

NOTICE OF BOND ELECTION

ORDER BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF COLUMBUS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT CALLING A BOND ELECTION TO BE HELD WITHIN SAID DISTRICT; MAKING PROVISIONS FOR THE CONDUCT AND THE GIVING OF NOTICE OF THE ELECTION; AND CONTAINING OTHER PROVISIONS RELATING THERETO

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees (the “Board”) of the Columbus Independent School District (the “District”) finds and determines that it is necessary and advisable to call and hold an election for and within the District on the propositions hereinafter set forth; and

WHEREAS, the Board finds, determines and declares that the meeting at which this Order is considered is open to the public, and that the public notice of the time, place and purpose of the meeting was given, as required by Chapter 551, Texas Government Code, as amended.

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

Section 1. Findings. The statements contained in the preamble of this Order are true and correct and are hereby adopted as findings of fact and as a part of the operative provisions hereof.

Section 2. Election Ordered; Date; Propositions. A bond election (the “Election”) shall be held for and within the District on Saturday, May 4, 2024 (“Election Day”), a uniform election date established by Section 41.001(a), Texas Election Code, as amended (the “Code”), as required by Texas law. At the Election the following propositions (each, a “Proposition” and collectively, the “Propositions”) shall be submitted to the qualified voters of the District in accordance with law:

COLUMBUS ISD – PROPOSITION A

Shall the Board of Trustees (the “Board”) of Columbus Independent School District (the “District”) be authorized to issue and sell at any price or prices the bonds of the District in the amount of \$8,440,000 for the construction, acquisition, renovation and equipment of school buildings in the District, including the construction and equipment of new elementary school classrooms and the renovation of existing elementary school facilities, which bonds may be issued in one or more issues or series, shall mature serially or otherwise not more than 40 years from their date, and shall bear interest at such rate or rates, not to exceed the maximum rate now or hereafter authorized by law, as shall be determined by the Board within the discretion of the Board at the time of issuance; and shall the Board 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 said bonds and the costs of any credit agreements executed or authorized in anticipation of, in relation to, or in connection with the bonds; said bonds to be issued and said taxes to be levied,

pledged, assessed, and collected under the constitution and laws of the State of Texas including the Texas Education Code?

COLUMBUS ISD – PROPOSITION B

Shall the Board of Trustees (the “Board”) of Columbus Independent School District (the “District”) be authorized to issue and sell at any price or prices the bonds of the District in the amount of \$5,320,000 for the construction, acquisition, renovation and equipment of school buildings in the District, including the construction and equipment of new high school career technology classrooms and the renovation of existing high school facilities, which bonds may be issued in one or more issues or series, shall mature serially or otherwise not more than 40 years from their date, and shall bear interest at such rate or rates, not to exceed the maximum rate now or hereafter authorized by law, as shall be determined by the Board within the discretion of the Board at the time of issuance; and shall the Board 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 said bonds and the costs of any credit agreements executed or authorized in anticipation of, in relation to, or in connection with the bonds; said bonds to be issued and said taxes to be levied, pledged, assessed, and collected under the constitution and laws of the State of Texas including the Texas Education Code?

Section 3. Official Ballot.

(a) Voting at the Election, and early voting for the Election, shall be by the use of the lawfully approved Colorado County, Texas (“Colorado County” or the “County”) voting systems and ballots.

(b) The preparation of the necessary equipment and the official ballots for the Election shall conform to the requirements of the Code so as to permit the electors to vote “FOR” or “AGAINST” each Proposition which shall be set forth on the ballots substantially in the following forms:

COLUMBUS ISD – PROPOSITION A

- FOR) “THE ISSUANCE OF \$8,440,000 OF BONDS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, ACQUISITION, RENOVATION AND EQUIPMENT OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS IN THE DISTRICT, INCLUDING THE CONSTRUCTION AND EQUIPMENT OF NEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CLASSROOMS AND THE RENOVATION OF EXISTING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FACILITIES, AND THE LEVYING OF A TAX SUFFICIENT TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL OF AND INTEREST ON THE BONDS AND THE COSTS OF ANY CREDIT AGREEMENTS EXECUTED IN CONNECTION WITH THE BONDS. THIS IS A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE.”
- AGAINST)

COLUMBUS ISD – PROPOSITION B

- FOR) “THE ISSUANCE OF \$5,320,000 OF BONDS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, ACQUISITION, RENOVATION AND
- AGAINST) EQUIPMENT OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS IN THE DISTRICT, INCLUDING THE CONSTRUCTION AND EQUIPMENT OF NEW HIGH SCHOOL CAREER TECHNOLOGY CLASSROOMS AND THE RENOVATION OF EXISTING HIGH SCHOOL FACILITIES, AND THE LEVYING OF A TAX SUFFICIENT TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL OF AND INTEREST ON THE BONDS AND THE COSTS OF ANY CREDIT AGREEMENTS EXECUTED IN CONNECTION WITH THE BONDS. THIS IS A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE.”

