public School Retired Employees Group Insurance Program (TRS-Care) is a multiple-employer, cost-sharing, defined benefit OPEB plan with a special funding situation. The TRS-Care program was established in 1986 by the Texas Legislature.

The Board of Trustees of TRS administers the TRS-Care program and the related fund in accordance with the Texas Insurance Code Chapter 1575. The Board of Trustees 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. Further detailed information regarding TRS and TRS-Care is available in a separately issued Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for TRS that includes financial statements and required supplementary information. That report may be obtained online at www.trs.texas.gov; by writing to TRS at 1000 Red River Street, Austin, Texas, 78701-2698; or by calling (512) 542-6592.

#### B. Benefits Provided

TRS-Care provides health insurance coverage to retirees from public schools, charter schools, regional service centers, and other educational districts who are members of the TRS pension system. 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 the TRS pension system.

The General Appropriations Act passed by the 86th Legislature included funding to maintain TRS-Care premiums at their current level through 2021. The 86th legislature also passed Senate Bill 1682 which requires TRS to establish a contingency reserve in the TRS-Care fund equal to 60 days of expenditures. This amount is estimated at \$336,000,000 as of August 31, 2023.

#### C. Contributors to TRS-Care

Contributors to the plan include active and retired members, employers, and the State of Texas as the only non-employer contributing entity.

During fiscal year 2023, the number of participating employers are presented in the following table.

Participating Employers	
Independent School Districts	1,019
Open Enrollment Charter Schools	200
Regional Service Centers	20
Other Educational Districts	2
Total	1,241

TRS-Care plan membership as of August 31, 2022 is shown in the following table. Because the actuarial valuation was based on a roll-forward (See Section F), the counts are as of that date.

TRS-Care Plan Membership	
Active plan members	757,626
Inactive plan members currently	188,218
receiving benefits	
Inactive plan members entitled to but	13,971
not yet receiving benefits	
Total	959,815

The Average Expected Remaining Service Life (AERSL) of 9.2215 years is based on the membership information as of the beginning of the fiscal year.

#### D. Contributions

Contribution rates for the TRS-Care plan are established in State Statute by the Texas Legislature, and there is no continuing obligation to provide benefits beyond each fiscal year. The TRS-Care plan is currently funded on a payas-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 participating employers are based on active employee compensation. The TRS Board does not have the authority to set or amend contribution rates.

At the inception of the plan, funding was projected to last 10 years through fiscal year 1995. The original funding was sufficient to maintain the solvency of the fund through fiscal year 2000. Since that time, appropriations and contributions have been established to fund the benefits for each successive biennium.

Section 1575.202 of the Texas Insurance Code establishes the State's contribution rate which is 1.25 percent of the employee's salary. Section 1575.203 establishes the active employee rate which is 0.65 percent of salary. Section 1575.204 establishes a public school contribution rate of not less than 0.25 percent or not more than 0.75 percent of the salary of each active employee of the employer. The actual public school contribution rate is prescribed by the Legislature in the General Appropriations Act, which is 0.75 percent of each active employee's pay for fiscal year 2023.

Contribution rates and amounts for active employees, participating employers, and the State of Texas for the current and prior fiscal year are shown below.

Contribution Rates	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>
Members	0.65%	0.65%
Employer	0.75%	0.75%
State of Texas	1.25%	1.25%
Federal/Private Funding*	1.25%	1.25%
Contribution Amounts		
Members	\$ 43,014	\$ 42,885
Employer	106,396	103,310
State of Texas (NECE)	66,328	68,626

<sup>\*</sup> Contributions paid from federal funds and private grants are remitted by the employer and paid at the State rate.

All employers whose employees are covered by the TRS pension plan are also required to pay a surcharge of \$535 per month when employing a retiree of TRS. The TRS-Care surcharges for fiscal year 2023 totaled \$14,548,344.

A supplemental appropriation was received in 2023 for \$21.3 million provided by Rider 14 of the Senate Bill GAA of the 87th Legislature. These amounts were re-appropriated from amounts received by the pension and TRS-Care funds in excess of the state's actual obligation and then transferred to TRS Care. The premium rates for retirees are reflected in the following table.

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

TRS-Care Monthly Premium Rates				
		Medicare	Non	-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

#### E. Net OPEB Liability

Components of the Net OPEB Liability of the TRS-Care plan as of August 31, 2023 are disclosed in the following table.

Components of OPEB Liability	<u>Total</u>
Total OPEB Liability	\$ 26,028,070,267
Less: Plan Fiduciary Net Position	(3,889,765,203)
Net OPEB Liability	\$ 22,138,305,064
Net Position as a Percentage of Total OPEB Liability	14.94%

The Net OPEB Liability decreased by \$1.8 billion, from \$23.9 billion as of August 31, 2022, to \$22.1 billion as of August 31, 2023. The decrease was primarily due to favorable claims experience.

#### F. Actuarial Methods and Assumptions

#### Roll Forward

The actuarial valuation was performed as of August 31, 2022. Update procedures were used to roll forward the Total OPEB Liability to August 31, 2023.

The actuarial valuation of the OPEB plan offered through TRS-Care is similar to the actuarial valuation performed for the pension plan, except that the OPEB valuation is more complex.

#### **Demographic Assumptions**

The rates of mortality, retirement, termination and disability incidence are identical to the assumptions used to value the pension liabilities of the Teacher Retirement System of Texas (TRS). The demographic assumptions were updated based on the experience study performed for TRS for the period ending August 31, 2021.

#### Mortality Assumptions

The active mortality rates were based on PUB(2010), Amount-Weighted, Below-Median Income, Teacher male and female tables (with a two-year set forward for males). The post-retirement mortality rates for healthy lives were based on the 2021 TRS of Texas Healthy Pensioner Mortality Tables. The rates were projected on a fully generational basis using the ultimate improvement rates from mortality projection scale MP-2021.

#### **Election Rates**

Normal Retirement - 62 percent participation rate prior to age 65 and 25 percent participation rate after age 65. Pre-65 retirees - 30 percent of pre-65 retirees are assumed to discontinue coverage at age 65.

#### Health Care Trend Rates

The initial medical trend rates were 7.75 percent for Medicare retirees and 7.00 percent for non-Medicare retirees. The initial prescription drug trend rate was 7.75 percent for all retirees. The initial trend rates decrease to an ultimate trend rate of 4.25 percent over a period of 12 years.

#### Actuarial Methods and Assumptions

Valuation Date August 31, 2022, rolled forward to August 31, 2023

Actuarial Cost Method Individual Entry-Age Normal

Inflation 2.30%

Single Discount Rate 4.13% as of August 31, 2023
Aging Factors Based on plan specific experience

Expenses Third-party administrative expenses related to the delivery

of health care benefits are included in the age-adjusted

claims costs.

Salary Increases 2.95% to 8.95%, including inflation

Ad Hoc Post-Employment Benefit Changes None

#### Discount Rate

A single discount rate of 4.13 percent was used to measure the total OPEB liability. This was an increase of 0.22 percent in the discount rate since the previous year. Since the plan is a pay-as-you-go plan, the single discount rate is equal to the prevailing municipal bond rate.

#### G. Change of Assumptions Since the Prior Measurement Date

The single discount rate changed from 3.91 percent as of August 31, 2022 to 4.13 percent, as of August 31, 2023, accompanied by revised demographic and economic assumptions based on the TRS experience study.

# H. Changes of Benefit Terms Since the Prior Measurement Date

The following presents the Net OPEB Liability of the plan using the discount rate for 20-year, tax-exempt general obligation municipal bonds with an average rating of AA/Aa or higher, as well as what the Net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower, 3.13 percent or one percentage point higher, 5.13 percent, than the AA/Aa rate. The source for the rate is the Fixed Income Municipal bonds with 20 years to maturity that include only federally tax-exempt municipal bonds as reported in the Fidelity "20-Year Municipal GO AA Index", as of August 31, 2023.

