



Agenda of Special Meeting February 12, 2024 at 5:30 PM

A Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Georgetown ISD is February 12, 2024, beginning at 5:30 PM in the GISD Hammerlun Center for Leadership and Learning Boardroom, 507 E University Avenue, Georgetown, TX 78626.

If, during the course of the meeting, discussion of any item on the agenda should be held in a closed meeting, the Board will conduct a closed meeting in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code, Chapter 551, Subchapters D and E or Texas Government Code section 418.183(f). Before any closed meeting is convened, the presiding officer will publicly identify the section or sections of the Act authorizing the closed meeting. All final votes, actions, or decisions will be taken in open meeting. (See TASB Policy BEC Legal).

Items do not have to be taken in the same order as shown on this meeting notice. Prior to consideration of agenda subjects, the Board will hear public comments from any member of the public who has complied with District procedures for signing up to speak.

- I.Determination of Quorum, Call to Order, and Pledges of Allegiance
- II.Hearing of Citizens Who Desire to Come Before the Board
- III.Closed Session (authorized by TX Gov't Code Section 551.071, 551.072, 551.074, 551.082, 551.0821)
 - A.Personnel: Consider Appointment, Employment, Evaluation, or Duties of Professional Employees
 - B.Discussion of the Purchase, Exchange, Lease, or Value of Real Property
- IV.Action Items
 - A.Consideration and Action with respect to "An Order Calling a Bond Election for May 4, 2024 to be held by the Georgetown Independent School District, Making Provision for the Conduct of the Election, and Resolving Other Matters Related to that Election." 2
- V.Presentations
 - A.Bond Election Ethics 11
Melinda Brasher
- VI.Adjourn



BOARD AGENDA ITEM

Board Meeting Date:2/12/2024

Submitted Date: 2/8/2024 13:21:00

- Consent Agenda
- Action Needed
- Information Only
- Recognition
- Presentation

Action Needed

Name of Person Responsible:

Devin Padavil

Department or Campus:

Superintendent Office

Title of Agenda Item:

Consideration and Action with respect to "An Order Calling a Bond Election for May 4, 2024 to be held by the Georgetown Independent School District, Making Provision for the Conduct of the Election, and Resolving Other Matters Related to that Election."

Background Information:

Attachments:

Superintendent's Recommendations:

Recommendation is for the Board of Trustees to take action and approve "An Order Calling a Bond Election for May 4, 2024 to be held by the Georgetown Independent School District, Making Provision for the Conduct of the Election, and Resolving Other Matters Related to that Election."

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

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

WHEREAS, concurrently with the Election, the District is conducting a general election for Board positions (the *Board Election*); and

WHEREAS, the Texas Education Code requires that the Board Election be conducted jointly with a municipality in the District on Election Day (defined below); and

WHEREAS, the District anticipates conducting the Election and its Board Election jointly with the City of Georgetown, Texas (the *City*), which is a municipality within the District; and

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

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

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

WHEREAS, the Board hereby finds and determines that the anticipated capital improvements identified in Measure B and corresponding Proposition B below must be submitted to the qualified voters of the District as an additional measure and corresponding proposition because these facilities are the type of facilities described in Section 45.003(g)(6) of the Texas Education Code; and

WHEREAS, the Board hereby finds and determines that the anticipated capital improvements identified in Measure C and corresponding Proposition C below must be submitted to the qualified voters of the District as an additional measure and corresponding proposition because these facilities are the type of facilities described in Section 45.003(g)(4) of the Texas Education Code; and

WHEREAS, the Board hereby finds and determines that the anticipated capital improvements identified in Measure D and corresponding Proposition D below must be submitted to the qualified voters of the District as an additional measure and corresponding proposition because these facilities are the type of facilities described in Section 45.003(g)(3) of the Texas Education Code; and

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

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

SECTION 1. Election Ordered; Purpose; Amount. The Election will be held in the GEORGETOWN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT on May 4, 2024 (*Election Day*), which is a uniform election date under the Code and is 78 or more days from the date of the adoption of this Order, for the purpose of submitting the following measures to the qualified voters of the District:

Georgetown Independent School District Measure A

Will the Board of Trustees of the Georgetown Independent School District be authorized to issue and sell bonds of the District, in one or more series, in the aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$597,470,000 for the purposes of designing, constructing, renovating, improving, acquiring, and equipping school facilities, the purchase of school security technology, the purchase of the necessary sites for school facilities, and the purchase of school buses, such bonds to mature serially or otherwise (not more than 40 years from their date) in accordance with law; any issue or series of such bonds to bear interest per annum at such rate or rates (fixed, floating, variable, or otherwise) as may be determined within the discretion of the Board of Trustees, provided that such rate or rates of interest will not exceed the maximum rate per annum authorized by law at the time of the issuance of any issue or series of such bonds; and will the Board of Trustees of the District be authorized to levy and pledge, and cause to be assessed and collected, annual ad valorem taxes on all taxable property in the District sufficient, without limit as to rate or amount, to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds?

Georgetown Independent School District Measure B

Will the Board of Trustees of the Georgetown Independent School District be authorized to issue and sell bonds of the District, in one or more series, in the aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$20,330,000 for the purposes of acquiring, updating, improving, modernizing, and installing District-wide school technology, such bonds to mature serially or otherwise (not more than 40 years from their date) in accordance with law; any issue or series of such bonds to bear

interest per annum at such rate or rates (fixed, floating, variable, or otherwise) as may be determined within the discretion of the Board of Trustees, provided that such rate or rates of interest will not exceed the maximum rate per annum authorized by law at the time of the issuance of any issue or series of such bonds; and will the Board of Trustees of the District be authorized to levy and pledge, and cause to be assessed and collected, annual ad valorem taxes on all taxable property in the District sufficient, without limit as to rate or amount, to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds?

Georgetown Independent School District Measure C

Will the Board of Trustees of the Georgetown Independent School District be authorized to issue and sell bonds of the District, in one or more series, in the aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$27,850,000 for the purposes of designing, constructing, renovating, improving, acquiring, and equipping District performing arts facilities, such bonds to mature serially or otherwise (not more than 40 years from their date) in accordance with law; any issue or series of such bonds to bear interest per annum at such rate or rates (fixed, floating, variable, or otherwise) as may be determined within the discretion of the Board of Trustees, provided that such rate or rates of interest will not exceed the maximum rate per annum authorized by law at the time of the issuance of any issue or series of such bonds; and will the Board of Trustees of the District be authorized to levy and pledge, and cause to be assessed and collected, annual ad valorem taxes on all taxable property in the District sufficient, without limit as to rate or amount, to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds?

Georgetown Independent School District Measure D

Will the Board of Trustees of the Georgetown Independent School District be authorized to issue and sell bonds of the District, in one or more series, in the aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$3,860,000 for the purposes of designing, constructing, renovating, improving, acquiring, and equipping District athletic facilities, such bonds to mature serially or otherwise (not more than 40 years from their date) in accordance with law; any issue or series of such bonds to bear interest per annum at such rate or rates (fixed, floating, variable, or otherwise) as may be determined within the discretion of the Board of Trustees, provided that such rate or rates of interest will not exceed the maximum rate per annum authorized by law at the time of the issuance of any issue or series of such bonds; and will the Board of Trustees of the District be authorized to levy and pledge, and cause to be assessed and collected, annual ad valorem taxes on all taxable property in the District sufficient, without limit as to rate or amount, to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds?

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

GEORGETOWN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT PROPOSITION A

THE ISSUANCE OF \$597,470,000 IN BONDS FOR SCHOOL FACILITIES, THE PURCHASE OF SCHOOL SECURITY TECHNOLOGY, THE PURCHASE OF THE NECESSARY SITES FOR SCHOOL FACILITIES, AND THE PURCHASE OF SCHOOL BUSES AND THE LEVY OF TAXES SUFFICIENT TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL OF AND INTEREST ON THE BONDS. THIS IS A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE.