Section 4. Multilingual Election Materials. All notices, instructions, and ballots pertaining to the Election shall be furnished to voters in English and Spanish in compliance with the Federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended (the “Voting Rights Act”), and the Code, including particularly Chapter 272 of the Code pertaining to bilingual requirements.

Section 5. Persons Qualified to Vote. All resident, qualified electors of the District shall be eligible to vote at the Election.

Section 6. Election Precincts, Voting Locations and Voting Hours on Election Day. The election precincts for the Election shall consist of the territory within the boundaries of the District situated within one or more Colorado County and Austin County election precincts located wholly or partially within the District, which bear the precinct numbers listed on Exhibit A attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference and made a part hereof for all purposes. The polling places for the Election are hereby designated to be those locations identified by the Elections Administrator (as defined herein). Such locations are listed on Exhibit A attached hereto; provided, however, such locations may be changed if so directed by the Elections Administrator without further action of the District. The County or its Elections Administrator are hereby authorized and directed to make such changes in polling locations as may be necessary for the proper conduct of the Election, without further action by the District, and the President of the Board or his/her designee is hereby authorized to update Exhibit A to reflect the locations designated by the County or its Elections Administrator, which locations are hereby approved. Each polling place shall be open from 7:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. on Election Day.

Section 7. Elections Administrator; Early Voting Clerk; Early Voting Locations, Dates and Times. (a) Rebecka K. LaCourse, the Colorado County Elections Administrator (the “Elections Administrator”) is hereby appointed as Elections Administrator for the District and as the Early Voting Clerk for purposes of this Election (the “Early Voting Clerk”) and as agent for the custodian of voted ballots in the jurisdiction.

(b) The address for the Early Voting Clerk of Colorado County is Colorado County Courthouse Annex, 318 Spring Street, Room 101 Columbus, Texas 78934 and the Early Voting Clerk may be reached at the following: (i) Telephone: (979) 732-6860, (ii) Email: elections@co.colorado.tx.us, and (iii) Website: <http://www.co.colorado.tx.us/page/colorado.Elections>.

(c) Applications for early voting by mail shall be submitted to the Elections Administrator by regular mail to Rebecka K. LaCourse, Colorado County Elections Administrator, Attn: Elections Department, Colorado County Courthouse Annex, 318 Spring Street, Room 101 Columbus, Texas 78934, or by common or contract carrier to Rebecka K. LaCourse, Colorado County Elections Administrator, Colorado County Courthouse Annex, 318 Spring Street, Room 101 Columbus, Texas 78934.

(d) The main early voting polling place for the County is hereby designated to be Colorado County Courthouse Annex, 318 Spring Street, Room 101 Columbus, Texas 78934.

(e) Early voting by personal appearance for all election precincts shall be held at the locations, at the times and on the days set forth in Exhibit B, attached hereto and incorporated herein, or at such other locations, times, and days as hereafter may be designated by the County or Elections Administrator as provided in the Election Agreement (as hereinafter defined) without further action by the District. The President of the Board or his designee is hereby authorized to update Exhibit B to reflect the locations designated by the County or the Elections Administrator, and such locations are hereby approved.

(f) The Elections Administrator and/or Early Voting Clerk are hereby authorized to appoint the members of the early voting ballot board and the presiding judges and alternate judges for each polling location in accordance with the requirements of the Code. Each of the presiding judges shall be authorized to approve the necessary election clerks to assist in conducting the Elections.

(g) Voting times may be changed if so directed by the Elections Administrator without further action of the District. The Elections Administrator is hereby authorized and directed to make such changes in voting hours as may be necessary for the proper conduct of the Election.

Section 8. Joint Election. The District has determined that it is in the best interest of the District to participate in a joint election with other governmental entities in the County holding elections on Election Day and contract with the Elections Administrator for election services (the "Election Agreement").