# I. Sensitivity of the Net OPEB Liability to the Single Discount Rate Assumption

The following presents the net OPEB liability of the plan 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 one percent lower or one percent higher than the assumed healthcare cost trend rate.

Sensitivity of the Net OPEB Liability to the Single Discount Rate Assumption				
	1% Decrease Current Single 1% Increa			
	3.13%	Discount Rate 4.13%	5.13%	
District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability	\$ 3,079,894	\$ 2,614,974	\$ 2,235,587	

#### J. Sensitivity of the Net OPEB Liability to the Healthcare Cost Trend Rate Assumptions

The following presents the net OPEB liability of the plan 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 one percent lower or one-percent higher than the assumed healthcare cost trend rate.

Sensitivity of the Net OPEB Liability to the Healthcare Cost Trend Rate Assumption				
	Current Healthcare Cost			
	1% Decrease	Trend Rate	1% Increase	
District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability	\$ 2,153,300	\$ 2,614,974	\$ 3,208,918	

# K. District Net OPEB Liabilities, Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB, and OPEB Expense

The Net OPEB Liability of the TRS-Care program as a whole was last measured as of 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 was assigned a proportion of TRS Care's Net OPEB Liability based on the District's contributions to the program relative to the contributions of all employers for the period September 1, 2022 through August 31, 2023.

The table below presents a two-year comparison of the District's assigned proportion and resulting proportionate share of the collective Net OPEB Liability, as well as the State's proportionate share of the Net OPEB Liability associated with the District.

	Measurement Date					
		8/31/22		8/31/23		Change
District's Proportion of the Collective Net OPEB Liability	(	0.000105651634	0	.000118119865	0.0	00012468231
District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability	\$	2,529,723	\$	2,614,974	\$	85,251
State's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability						
Associated with the District		3,085,865		3,155,368		69,503
Total OPEB Liability	\$	5,615,588	\$	5,770,342	\$	154,754

At August 31, 2024, Hamilton Independent School District reported its proportionate share of TRS's deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to other post-employment benefits from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows	Deferred Inflows
	of Resources	ofResources
Differences between expected and actual economic experience	\$ 118,308	\$ 2,200,005
Changes in actuarial assumptions	356,925	1,601,218
Difference between projected and actual investment earnings	5,947	4,817
Change in proportion and difference between the employer's		
contributions and the proportionate share of contributions	2,158,503	-
Contributions paid to TRS subsequent to the measurement date	103,310	ı
Total	\$ 2,742,993	\$ 3,806,040

The net amounts of the employer's balances of deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to OPEB (not including the deferred contribution paid subsequent to the measurement date) will be recognized in OPEB expense as follows:

Measurement Year Ended	OPEB Expense
August 31,	Amount
2024	\$ (322,914)
2025	(202,975)
2026	(40,600)
2027	(231,047)
2028	(193,985)
Thereafter	(174,836)

For the year ended August 31, 2024, Hamilton Independent School District recognized OPEB expense of (\$204,637) and revenue of (\$674,551) for support provided by the State.

#### 10. FRINGE BENEFITS PAID BY OTHER GOVERNMENTS

The Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003 established prescription drug coverage for Medicare beneficiaries known as Medicare Part D. Under Medicare Part D, TRS-Care receives retiree drug subsidy payments from the federal government to offset certain prescription drug expenditures for eligible TRS-Care participants. For the years ended August 31, 2024 and August 31, 2023, the subsidy payments received by TRS-Care on behalf of the District were \$35,018 and \$36,298, respectively.

#### HAMILTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2024

#### 11. FUND BALANCES

The District complies with GASB Statement No. 54, Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions, which establishes fund balance classifications that comprise a hierarchy based primarily on the extent to which a government is bound to observe constraints imposed upon the use of the resources reported in governmental funds. Those fund balance classifications are below.

<u>Nonspendable</u> - Amounts that cannot be spent because they are either not in a spendable form or are legally or contractually required to be maintained intact.

<u>Restricted</u> - Amounts that can be spent only for specific purposes because of constraints imposed by external providers, or imposed by constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

<u>Committed</u> - Amounts that can only be used for specific purposes pursuant to approval by formal action by the Board.

<u>Assigned</u> - For the General Fund, the Board, or an official or body that has been delegated authority by the Board, may appropriate amounts that are to be used for a specific purpose. For all other governmental funds, any remaining positive amounts not previously classified as nonspendable, restricted or committed.

<u>Unassigned</u> - Amounts that are available for any purpose; these amounts can be reported only in the District's General Fund.

A detail of the fund balance amounts within each category is included on the governmental funds balance sheet.

Fund balance of the District may be committed for a specific purpose by formal action of the Board, the District's highest level of decision-making authority. Commitments may be established, modified, or rescinded only through a resolution approved by the Board. The Board has delegated authority to the Superintendent to assign fund balance for a specific purpose. In circumstances where an expenditure is to be made for a purpose for which amounts are available in multiple fund balance classifications, the order in which resources will be expended is as follows: restricted fund balance, committed fund balance, assigned fund balance, and unassigned fund balance.

#### 12. REVENUE FROM LOCAL AND INTERMEDIATE SOURCES

During the current year, revenues from local and intermediate sources consisted of the following:

			No	on-Major				
		General	Gov	ernmental	C	Custodial		
Туре		Fund Funds			Fund		Total	
Property Taxes	\$	4,174,199	\$	99	\$	-	\$	4,174,298
Investment Income		121,769		90		1,620		123,479
Rent		7,675		-		-		7,675
Gifts		80,000		-		10,963		90,963
Food Sales		-		21,353		-		21,353
Athletics		27,131		-		-		27,131
Enterprising Revenues		-		-		220,720		220,720
Miscellaneous Local Revenue		495,248		-		-		495,248
Total	\$	4,906,022	\$	21,542	\$	233,303	\$	5,160,867
	_		-					

#### HAMILTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2024

#### 13. UNEARNED REVENUE

Unearned revenue at August 31, 2024 consisted of the following amounts:

	Foundatio	ns & Per	State	Federal	
Fund	Capita Ent	itlements	Grants	 Grants	Total
General Fund	\$	15	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15
Non-Major Governmental Funds			16,003	10,500	26,503
Total	\$	15	\$ 16,003	\$ 10,500	\$ 26,518

#### 14. RISK MANAGEMENT

The District's risk management program includes coverages through third party insurance providers for property, automobile liability, school professional liability, crime, workers' compensation, and other miscellaneous bonds. During the year ended August 31, 2024, there were no significant reductions in insurance coverage from coverage in the prior year. Losses in excess of the various deductible levels are covered through traditional indemnity coverage for buildings and contents, and vehicle liability with various insurance firms. Settled claims have not exceeded insurance limits for the past three years.

#### 15. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

The District participates in a number of federal financial assistance programs. Although the District's grant programs have been audited in accordance with the provisions of *Government Auditing Standards* and when applicable, the Uniform Guidance, for the year ended August 31, 2024, these programs are subject to financial and compliance audits performed by the specific grantors. These audits, if performed, could result in amounts of expenditures being disallowed by the granting agencies and subject to repayment. The District however expects that such amounts, if any, would be immaterial.

#### 16. TAX LIMITATION AGREEMENTS

The District has entered in several agreements to apply a limitation on the appraised value of property used for the purpose of calculating assessed Maintenance and Operations (M&O) school property taxes. These tax limitation agreements are pursuant to Chapter 313 of the Texas Tax Code. Value limitation agreements are part of a state program, originally created in 2001 which allows school districts to limit the taxable value of an approved project for M&O for a period of years specified in statute. The project(s) must be consistent with the State's goal to "encourage large scale capital investments in this State." Chapter 313 grants eligibility to companies engaged in manufacturing, research and development, renewable electric energy production, clean coal projects, nuclear power generation, and Texas Priority projects.

