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ACCOUNTABILITY SAFEGUARDS

The provisions in this section are specifically included in this proposition in order that the Aromas-San Juan Unified School District’s voters and taxpayers may be assured that their money will be spent wisely to address specific facilities needs of the Aromas-San Juan Unified School District, all in compliance with the requirements of Article XIII A, Section 1(b)(3) of the State Constitution, and the Strict Accountability in Local School Construction Bonds Act of 2000 (codified at Education Code Sections 15264 and following).

Evaluation of Needs. The Board of Trustees has prepared an updated facilities plan in order to evaluate and address all of the facilities needs of the Aromas-San Juan Unified School District campus, and to determine which projects to finance from a local bond at this time. The Board of Trustees hereby certifies that it has evaluated safety, class size reduction and information technology needs in developing the Project List.

Limitation on Use of Bond Proceeds. The State of California does not have the power to take locally approved school district bond funds for any State purposes. Proceeds from the sale of bonds authorized by this proposition shall be used only for the construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, or replacement of school facilities, including the furnishing and equipping of school facilities, or the acquisition or lease of real property for school facilities, and not for any other purpose, including teacher and administrator salaries and other school operating expenses. Proceeds of the bonds may be used to pay or reimburse the District for the cost of District staff when performing work on or necessary and incidental to the bond projects.

Independent Citizens’ Oversight Committee. The Board of Trustees shall establish an independent Citizens’ Oversight Committee (pursuant to Education Code Section 15278 and following), to ensure bond proceeds are spent only for the school facilities projects listed in the Bond Project List. The committee shall be established within 60 days of the date when the results of the election appear in the minutes of the Board of Trustees.

Annual Performance Audits. The Board of Trustees shall conduct an annual, independent performance audit to ensure that the bond proceeds have been expended only on the school facilities projects listed in the Project List.

Annual Financial Audits. The Board of Trustees shall conduct an annual, independent financial audit of the bond proceeds until all of those proceeds have been spent for the school facilities projects listed in the Project List.

Special Bond Proceeds Account; Annual Report to Board. Upon approval of this proposition and the sale of any bonds approved, the Board of Trustees shall take actions necessary pursuant to Government Code Section 53410 and following to establish an account in which proceeds of the sale of bonds will be deposited. As long as any proceeds of the bonds remain unexpended, the Superintendent of the District shall cause a report to be filed with the Board no later than December 31 of each year, commencing December 31, 2020, stating (1) the amount of bond proceeds received and expended in that year, and (2) the status of any project funded or to be funded from bond proceeds. The report may relate to the calendar year, fiscal year, or other appropriate annual period as the Superintendent shall determine, and may be incorporated into the annual budget, audit, or other appropriate routine report to the Board.

PROJECT LIST

This Bond Project List, which is an integral part of this proposition, describes the specific projects the District proposes to finance with proceeds of the bonds.

Proceeds from the sale of bonds authorized by this measure shall be used only for the construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, or replacement of school facilities on the Bond Project List, including the furnishing and equipping of said school facilities, or the acquisition or lease of real property for said school facilities, and not for any other purpose, including teacher and administrator salaries and other school operating expenses.

In order to meet all identified facility needs, the District intends to complete projects using a combination of funding sources. These sources may include joint-use funds, development impact fees, state funds (if available) and other available funds. The District will pursue state matching funds if and when they become available, and if received, they will be used for and mainly applied to
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projects on the Bond Project List or other high priority capital outlay expenditures as permitted in Education Code section 17070.63(c). No project is dependent on the receipt of state funding for completion.

Bond proceeds will be expended to modernize, replace, renovate, construct, acquire, equip, furnish and otherwise improve schools, classrooms, grounds and facilities throughout the District. Specific projects to be funded by the bond measure include, without limitation, the following:

School Renovation, Repair and Upgrade Projects
- Undertake seismic and earthquake safety upgrades and repair
- Repair/replace existing plumbing systems, including drainage.
- Renovate, repair, expand and/or upgrade the interior, exterior and/or infrastructure of existing classrooms and school facilities.
- Repair and upgrade roofs, ceilings, walls, and floors.
- Replace existing wiring systems to meet current electrical and accessibility codes and increased capacity.
- Renovate and repair restrooms
- Replace existing window systems with energy efficient systems.
- Repair or replace outdated temporary portable classrooms.

School Site Health, Safety and Security Projects
- Upgrade or replace buildings that do not meet current minimum building code standards.
- Remove dry rot and repair damage caused by dry rot.
- Replace/upgrade existing signage, bells, clocks and fire protection systems.
- Install, repair, upgrade, or replace safety and security systems for students and staff.
- Abate and remove hazardous materials identified prior or during construction.

The listed projects will be completed as needed. Each project is assumed to include its share of furniture, equipment, architectural, engineering, and similar planning costs, program/project management, staff training expenses and a customary contingency for unforeseen design and construction costs. In addition to the listed projects stated above, the list also includes the acquisition of a variety of instructional, maintenance and operational equipment, retirement of any interim funding incurred to advance fund projects from the list; installation of signage and fencing; improvements required to comply with existing building codes, including the Field Act; access requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act; payment of the costs of preparation of all facility planning, facility studies, assessment reviews, facility master plan preparation and updates, environmental studies (including environmental investigation, remediation and monitoring), design and construction documentation, storage and temporary housing of dislocated District activities caused by construction projects.

The allocation of bond proceeds will be affected by the District’s receipt of State matching funds and the final costs of each project. In the absence of State matching funds, which the District will aggressively pursue to reduce the District’s share of the costs of the projects, the District will not be able to complete some of the projects listed above. The budget for each project is an estimate and may be affected by factors beyond the District’s control. The final cost of each project will be determined as plans and construction documents are finalized, construction bids are received, construction contracts are awarded, and projects are completed. Based on the final costs of each project, certain of the projects described above may be delayed or may not be completed. Demolition of existing facilities and reconstruction of facilities scheduled for repair and upgrade may occur, if the Board determines that such an approach would be more cost-effective in creating more enhanced and operationally efficient campuses. Necessary site preparation/restoration may occur in connection with new construction, renovation or remodeling, or installation or removal of relocatable classrooms, including ingress and egress, removing, replacing, or installing irrigation, utility lines, trees and landscaping, relocating fire access roads, and acquiring any necessary easements, licenses, or rights of way to the property. Proceeds of the bonds may be used to pay or reimburse the District for the cost of District staff when performing work on or necessary and incidental to bond projects. Bond proceeds shall only be expended for the specific purposes identified herein. The District shall create an account into which proceeds of the bonds shall be deposited and comply with the reporting requirements of Government Code § 53410. The order in which projects are listed in the foregoing Bond Project List does not suggest an order of priority. Project prioritization is vested in and will be determined by the District Board of Trustees.
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