



## Local ballot measure: J

### Full text of Measure J

By approval of this measure by at least fifty-five percent (55%) of the registered voters voting thereon, Gonzales Unified School District shall be authorized to issue and sell bonds of School Facilities Improvement District No. 1 (“SFID No. 1”) of the Gonzales Unified School District in an aggregate principal amount of up to \$24.5 million to provide financing for the specific school facilities projects located within SFID No. 1 and listed below in the Bond Project List, subject to all of the accountability safeguards specified herein.

### ACCOUNTABILITY MEASURES

The provisions in this section are included in this proposition in order that the voters and taxpayers of the District may be assured that their money will be spent to address specific facilities needs of the 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 Section 15264 *et seq.* of the California Education Code).

**Evaluation of Needs.** The Board of Trustees has evaluated the facilities needs of the District, and has identified projects to finance from a local bond measure at this time. The Board of Trustees hereby certifies that it has evaluated safety, class size reduction and information technology needs in developing the Bond Project List.

**Independent Citizens’ Bond Oversight Committee.** The Board of Trustees shall establish an independent Citizens’ Bond Oversight Committee in accordance with Education Code sections 15278-15282 and applicable Board policy, to ensure bond proceeds are expended only for the school facilities projects listed in the Bond Project List. The committee shall be established within sixty (60) days of the date when the Board of Trustees enters the results of the election in its official minutes.

**Annual Performance Audit.** The Board of Trustees shall conduct or cause to be conducted an annual, independent performance audit to ensure that the bond proceeds have been expended only on the school facilities projects described in the Bond Project List.

**Annual Financial Audit.** The Board of Trustees shall conduct or cause to be conducted an annual, independent financial audit of the bond proceeds until all of those proceeds have been spent for the school facilities projects described in the Bond Project List.

**Annual Report to Board.** Upon approval of this measure and the sale of any bonds approved, the Board of Trustees shall take actions necessary 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 shall cause a report to be filed with the Board of Trustees no later than January 1 of each year, commencing on the first January 1 after bonds have been issued and proceeds spent, stating (1) the amount of bond proceeds received and expended in the past fiscal year, and (2) the status of any project funded or to be funded from bond proceeds. The report may relate to the 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.

### BOND PROJECT LIST

This Bond Project List, which is an integral part of this measure, describes the 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 listed in 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 or administrator salaries and other school operating expenses, including pensions.

In order to meet all identified facility needs, the District may complete projects using a combination of funding sources, including development impact fees, redevelopment revenue, joint use funding, and state funding if available. The District will



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pursue state matching funds if and when they become available, and if received, they will be used for and mainly applied to projects on the Bond Project List or other high priority capital outlay expenditures as permitted in Education Code section 17070.63(c).

Specific projects to be funded by the bond measure include, without limitation, the following:

### **School Renovation, Repair and Upgrade Projects**

- Renovate, repair, expand and/or upgrade the interior and/or exterior of existing classrooms and school facilities, including infrastructure and landscaping improvements
- Acquire and construct new school facilities
- School site acquisition
- Repair/replace existing plumbing systems to meet current codes, including drainage.
- Repair and upgrade roofs, ceilings, walls, and floors
- Replace existing wiring systems to meet current electrical and accessibility codes and increased capacity
- Upgrade, expand, repair and/or equip science labs, multi-purpose rooms, food service facilities, auditoriums, libraries, and other school facilities
- Replace existing window systems with energy efficient systems
- Repair or replace outdated temporary portable classrooms or replace with permanent classrooms

### **School Site Health, Safety and Security Projects**

- Federal and State-mandated Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility upgrades including site access, parking, staff and student restrooms, relocation of some existing electrical devices, drinking fountains, playground equipment, etc.
- Upgrade or replace buildings that do not meet current minimum building code standards
- Replace/upgrade existing fire protection systems
- Install, repair, upgrade, or replace safety and security systems for students and staff
- Upgrade and repair physical education areas, play fields and playgrounds
- Upgrade, repair, or expand school site parking, driveways, walkways, ground, and utilities
- Abate and remove hazardous materials identified prior or during construction
- Repair, replace and/or upgrade paved surfaces, turf, and other grounds to eliminate safety hazards and improve outside instructional areas

### **District-Wide Wiring and Technology for Instructional Support and Effective Learning Environment Projects**

- Upgrade and expand campus wide-intercom and wireless systems, and telecommunications, internet, and network connections
- Upgrade media, audio/visual equipment, and other technology for effective learning environments, including smart boards and "distance learning"
- Upgrade and replace classroom equipment and instructional aides
- Provide enhanced computer labs
- Update technology and technology infrastructure to improve student access to computers and modern technology

Listed projects, repairs, improvements, rehabilitation projects and upgrades will be completed as needed. Projects may be done in phases, based on Board of Trustees' priorities. Decisions regarding the scope, timing, prioritization or other facets of project implementation will be made solely by the Board of Trustees by subsequent action. Where terms such as "renovate," "upgrade," "repair" and "improve" are used in the Bond Project List, the Board of Trustees has the discretion to determine the best method for accomplishing the project's objective. For any listed project involving renovation or modernization of a building or the major portion of a building, the District may proceed with new replacement construction instead (including any necessary demolition), if the District determines that replacement and new construction is more practical than renovation, considering the building's age, condition, expected remaining life, comparative cost and other relevant factors. In addition, where feasible, projects may be completed in partnership with other public or private agencies on a joint use basis using bond proceeds, subject to applicable federal tax rules and regulations.

Each project is assumed to include its share of costs of bond issuance, architectural, engineering, legal and similar planning costs, construction management, bond project staff and consultants, staff development and training expenses associated with



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learning construction techniques and approaches and new bond-funded equipment and systems, the furnishing and equipping of all projects, including equipment to maintain facilities in a safe and clean condition, and a customary contingency for unforeseen design and construction costs. Payment of the costs of preparation of facilities planning and project implementation studies, feasibility and assessment reviews, master planning, environmental studies, permit and inspection fees, Division of State Architect (DSA) - related requirements, studies and assessments, including ADA and seismic, and temporary housing and relocation costs for dislocated programs or activities caused or necessitated by projects on the Bond Project List are permissible bond expenditures.

The final cost of each project will be determined as plans are finalized 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. Necessary site preparation, grading or restoration may occur in connection with acquisition of property, new construction, modernization, renovation or remodeling, or installation or removal of modular classrooms, including ingress and egress, removing, replacing or installing irrigation, utility lines, trees and landscaping, removing hazardous substances, if any, relocating fire access roads and acquiring any necessary easements, leases, licenses or rights of way to the property.