Each applicant is required to meet a series of capital investment, job creation, and wage requirements specified by State law. At the time of an application's approval, it has been determined by both the District's Board of Trustees and the Texas Comptroller's Office that the project(s) would meet these standards. After approval, the applicants' companies must maintain a viable presence in the District for the entire period of the value limitation plus a period of years thereafter. In addition, there are specific reporting requirements, which are monitored on an annual and biennial basis in order to ensure relevant job, wage, and operational requirements are being met.

Applying Entity	Application Number	Date of Agreement	Phase	First Full Tax Year
Comanche Solar, LLC	1785	11/28/2022	Agreement Phase	2028
Grizzly Ridge Solar, LLC	1530	1/25/2021	Reporting Phase	2022

#### HAMILTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2024

A summary of the net benefit (loss) to the District is as follows:

				(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(B+C+D-A)
		Value of	M&O					_
		Qualified	Taxable	Gross		Extraord.		
		Property	Value	Tax	Revenue	Education		Net Benefit
	App.	(Before	(After	Savings	Protection	Expense	Suppl.	(Loss) to
Applying Entity	Number	Limitation)	Limitation)	to Entity	Payments	Payments	Payments	the District
Grizzly Ridge Solar,								
LLC	1530	\$104,500,000	20,000,000	811,454	811,454	=	76,300	76,300

#### 17. IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW GOVERNMENTAL ACCOUNTING STANDARD

During the year the District implemented Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 100 – *Accounting Changes and Error Corrections* ("GASB 100"). The objective of GASB 100 is to enhance accounting and financial reporting requirements for accounting changes and error corrections to provide more understandable, reliable, relevant, consistent, and comparable information for making decisions or assessing accountability.

This Statement defines accounting changes as changes in accounting principles, changes in accounting estimates, and changes to or within the financial reporting entity and describes the transactions or other events that constitute those changes. As part of those descriptions, for (1) certain changes in accounting principles and (2) certain changes in accounting estimates that result from a change in measurement methodology, a new principle or methodology should be justified on the basis that it is preferable to the principle or methodology used before the change. That preferability should be based on the qualitative characteristics of financial reporting—understandability, reliability, relevance, timeliness, consistency, and comparability. This Statement also addresses corrections of errors in previously issued financial statements.

The District's ESSER III Fund did not meet the major fund quantitative threshold for the year ended August 31, 2024. In addition, the District's ESEA, Title I, Part A Fund and TCLAS-ESSER III Fund did meet the major fund quantitative threshold for the year ended August 31, 2024. However, these funds did not report fund balance for the year ended August 31, 2023, therefore, as a result of implementing GASB 100, no changes in policy or circumstance required either a restatement or a tabular note disclosure as major fund beginning fund balance and aggregated non-major beginning fund balance were unaffected.

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

# HAMILTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHEDULE OF THE DISTRICT'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF THE NET PENSION LIABILITY TEACHER RETIREMENT SYSTEM FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2024

	Measurement Year							
		2023		2022		2021		2020
District's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability	0.	0060558267%	(	0.0051816636%	0.0	048290230%	0.0	041126000%
District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$	4,159,769	\$	3,076,220	\$	1,229,781	\$	2,202,625
State's Proportionate Share of the District Net Pension Liability		5,158,662		4,944,636		2,168,007		4,631,561
Total Pension Liability	\$	9,318,431	\$	8,020,856	\$	3,397,788	\$	6,834,186
District's Covered-Employee Payroll	\$	6,617,537	\$	6,380,117	\$	6,043,000	\$	5,616,736
District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of its Covered-Employee Payroll		62.86%		48.22%		20.35%		39.22%
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Net Pension Liability		73.15%		75.62%		88.79%		75.54%

The amounts presented are determined as of the Plan's measurement year which was as of August 31 in each prior calendar year from the District's fiscal year end.

This schedule reflects ten years of data as required by GASB 68.

	2019		2018		Measurer 2017	nent	2016		2015		2014
0.0	044058197%	0.0	041396104%	0.0	037346795%	0.0	034922304%	0.0035822000%		0.00	018885000%
\$	2,290,283	\$	2,278,542	\$	1,194,149	\$	1,319,662	\$	1,266,260	\$	504,445
	4,345,070		4,670,411		2,594,356		2,909,962		2,774,294		2,482,846
\$	6,635,353	\$	6,948,953	\$	3,788,505	\$	4,229,624	\$	4,040,554	\$	2,987,291
\$	5,431,321	\$	5,156,724	\$	4,763,627	\$	4,320,185	\$	4,135,898	\$	4,126,634
	42.17%		44.19%		25.07%		30.55%		30.62%		12.22%
	75.24%		73.74%		82.17%		78.00%		78.43%		83.25%

#### HAMILTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHEDULE OF DISTRICT PENSION CONTRIBUTIONS – TEACHER RETIREMENT SYSTEM FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2024

	Fiscal Year							
		2024		2023		2022		2021
Contractually Required Contribution	\$	320,965	\$	312,594	\$	239,027	\$	205,735
Contribution in Relation to the Contractually Required Contribution		(320,965)		(312,594)		(239,027)		(205,735)
Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	\$		\$	-	\$		\$	-
District's Covered-Employee Payroll	\$	6,597,607	\$	6,617,537	\$	6,380,117	\$	6,043,000
Contributions as a Percentage of Covered- Employee Payroll		4.86%		4.72%		3.75%		3.40%

The amounts presented are as of the District's fiscal year end of August 31.

This schedule reflects ten years of data as required by GASB 68.

		Fisc	al Ye	ar			
2020	2019	2018		2017	2016	2015	
\$ 160,466	\$ 149,656	\$ 128,317	\$	116,389	\$ 105,424	\$	96,379
(160,466)	(149,656)	 (128,317)		(116,389)	 (105,424)		(96,379)
\$ 	\$ 	\$ 	\$		\$ 	\$	-
\$ 5,616,736	\$ 5,431,321	\$ 5,156,724	\$	4,763,627	\$ 4,320,185	\$	4,135,898
2.86%	2.76%	2.49%		2.44%	2.44%		2.33%

# HAMILTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHEDULE OF THE DISTRICT'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF THE NET OPEB LIABILITY – TEXAS PUBLIC SCHOOL RETIRED EMPLOYEES GROUP INSURANCE PLAN FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2024

				Measurer	ment	Year		
		2023		2022		2021	2020	
District's Proportion of the Net Liability for Other Post Employment Benefits	0.01	.0118119865%		0.0105651634%		)94452687%	0.00	089174697%
District's Proportionate Share of the Net Post Employment Benefit Liability	\$	2,614,974	\$	2,529,723	\$	3,643,462	\$	3,389,933
State's Proportionate Share of the Net Post Employment Benefit Liability Associated with the District		3,155,368		3,085,865		4,881,427		4,555,257
Total Other Post Employment Benefits Liability	\$	5,770,342	\$	5,615,588	\$	8,524,889	\$	7,945,190
District's Covered Payroll	\$	6,617,537	\$	6,380,117	\$	6,043,000	\$	5,616,736
District's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability as a Percentage of its Covered Payroll		39.52%		39.65%		60.29%		60.35%
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Net OPEB Liability		14.94%		11.52%		6.18%		4.99%

The amounts presented are determined as of the Plan's measurement year which was as of August 31 in each prior calendar year from the District's fiscal year end.

This schedule reflects the available years of data since the adoption of GASB 75 and will eventually reflect ten years of data.