GEORGETOWN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT PROPOSITION B

THE ISSUANCE OF \$20,330,000 IN BONDS FOR DISTRICT-WIDE SCHOOL TECHNOLOGY AND THE LEVY OF TAXES SUFFICIENT TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL OF AND INTEREST ON THE BONDS. THIS IS A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE.

GEORGETOWN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT PROPOSITION C

THE ISSUANCE OF \$27,850,000 IN BONDS FOR DISTRICT PERFORMING ARTS FACILITIES AND THE LEVY OF TAXES SUFFICIENT TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL OF AND INTEREST ON THE BONDS. THIS IS A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE.

GEORGETOWN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT PROPOSITION D

THE ISSUANCE OF \$3,860,000 IN BONDS FOR DISTRICT ATHLETIC FACILITIES AND THE LEVY OF TAXES SUFFICIENT TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL OF AND INTEREST ON THE BONDS. THIS IS A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE.

SECTION 3. Polling Details.

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

B. Exhibit A also includes the places, dates, and hours for early voting in person. As permitted by the Code, these details may be changed without further Board action; any changes will not affect this Order or subsequent notice of election. Applications for voting by mail should be received no later than the close of business on April 23, 2024. Applications should be sent to the Early Voting Clerk named below. If an application for ballot by mail is faxed or emailed (or if a federal postcard application is faxed), the applicant must also mail the original.

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

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

B. The Early Voting Clerk is: Bridgette Escobedo, Elections Administrator, P.O. Box 209, Georgetown, TX 78627 (301 S.E. Inner Loop, Suite 104, Georgetown, TX 78626), telephone: (512) 943-1630, fax: (512) 943-1634, email: Bridgette.Escobedo@wilco.org. The Early Voting Clerk will appoint the Deputy Early Voting Clerks.

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

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

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

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

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

A. The aggregate amount of the outstanding principal of the District's debt totaled \$660,575,000 (including maintenance tax debt, if any).

B. The aggregate amount of the interest owed on the District's debt obligations, through respective maturity, totaled \$290,913,825.08.

C. The District levied an ad valorem debt service tax rate for its outstanding debt obligations of \$0.3475 per \$100 of taxable assessed valuation.

D. The bonds that are the subject of this Election are anticipated to mature serially or otherwise over 30 years, but not to exceed the maximum number of years authorized by Texas law.

E. The District estimates an ad valorem debt service tax rate of \$0.3575 per \$100 of taxable assessed valuation if the bonds that are the subject of the Election are approved and are issued (taking into account the outstanding District bonds and bonds that are the subject of this Election, but not future bond authorizations of the District). Such estimate considers several factors, including the issuance schedule, maturity schedule and the expected bond ratings of the proposed bonds. Such estimated tax rate is provided as a matter of information but is not a legal limitation on the debt service tax rate.

F. This Order is intended to satisfy the official requirements set forth in section 1.150-2 of the United States Treasury Regulations.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

* * *

PASSED AND APPROVED on February 12, 2024.

GEORGETOWN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Elizabeth McFarland
President, Board of Trustees

ATTEST:

Stephanie Blanck
Secretary, Board of Trustees

(DISTRICT SEAL)

[Signature Page to Bond Election Order]

EXHIBIT A

[To be provided when County distributes finalized polling locations]



BOARD AGENDA ITEM

Board Meeting Date:2/12/2024

Submitted Date: 2/8/2024 15:25:52

- Consent Agenda
- Action Needed
- Information Only
- Recognition
- Presentation

Presentation

Name of Person Responsible:

Melinda Brasher

Department or Campus:

Communications & Community Engagement

Title of Agenda Item:

Bond Election Ethics Presentation

Background Information:

Trustee role as a board member v. a Citizen during a district-called bond election

Attachments:

Superintendent's Recommendations:

Following the call for election, it is the role of the district, its employees and trustees to provide factual information regarding the bond. This presentation will share information regarding the Texas Election Code, Dos and Don'ts during an election, advocacy v. information and the trustee role v. a citizen.