	N	Meas	surement Yea	r	
	2019		2018		2017
0.00	082512451%	0.0	078006014%	0.00	056653081%
\$	3,902,117	\$	3,894,912	\$	2,463,630
	5,185,038		4,374,452		3,688,963
\$	9,087,155	\$	8,269,364	\$	6,152,593
\$	5,431,321	\$	5,156,724	\$	4,763,627
	71.84%		75.53%		51.72%
	2.66%		1.57%		0.91%

#### HAMILTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHEDULE OF DISTRICT OPEB CONTRIBUTIONS – TEXAS PUBLIC SCHOOL RETIRED EMPLOYEES GROUP INSURANCE PLAN FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2024

	Fiscal Year							
		2024		2023		2022		2021
Contractually Required Contribution	\$	103,310	\$	106,396	\$	89,131	\$	75,923
Contribution in Relation to the Contractually Required Contribution		(103,310)		(106,396)		(89,131)		(75,923)
Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	\$		\$		\$		\$	
District's Covered Payroll	\$	6,597,607	\$	6,617,537	\$	6,380,117	\$	6,043,000
Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll		1.57%		1.61%		1.40%		1.26%

The amounts presented are as of the District's fiscal year end of August 31.

This schedule reflects the available years of data since the inception of GASB 75 and will eventually reflect ten years of data.

	Fisca	l Yea	r			
2020	2019		2018	2017		
\$ 63,669	\$ 59,081 \$		51,748	\$	26,200	
(63,669)	(59,081)		(51,748)		(26,200)	
\$ 	\$ 	\$		\$	-	
\$ 5,616,736	\$ 5,431,321	\$	5,156,724	\$	4,763,627	
1.13%	1.09%		1.00%		0.55%	

#### HAMILTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NOTES TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2024

Teacher Retirement System

#### **Actuarial Assumptions**

The information presented in the required supplementary schedules was used in the actuarial valuation for determining the actuarially determined contribution rate and the Net Pension Liability in accordance with GASB 68. Actuarial methods and assumptions used for funding purposes can be found in the Teacher Retirement System of Texas Pension Plan note to the financial statements.

Changes of Benefit Provisions Since Prior Measurement Date

The Texas 2023 Legislature passed legislation that provides a one-time stipend to certain retired teachers. The stipend was paid to retirees beginning in September of 2023. The Legislature appropriated funds to pay for this one-time stipend so there will be no impact on the Net Pension Liability of TRS.

In addition, the Legislature also provided for a cost of living adjustment (COLA) to retirees which was approved during the November 2023 election which will be paid January 2024. Therefore, this contingent liability was not reflected as of August 31, 2023.

Changes of Assumptions Since the Prior Measurement Date

• The single discount rate changed from 3.91 percent as of August 31, 2022 to 4.13 percent, as of August 31, 2023, accompanied by revised demographic and economic assumptions based on the TRS experience study.

Texas Public School Retired Employees Group Insurance Plan

**Actuarial Assumptions** 

Actuarial methods and assumptions used for funding purposes can be found in the Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) Plan – TRS-Care note to the financial statements.

Changes of Assumptions Since the Prior Measurement Date

The following assumptions, methods and plan changes which are specific to TRS-Care were updated from the prior year's report:

• The actuarial assumptions and methods are the same as used in the determination of the prior year's Net Pension Liability

### COMBINING AND INDIVIDUAL FUND STATEMENTS AND SCHEDULES

#### HAMILTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT COMBINING BALANCE SHEET NONMAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS AUGUST 31, 2024

			240	255			276
Data		National				Ti	tle I SIP
Contr	ol	Brea	kfast and	ESE	A, Title II,	A	cademy
Codes	3	Lunc	h Program	]	Part A	Grant	
ASSI	ETS						
1110	Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$	40,108	\$	-	\$	10,500
1220	Property Taxes - Delinquent		-		-		-
1230	Allowance for Uncollectible Taxes (Credit)		-		-		-
1240	Due from Other Governments		48,280		10,480		-
1260	Due from Other Funds		-		-		-
1000	Total Assets	\$	88,388	\$	10,480	\$	10,500
LIAE	BILITIES						
2110	Accounts Payable	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
2160	Accrued Wages Payable		19,376		3,459		-
2170	Due to Other Funds		67,984		6,805		-
2200	Accrued Expenditures		1,028		216		-
2300	Unearned Revenues		-		-		10,500
2000	Total Liabilities		88,388		10,480		10,500
DEF	ERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES						
2600	Unavailable Revenue		-		-		-
	Total Deferred Inflows of Resources		-		-		-
FUN	D BALANCES						
	Restricted for:						
3480	Retirement of Long-Term Debt		-		-		-
3000	Total Fund Balances		-		-		-
4000	Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows & Fund Balances	\$	88,388	\$	10,480	\$	10,500

	282		289		397		410		429	599			
ESSER III		Title IV, Part A, Subpart 1		Advanced Placement Incentives		State Instructional Materials Fund		State Funded Special Revenue Funds		Debt Service Fund		Total Non- Major Governmental Funds	
\$	- -	\$	- -	\$	1,692 -	\$	14,311	\$	- -	\$	61,644 1,639	\$	128,255 1,639
	-		12,134		-		16,773		130,413		(165)		(165) 218,080
\$	4,114 4,114	\$	12,134	\$	1,692	\$	31,084	\$	130,413	\$	10,921 74,039	\$	15,035 362,844
\$	- 3,371	\$	- 1,551	\$	-	\$	-	\$	3,433	\$	-	\$	3,433 27,757
	- 743		10,401		- -		16,773		126,980		57,194 -		286,137 2,169
	4,114		12,134		1,692 1,692		14,311 31,084		130,413		<u>-</u> 57,194		26,503 345,999
			-		-		-		-		1,474		1,474
	-		-		-		-		-		1,474		1,474
	-		-		-		_		-		15,371		15,371
\$	- 4,114	\$	12,134	\$	1,692	\$	31,084	\$	130,413	\$	15,371 74,039	\$	15,371 362,844

#### HAMILTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT COMBINING STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE NONMAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2024

		240	255	276
Data		National		Title I SIP
Contro	ol	Breakfast and	ESEA, Title II,	Academy
Codes		Lunch Program	Part A	Grant
REV	ENUES			
5700	Local and Intermediate Sources	\$ 21,353	\$ -	\$ -
5800	State Program Revenues	17,254	-	-
5900	Federal Program Revenues	432,629	34,551	
5020	Total Revenues	471,236	34,551	
EXPI	ENDITURES			
0011	Instruction	-	34,551	-
0031	Guidance, Counseling & Evaluation Services	-	-	-
0035	Food Services	646,191	-	-
0051	Facilities Maintenance and Operations	-	-	-
0052	Security and Monitoring Services	-	-	-
0093	Payments to Fiscal Agent of SSA			
6030	Total Expenditures	646,191	34,551	<u>-</u>
1100	Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over			
	(Under) Expenditures	(174,955)	-	-
OTH	ER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)			
7915	Transfers In	173,446	-	-
7080	Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	173,446	-	-
1200	Net Change in Fund Balance	(1,509)	-	=
0100	Fund Balance - Beginning	1,509	-	-
3000	Fund Balance - Ending	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

	282		289		397		410	429			599		
E	SSER III	Title IV, Part A, Subpart 1		Advanced Placement Incentives		State Instructional Materials Fund		State Funded Special Revenue Funds		Debt Service Fund		Total Non- Major Governmental Funds	
\$	_	\$	_	\$	_	\$	_	\$	_	\$	189	\$	21,542
•	_	•	_	•	_	•	84,860	•	354,738	•	-	•	456,852
	509,932		18,186		_		-		-		_		995,298
	509,932		18,186		-	_	84,860		354,738		189		1,473,692
						,							
	130,121		18,186		-		84,860		219,023		=		486,741
	71,946		-		-		-		-		_		71,946
	-		-		-		-		-		-		646,191
	24,001		-		-		-		-		-		24,001
	-		-		-		-		135,715		-		135,715
	283,864		-		-	_	-		-		-		283,864
	509,932		18,186		-	_,	84,860		354,738		-		1,648,458
	-		-		-	_			-		189		(174,766)
	-		-		=		_		-		-		173,446
	-		-		-		-		-		-		173,446
	-		-		-		-		-		189		(1,320)
	-		-		-		-		-		15,182		16,691
\$	_	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$		\$	15,371	\$	15,371

#### HAMILTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHEDULE OF DELINQUENT TAXES RECEIVABLE FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2024

		1	2	3	
Last 10 Years Ended	1	Tax Ra	Assessed/Appraised Value for School		
August 31,	_	Maintenance	Debt Service	Tax Purposes	
2015	and prior years	Various	Various	Various	
2016		1.04000	0.14000	\$ 302,242,627	
2017		1.04000	0.14000	304,629,813	
2018		1.17000	-	302,105,897	
2019		1.17000	-	313,831,871	
2020		1.06830	-	332,212,113	
2021		1.05640	-	345,711,284	
2022		0.96030	-	410,240,342	
2023		0.94290	-	607,391,664	
2024	(School year under audit) TOTALS	0.75750	-	540,914,851	

	10		20		31		32	40			50		99						
В	ginning alance 0/1/23	Current Year's Total Levy		Maintenance Collections		Debt Service Collections		Entire Year's Adjustments		Ending Balance 8/31/24		Refund	l Taxes led Under 1 26.1115c						
\$	7,145	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$ (1,339)		\$	5,806								
	3,242		-		-		-		-		-		3,242						
	4,759		-		-		-		-	4,759		4,759							
	5,907		-		1,051		-		-	4,856									
	6,686		-		1,076		-		-	5,610									
	12,796		-		1,178		-		-	11,618									
	15,502		-		2,591		-		-		12,911								
	33,515		-		16,541		-		2,626		19,600								
	136,602		-		92,331		-	3,268		3,268 47,53		3,268		3,268		47,539			
	<u>-</u>		4,097,430		4,019,276		-	1,736 79		79,890									
\$	226,154	\$	4,097,430	\$	4,134,044	\$	-	\$	6,291	\$	195,831								
												\$	20,878						

# HAMILTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE BUDGET AND ACTUAL – CHILD NUTRITION FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2024

Data					Actual		
Contr	ol	Budgeted	Am	ounts	Amounts	Vari	ance With
Codes		Original		Final	(GAAP BASIS)	Fin	al Budget
REV	ENUES						
5700	Local & Intermediate Sources	\$ -	\$	-	\$ 21,353	\$	21,353
5800	State Program Revenues	8,000		8,000	17,254		9,254
5900	Federal Program Revenues	 414,000		414,000	432,629		18,629
5020	Total Revenues	422,000		422,000	471,236		49,236
EXPI	ENDITURES						
0035	Food Services	 520,000		638,000	646,191		(8,191)
6030	Total Expenditures	520,000		638,000	646,191		(8,191)
1100	Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues						
	Over (Under) Expenditures	 (98,000)		(216,000)	(174,955)		41,045
OTH	ER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)						
7915	Transfers In	 98,000		178,000	173,446		(4,554)
7080	Total Other Finance Sources (Uses)	98,000		178,000	173,446		(4,554)
1200	Net Change in Fund Balances	-		(38,000)	(1,509)		36,491
0100	Fund Balance-September 1 (Beginning)	1,509		1,509	1,509		
3000	Fund Balance-August 31 (Ending)	\$ 1,509	\$	(36,491)	\$ -	\$	36,491

### HAMILTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT USE OF FUNDS REPORT – SELECT STATE ALLOTMENT PROGRAMS FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2024

Data Control			1
Codes	Section A: Compensatory Education Programs	R	esponses
	Districts are required to use at least 55% of state compensatory education state allotment funds on direct program costs. Statutory Authority: Texas Education Code §48.104.		
AP1	Did your 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	Total state allotment funds received for state compensatory education programs during the District's fiscal year.	\$	793,905
AP4	Actual direct program expenditures for state compensatory education programs during the district's fiscal year. (PICs 24, 26, 28, 29, 30, 34)	\$	599,010
	Section B: Bilingual Education Programs		
	Districts are required to use at least 55% of bilingual education state allotment funds on direct program costs. Statutory Authority: Texas Education Code §48.105.		
AP5	Did your 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	Total state allotment funds received for bilingual education programs during the district's fiscal year.	\$	38,931
AP8	Actual direct program expenditures for bilingual education programs during the District's fiscal year. (PICs 25, 35)	\$	115,721

#### HAMILTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHEDULE OF REQUIRED RESPONSES TO SELECTED SCHOOL FIRST INDICATORS FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2024

Data		
Control Codes		1 Responses
		Тезропзез
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 school district make timely payments to the Teachers Retirement System (TRS), Texas Workforce Comission (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 school district is considered to not have made 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.	ies
	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 school district issued a warrant hold? Even if the issue surrounding the initial warrant hold was resolved and cleared within 30 days, the school 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 school 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 in effect at the school district's fiscal year end?	Yes
SF8	Did the school board members discuss the school district's property values at a board meeting within 120 days before the school district adopted its budget?	Yes
SF9	Total accumulated accretion on CABs included in government-wide financial statements at fiscal year end.	\$ -

FEDERAL AWARDS SECTION



# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S 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 Hamilton 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 Hamilton Independent School District (the "District") as of and for the year ended August 31, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated November 22, 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 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 entity'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 and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. 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 were not 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 entity'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 entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Singleton, Clark & Company, PC

Singleton, Clark & Company, PC

Cedar Park, Texas

November 22, 2024



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR EACH MAJOR PROGRAM AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE REQUIRED BY UNIFORM GUIDANCE AND REPORT ON THE SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS

To the Board of Trustees of Hamilton Independent School District

### Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program

### Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

We have audited Hamilton 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, 2024. The District's major federal programs are identified in the summary of auditor's results section of the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs.

In our opinion, the District complied, in all material respects, with the types of 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, 2024.

### 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 Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section of our report.

We are required to be independent of Hamilton Independent School 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.

### Auditor's 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 noncompliance, 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 the District's 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.

### Other Matters

The results of our auditing procedures disclosed no instances of noncompliance which are required to be reported in accordance with the Uniform Guidance.

### 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 Auditor's 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 were not identified.

Our audit was not designed for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control 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.

#### Report on Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards Required by Uniform Guidance

We have audited the financial statements of Hamilton Independent School District as of and for the year ended August 31, 2024, and have issued our report thereon dated November 22, 2024, which contained an unmodified opinion on those financial statements. Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements as a whole. The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards is presented for purposes of additional analysis as required by the Uniform Guidance and is not a required part of the 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 financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the schedule of expenditure of federal awards is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

Singleton, Clark & Company, PC

Singleton, Clark & Company, PC

Cedar Park, Texas

November 22, 2024

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## HAMILTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2024

	1	2a	3
FEDERAL GRANTOR/	Federal	Pass-Through	
PASS-THROUGH GRANTOR/	ALN	Entity Identifying	Federal
PROGRAM OR CLUSTER TITLE	Number	Number	Expenditures
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION			
Passed through Texas Education Agency			
ESEA, Title I, Part A - Improving Basic Programs	84.010A	2461011011097902	\$ 200,280
ESEA, Title II, Part A - Teacher and Principal Training	84.367A	24694501097902	34,551
COVID-19, TCLAS - ESSER III	84.425U	21528042097902	176,603
COVID-19, ESSER III	84.425U	21528001097902	509,932
Total Assistance Listing Number 84.425			686,535
Title IV, Part A, Subpart I	84.424A	24680101097902	18,186
Total Passed through Texas Education Agency			939,552
TOTAL U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION			939,552
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE			
Passed through Texas Education Agency			
National School Breakfast Program <sup>2</sup>	10.553	71402401	138,457
National School Lunch Program <sup>2</sup>	10.555	71302401	263,268
Total Passed through Texas Education Agency			401,725
Passed through Texas Department of Agriculture			
Food Distribution Program - Non-Cash Assistance <sup>2</sup>	10.555	NT4XL1YGLGC5	28,649
Commodity Delivery Fee Reimbursement	10.560	NT4XL1YGLGC5	2,255
Total Passed through Texas Department of Agriculture			30,904
TOTAL U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE			432,629
TOTAL EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS			\$ 1,372,181
TOTAL FEDERAL REVENUE PER STATEMENT OF REVENUES,			
EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE			\$ 1,372,181

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Special Education (IDEA) Cluster as defined in OMB Compliance Supplement.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Child Nutrition Cluster as defined in OMB Compliance Supplement.

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### HAMILTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NOTES TO THE SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2024

#### 1. BASIS OF PRESENTATION

The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards (the "Schedule") includes the federal awards expenditures of Hamilton Independent School District (the "District") under programs of the federal government for the year ended August 31, 2024. The information in the accompanying Schedule is presented in accordance with the 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). Because the Schedule presents only a selected portion of the operations of the District, it is not intended to and does not present the financial position, change in net position, or cash flows of the District.

#### 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Accounting - The expenditures reported on the Schedule are presented using the modified-accrual basis of accounting, with the exception of the National School Lunch Program, School Breakfast Program and the Food Distribution Program. Under the modified-accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized in the accounting period in which they become measurable and available, and expenditures in the accounting period in which the fund liability is incurred, if measurable. Such expenditures are recognized following the cost principles contained in the Uniform Guidance, wherein certain types of expenditures are not allowable or are limited to reimbursement.

Expenditures for the National School Lunch Program, School Breakfast Program and the Food Distribution Program are shown on the Schedule in an amount equal to the related revenue, but are not specifically attributable to this revenue source. Expenditures are reported in this manner due to the Child Nutrition Fund being a fund that combines local, state, and federal revenues, and spends those resources together to support the overall operations of the Child Nutrition Program.

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

**Relationship to Basic Financial Statements -** Expenditures of federal awards are reported in the District's basic financial statements in the special revenue funds.

**Relationship to Federal Financial Reports -** Amounts reported in the accompanying Schedule agree with the amounts reported in the related federal financial reports in all significant respects.

**Valuation of Non-Cash Programs** – The District values revenues and expenditures for the Food Distribution Program based on the value of commodities received.

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## HAMILTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2024

SECTION I – SUMMARY OF AUDITOR'S RESULTS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS Type of auditor's report issued: Unmodified Internal control over financial reporting: Material weakness(es) identified? Yes  $\boxtimes$ No Significant deficiencies identified that are not considered to be material weaknesses? None reported Yes Noncompliance material to financial statements noted? Yes  $\boxtimes$ No FEDERAL AWARDS Internal control over major programs: Yes  $\boxtimes$ No Material weakness(es) identified? Significant deficiencies identified that are not considered to be material weaknesses? Yes  $\boxtimes$ None reported Type of auditor's report issued on compliance for major programs: TCLAS – ESSER III, ESSER III Unmodified Any audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with the federal Uniform Guidance?  $\boxtimes$ Yes No Identification of major programs: ALN Number(s) Name of Federal Program or Cluster 84.425U TCLAS - ESSER III, ESSER III Dollar threshold used to distinguish Type A and Type B programs: \$750,000

 $\boxtimes$ 

Yes

No

Auditee qualified as low-risk auditee?

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## HAMILTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2024

### SECTION II – FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS

<u>Findings Related to Financial Statements Which are Required to be Reported in Accordance with Government Auditing Standards:</u>

No findings or questioned costs required to be reported in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* for the years ended August 31, 2024 and August 31, 2023.

### SECTION III – FEDERAL AWARDS FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

<u>Findings Related to Federal Awards Which are Required to be Reported in Accordance with federal Uniform Guidance:</u>

No findings or questioned costs required to be reported in accordance with federal Uniform Guidance for the years ended August 31, 2024 and August 31, 2023.

### APPENDIX C

## FORMS OF CO-BOND COUNSEL'S OPINION

AND

TAX COUNSEL'S OPINION



1100 Louisiana St., Suite 4300 Houston, TX 77002 https://frostbrowntodd.com/



, 2025	
WE HAVE ACTED as Co-Bond Counsel for HAMILTON INDEPENDENT SO DISTRICT (the "District"), in connection with the issuance of bonds (the "Bonds") desc follows:	
HAMILTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT UNLIMITED TAX SCHOOL BUILDING BONDS, SERIES 2025, dated, 2025, in the principal amount of \$ and maturing on August 15 in the years through, inclusive, and in the years and The Bonds are issuable in fully-registered form only, in denominations of \$5,000 of the principal amount or integral multiples thereof, bear interest, are subject to redemption prior to maturity, and may be transferred and exchanged as set out in the Bonds and in the bond order (the "Order") adopted by the Board of Trustees of the District authorizing their issuance. Capitalized terms used herein and not otherwise defined	

WE HAVE ACTED as Co-Bond Counsel for the sole purpose of rendering an opinion (the "*Opinion*") with respect to the legality and validity of the Bonds under the Constitution and laws of the State of Texas. In such capacity, we have participated in the preparation of, and have examined, a transcript of certain certified proceedings pertaining to the issuance of the Bonds, as described in the Order. The transcript contains certified copies of certain proceedings of the District; certain certifications and representations, and other material facts within the knowledge and control of the District, upon which we rely; and certain other customary documents and instruments authorizing and relating to the issuance of the Bonds. We also have examined executed Bond No. R-1 of this issue. We also have examined such portions of the Constitution and statutes of the State of Texas as we have deemed necessary for the purposes of rendering this Opinion.

shall have the meanings so assigned in the Order.

WE HAVE NOT BEEN REQUESTED to examine, and have not investigated or verified, any original proceedings, records, data, or other material, but have relied upon the transcript of certified proceedings. 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. Our role in connection with the District's Official Statement prepared for use in connection with the sale of the Bonds has been limited as described therein.

## BASED UPON SUCH EXAMINATION, it is our opinion that, under existing law:

- (A) 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, enforceable in accordance with the terms and conditions thereof, except to the extent that the rights and remedies of the owners of the Bonds may be limited by laws heretofore or hereafter enacted relating to bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, moratorium or other similar laws affecting the rights of creditors of political subdivisions, and the exercise of judicial discretion in appropriate cases; and the Bonds have been authorized and delivered in accordance with existing law; and
- (B) 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.

OUR OPINION IS BASED ON EXISTING LAW AS OF THE DATE HEREOF, which is subject to change. Such opinion is further based on our knowledge of facts as of the date hereof. We assume no duty to update or supplement this Opinion to reflect any facts or circumstances that may thereafter come to our attention, or to reflect any changes in any law that may thereafter occur or become effective. Moreover, this Opinion is not a guarantee of result and represents our legal judgment based upon our review of existing law that we deem relevant to such opinion and in reliance upon the representations and covenants referenced above. We express no opinion as to any matters not specifically covered hereby.

Respectfully submitted,



1100 Louisiana St., Suite 4300 Houston, TX 77002 https://frostbrowntodd.com/

WE HAVE ACTED AS SPECIAL TAX COUNSEL ("Special Tax Counsel") to the HAMILTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT (the "District") in connection with the issuance by the District of its Unlimited Tax School Building Bonds, Series 2025 in the aggregate principal amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ (the "Bonds"). The Bonds are authorized pursuant to an election held May 3, 2025, and a bond order Authorizing the Issuance of Hamilton Independent School District Unlimited Tax School Building Bonds, Series 2025, adopted on August 4, 2025, by the Board of Trustees of the District (the "Bond Order").

AS SPECIAL TAX COUNSEL, we have reviewed (1) the applicable and pertinent laws of the United States of America, (2) the opinion of Frost Brown Todd LLP and Powell Law Group, L.L.P as co-bond counsel to the District (the "Bond Counsel"), (3) customary certifications and opinion of officials of the Issuer, (4) certificates executed by officers of the District relating to the expected use and investment of proceeds of the Bonds and certain other funds of the Issuer and the projects financed thereby and to certain other facts solely within the knowledge and control of the District (the "Tax Certificate"), (5) the Bond Order and certain tax covenants therein, and (6) such other documents, opinions and matters to the extent we deemed necessary to render the opinion set forth herein. In such examination, we have assumed the authenticity of all documents submitted to us as originals, the conformity to original copies of all documents submitted to us as certified copies, and the accuracy of the statements and information contained in such certificates.

WE HAVE SERVED AS SPECIAL TAX COUNSEL for the District solely to pass upon the matters set forth in our opinion below for federal income tax purposes and for no other purpose. We have not been requested to investigate or verify, and have not independently investigated or verified, any records, data, or other material relating to the financial condition or capabilities of the District. 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. We express no opinion and make no comment with respect to the sufficiency of the security for or the marketability of the Bonds or the accuracy, adequacy, or completeness of any offering material relating to the Bonds. With respect to the validity of the Bonds, we are relying upon the opinion of Bond Counsel. We express no opinion concerning any effect on the following opinion which may result from changes in law effected after the date hereof.

BASED ON OUR EXAMINATION, IT IS OUR OPINION that as of the date hereof, and assuming continuing compliance after the date hereof by the Issuer with the provisions of the Bond Order, including the tax covenants therein, and in reliance upon the representations and certifications of the District made in the Tax Certificate that:

Hamilton Independent School District Page 2

Under existing federal statutes, decisions, regulations and rulings existing on this date, interest on the Bonds is excludable from gross income for federal income tax purposes under Section 103 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as in effect on the date hereof (the "Code"), and is not an item of tax preference for purposes of the federal alternative minimum tax imposed on individuals; however, such interest on the Bonds may be taken into account for the purpose of computing the alternative minimum tax imposed on certain corporations.

WE NOTE THAT the Bonds have been designated as "qualified tax-exempt obligations" under Section 265 of the Code.

WE EXPRESS NO OTHER OPINION with respect to any other federal, state, or local tax consequences under present law or any proposed legislation resulting from the receipt or accrual of interest on, or the ownership, acquisition or disposition of, the Bonds.

OUR OPINION IS BASED ON EXISTING LAW AS OF THE DATE HEREOF, which is subject to change. Such opinion is further based on our knowledge of facts as of the date hereof. We assume no duty to update or supplement this Opinion to reflect any facts or circumstances that may thereafter come to our attention, or to reflect any changes in any law that may thereafter occur or become effective. Moreover, this Opinion is not a guarantee of result and represents our legal judgment based upon our review of existing law that we deem relevant to such opinion and in reliance upon the representations and covenants referenced above. We express no opinion as to any matters not specifically covered hereby.

Respectfully submitted,

FROST BROWN TODD LLP

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#### **APPENDIX D**

#### THE PERMANENT SCHOOL FUND GUARANTEE PROGRAM

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.

The regular session of the 89th Texas Legislature (the "Legislature") convened on January 14, 2025, and is scheduled to conclude on June 2, 2025. As of the date of this disclosure, the regular session is underway. The Texas Governor may call one or more special sessions at the conclusion of the regular session. During this time, the Legislature may enact laws that materially change current law as it relates to the Guarantee Program, the TEA, the State Board of Education (the "SBOE"), the Permanent School Fund Corporation (the "PSF Corporation"), the Act, 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"). The Texas School Land Board's (the "SLB") 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 From 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, 2024, 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, 2024, 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, 2024, and for a description of the financial results of the PSF for the year ended August 31, 2024, the most recent year for which audited financial information regarding the Fund is available. The 2024 Annual Report speaks only as of its date and the PSF Corporation has not obligated itself to update the 2024 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 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 through 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 Boards's roles and responsibilities in managing and administering the Fund, see the IPS and Board meeting materials (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 or a certified public accountant 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.

For each biennium, beginning with the 2024-2025 State biennium, 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 2026 and 2027. 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-return-based" approach 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 State-wide, 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<sup>1</sup>

Fiscal Year Ending	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>	<b>2023</b> <sup>2</sup>	<u>2024</u>
PSF(CORP) Distribution	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$2,076	\$2,156
PSF(SBOE) Distribution	839	1,056	1,056	1,236	1,236	1,102	1,102	1,731	-	-
PSF(SLB) Distribution	-	-	-	-	300	600	$600^{3}$	415	115	-
Per Student Distribution	173	215	212	247	306	347	341	432	440	430

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> In millions of dollars. Source: Annual Report for year ended August 31, 2024.

In November 2024, the SBOE approved a \$3.6 billion distribution to the ASF for State fiscal biennium 2026-2027. In making its determination of the 2026-2027 Distribution Rate, the SBOE took into account the planned distribution to the ASF by the PSF Corporation of \$1.2 billion for the biennium.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Reflects the first fiscal year in which distributions were made by the PSF Corporation.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> 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.

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	2010-11	2012-13	2014-15	2016-17	2018-19	2020-21	2022-23	<u>2024-25</u>	<u>2026-27</u>
SBOE Distribution Rate <sup>1</sup>	2.5%	4.2%	3.3%	3.5%	3.7%	2.974%	4.18%	3.32%	3.45%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 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 PSF Corp approved transfers of \$600 million per year directly to the ASF for fiscal biennium 2026-27.

## **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. 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 strategic asset allocation of the Fund that was adopted September 2024 (which is subject to change from time to time):

	Strategic Asset	Ra	nge
Asset Class	Allocation	Min	Max
Cash	2.0%	0.0%	n/a
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%

The table below sets forth the comparative investments of the PSF for the fiscal years ending August 31, 2023 and 2024, as set forth in the Annual Report for the 2024 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, 2024 and 2023

ASSET CLASS EQUITY	August 31, 2024	August 31, 2023	Amount of Increase (Decrease)	Percent Change
Domestic Small Cap	\$3,651.3	\$ 2,975.1	\$ 676.2	22.7%
Domestic Large Cap	8,084.6	7,896.5	188.1	2.4%
Total Domestic Equity	11,735.9	10,871.6	864.3	8.0%
Town Bomosuo Equity	11,755.5	10,07110	00 112	0.070
International Equity	4,131.1	7,945.5	(3,814.4)	<u>-48.0%</u>
TOTAL EQUITY	15,867.0	18,817.1	(2,950.1)	-15.7%
1				
FIXED INCOME				
Domestic Fixed Income	-	5,563.7	-	_
US Treasuries	-	937.5	-	-
Core Bonds	8,151.6	-	-	-
Bank Loans	2,564.1	-	-	-
High Yield Bonds	2,699.5	1,231.6	1,467.9	119.2%
Emerging Market Debt	Ξ.	869.7	Ξ	Ξ
TOTAL FIXED INCOME	13,415.2	8,602.5	4,812.7	55.9%
ALTERNATIVE INVESTMENT	NTS			
Absolute Return	3,106.0	3,175.8	(69.8)	-2.2%
Real Estate	6,101.0	6,525.2	(424.2)	-6.5%
Private Equity	8,958.8	8,400.7	558.1	6.6%
Emerging Manager				
Program	-	134.5	-	-
Real Return	-	1,663.7	-	-
Private Credit	2,257.9	-	-	-
Real Assets	<u>4,648.1</u>	<u>4,712.1</u>	(64.0)	<u>-1.4%</u>
TOT ALT INVESTMENTS	25,071.8	24,612.0	459.8	1.9%
UNALLOCATED CASH	<u>2,583.2</u>	<u>348.2</u>	<u>2,235</u>	<u>641.9%</u>
TOTAL PSF(CORP) INVESTMENTS	56,937.2	\$ 52,379.8	\$ 4,557.4	8.7%

Source: Annual Report for year ended August 31, 2024.

The table below sets forth the investments of the PSF(SLB) for the year ended August 31, 2024.

### Investment Schedule - PSF(SLB)<sup>1</sup>

### Fair Value (in millions) August 31, 2024

	As of
	<u>8-31-24</u>
Investment Type	
Investments in Real Assets	
Sovereign Lands	\$ 277.47
Discretionary Internal Investments	457.01
Other Lands	153.15
Minerals (2), (3)	<u>4,540.61</u> <sup>(6)</sup>
Total Investments <sup>(4)</sup>	5,428.23
Cash in State Treasury (5)	0
Total Investments & Cash in State Treasury	\$ 5,428.23

<sup>1</sup> Unaudited figures from Table 5 in the FY 2024 Unaudited Annual Financial Report of the Texas General Land Office and Veterans Land Board.

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.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Historical Cost of investments at August 31, 2024 was: Sovereign Lands \$838,730.24; Discretionary Internal Investments \$318,902,420.97; Other Lands \$37,290,818.76; and Minerals \$13,437,063.73.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Includes an estimated 1,000,000.00 acres in freshwater rivers.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Includes an estimated 1,747,600.00 in excess acreage.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Cash in State Treasury is managed by the Treasury Operations Division of the Comptroller of Public Accounts of the State of Texas.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> 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.

In the event of default, holders of guaranteed school district bonds will receive all payments as and when may become 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, as applicable. 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 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. The SDBGP Rules are 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"). The CDBGP Rules are 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 2025 fiscal year, the ratio is 7.86%. At February 27, 2025, there were 188 active open-enrollment charter schools in the State and there were 1,222 charter school campuses authorized under such charters, though as of such date, 264 of such campuses are not currently serving students for various reasons; therefore, there are 958 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 as and when they become 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, as applicable. 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, as applicable. 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 openenrollment 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 mult	tiplier for State Capacity Limit
Date	<u>Multiplier</u>
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 January 31, 2025 the cost value of the Guarantee Program was \$48,560,433,760 (unaudited), thereby producing an IRS Limit of \$242,802,168,800 in principal amount of guaranteed bonds outstanding.

As of January 31, 2025, the estimated State Capacity Limit is \$169,961,518,160, 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 7.86% in February 2025. 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, 2025, the Charter District Reserve Fund contained \$120,355,020, which represented approximately 2.44% 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.

### 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**

Fiscal Year		
Ended 8/31	Book Value <sup>(1)</sup>	Market Value <sup>(1)</sup>
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	43,915,792,841	59,020,536,667
$2024^{(2)}$	46,276,260,013	56,937,188,265

<sup>(</sup>I) 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.

(2) At August 31, 2024, mineral assets, sovereign lands, other lands, and discretionary internal investments, had book values of approximately \$13.4 million, \$0.8 million, \$37.2 million, and \$318.9 million, respectively, and market values of approximately \$4,540.6 million, \$277.4 million, \$153.1 million, and \$457.0 million, respectively.

Permanent School 1	Fund (	Cauaranteed	Bonds
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At 8/31	Principal Amount <sup>(1)</sup>		
2020	\$90,336,680,245		
2021	95,259,161,922		
2022	103,239,495,929		
2023	115,730,826,682		
2024	125,815,981,603 <sup>(2)</sup>		

<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.

<sup>(2)</sup> At August 31, 2024 (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 \$196,294,405,488, of which \$70,478,423,885 represents interest to be paid. As shown in the table above, at August 31, 2024, there were \$125,815,981,603 in principal amount of bonds guaranteed under the Guarantee Program. Using the State Capacity Limit of \$169,961,518,160 (the State Capacity Limit is currently the Capacity Limit), net of the Capacity Reserve, as of January 31, 2025, 7.69% of the Guarantee Program's capacity was available to the Charter District Bond Guarantee Program. As of January 31, 2025, the amount of

outstanding bond guarantees represented 76.33% of the Capacity Limit (which is currently the State Capacity Limit). January 31, 2025 values are based on unaudited data, which is subject to adjustment.

Permanent School Fund Guaranteed Bonds by Category(1)

	=								
	School Dist	trict Bonds	Charter D	District Bonds	<u>Totals</u>				
Fiscal									
Year									
Ended <u>8/31</u>	No. of	Principal	No. of	Principal	No. of	Principal			
	<u>Issues</u>	<u>Amount (\$)</u>	<u>Issues</u>	Amount (\$)	<u>Issues</u>	<u>Amount (\$)</u>			
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	3,339	111,647,914,682	102	4,082,912,000	3,441	115,730,826,682			
$2024^{(2)}$	3,330	121,046,871,603	103	4,769,110,000	3,433	125,815,981,603			

<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, 2024

The following discussion is derived from the Annual Report for the year ended August 31, 2024, 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 PSF Corporation 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 2024, the PSF(CORP) net position was \$57.3 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 and illiquid 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, 2024, net of fees, were 10.12%, 7.31%, and 6.32%, 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)" for the PSF(CORP) holdings as of August 31, 2024.

Effective February 1, 2024, Texas PSF transitioned into a new strategic asset allocation. The new

<sup>(2)</sup> At January 31, 2025 (based on unaudited data, which is subject to adjustment), there were \$129,723,799,121 in principal amount of bonds guaranteed under the Guarantee Program, representing 3,437 school district issues, aggregating \$124,794,149,121 in principal amount and 109 charter district issues, aggregating \$4,929,650,000 in principal amount. At January 31, 2025 the projected guarantee capacity available was \$39,780,221,830 (based on unaudited data, which is subject to adjustment).

allocation of the PSF Corporation updated the strategic asset allocation among public equities, fixed income, and alternative assets, as discussed herein. Alternative assets now include private credit, absolute return, private equity, real estate, natural resources, and infrastructure. For a description of the accrual basis of accounting and more information about performance, including comparisons to established benchmarks for certain periods, please see the 2024 Annual Report which is included by reference herein

PSF Returns Fiscal Year Ended 8-31-2024<sup>1</sup>

		Benchmark
<u>Portfolio</u>	<u>Return</u>	Return <sup>2</sup>
Total PSF(CORP) Portfolio	10.12	9.28
Domestic Large Cap Equities	27.30	27.14
Domestic Small/Mid Cap Equities	18.35	18.37
International Equities	18.82	18.08
Private Credit	1.41	0.93
Core Bonds	7.08	7.30
Absolute Return	11.50	8.87
Real Estate	(6.42)	(7.22)
Private Equity	4.62	4.23
High Yield	12.03	12.53
Natural Resources	12.36	6.42
Infrastructure	4.41	3.63
Bank Loans	3.02	3.23
Short Term Investment Portfolio	2.42	2.28

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 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, 2024.

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, mineral and royalty interest, and real property holdings. For more information regarding the investments of the PSF(SLB), please see the 2024 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 2024, \$2.2 billion was distributed to the ASF, \$600 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.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Benchmarks are as set forth in the Annual Report for year ended August 31, 2024.

As of August 31, 2024, 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**

As of March 1, 2023, the TEA's undertaking pursuant to Rule 15c2-12 (the "TEA Undertaking") pertaining to the PSF and the Guarantee Program, 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.

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 reports as a special-purpose government engaged in business-type activities and reports to the State of Texas as a discretely presented component unit accounted for on an economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Measurement focus refers to the definition of the resource flows measured. Under the 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 and PSF Corporation 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. On March 31, 2025, the TEA and the PSF Corporation became aware that the 2022 operating data was not timely filed with EMMA due to an administrative oversight. TEA and PSF Corporation took corrective action and filed a notice of late filing with EMMA on April 4, 2025. The annual operating data was previously posted to EMMA on March 31, 2023.

### **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.