Section 9. Appointment of Election Officers. The election judges, alternate judges, clerks, members of the early voting ballot board, the central counting station officials, and other personnel necessary for conducting the Election shall be appointed, election judges and alternate judges may be changed, and the central counting station shall be established and staffed all as provided in the Election Agreement and such actions are hereby approved. Further, the Board hereby authorizes the President of the Board to appoint any such other officials not designated herein or appointed pursuant to the Election Agreement as are necessary and appropriate to conduct the Election in accordance with the Code.

Section 10. Notice of Election. Notice of the Election shall be given by: (i) publishing a substantial copy of this Order, in English and Spanish, one time not earlier than the thirtieth (30th) day nor later than the tenth (10th) day prior to the date set for the Election, in a newspaper published in the District (or that otherwise complies with applicable law), (ii) posting a copy of this Order and the Voter Information Documents (as hereinafter defined), in English and Spanish, on the

bulletin board used for posting notices of meetings of the Board and in at least three (3) other public places within the boundaries of the District, not later than the twenty-first (21st) day prior to the date set for the Election, and (iii) posting a copy of this Order and the Voter Information Documents, in English and Spanish on the District's website, prominently and together with the notice of the Election, the contents of the Propositions and any sample ballots prepared for the election, not later than the twenty-first (21st) day prior to the date set for the Election through Election Day. Additionally, on Election Day and during early voting by personal appearance, this Order and the Voter Information Documents shall be posted in a prominent location at each polling place. Notice of the Election shall also be provided to the County Clerk and voter registrar of the County and Austin County not later than the sixtieth (60th) day before the Election Day; which notice the County and Austin County are hereby authorized and directed to post to their respective websites not later than the twenty-first (21st) day prior to Election Day. Notice of the Election shall be posted to the District's internet website not later than the twenty-first (21st) day before the election, in compliance with Section 4.009, Texas Election Code, as amended. The website for the District can be found at www.columbusisd.org.

Section 11. Conduct of Election. The Election shall be held in accordance with the Code, except as modified by the Texas Education Code, the Texas Government Code, and the Voting Rights Act, including particularly Chapter 272 of the Code pertaining to bilingual requirements.

Section 12. Information Required by Section 3.009 of the Election Code.

(a) District's Outstanding Debt. As of the date of this order, the District's aggregate principal amount of outstanding of tax-supported debt was \$4,175,000 and the aggregate amount of outstanding interest on such tax-supported debt was \$417,955.50. As of the date of this Order, the District's total ad valorem tax rate is \$0.8836 per \$100 of assessed valuation, which is made up of a maintenance and operations tax rate of \$0.7736 per \$100 of assessed valuation and a debt service tax rate of \$0.16 per \$100 of assessed valuation of taxable property in the District.

(b) Issuance of New Debt. The District intends to issue the bonds authorized by the Propositions over a period of years in a manner and in accordance with a schedule to be determined by the Board based upon a number of factors, including, but not limited to, the then current needs of the District, demographic changes, prevailing market conditions, assessed valuations of property in the District, the use of variable rate debt and management of the District's short-term and long-term interest rate exposure. Market conditions, demographics and assessed valuations of property vary based upon a number of factors beyond the District's control, and the use of variable rate debt involves periodic adjustments in interest rates that vary based on market conditions and contractual obligations. Therefore, the District cannot and does not guarantee a particular interest rate or tax rate associated with the bonds authorized by the Propositions. As such, the information contained in this paragraph is provided solely for illustrative purposes and does not establish any limitations or restrictions or create a contract with the voters. The District estimates that, based on the District's current taxable assessed valuation, current market conditions as of the date of this Order, and estimated future growth in the District's taxable assessed valuation, if all of the Propositions were approved and all of the bonds authorized by the Propositions were issued in accordance with the District's current projected plan of finance, the maximum interest rate on the bonds is not expected to exceed 5.00%.

(c) Additional Information Required by Section 3.009 of the Code. The additional information required by Section 3.009 of the Code is located in Sections 2 and 3 of this Order.

Section 13. Voter Information Documents. The Board hereby approves the voter information documents (the “Voter Information Documents”), in substantially the forms presented to the Board, with such changes as may be approved by the President of the Board, the Superintendent of the District, or their designee, acting on behalf of the Board, in consultation with the District’s general counsel, bond counsel, and financial advisor, as prescribed by Section 1251.052(b), Texas Government Code.

The President of the Board, the Superintendent of the District, or their designee, acting on behalf of the Board, is further authorized and directed to post or provide for the posting of the Voter Information Documents in the manner provided under Section 10 of this Order, and additionally on the District’s website in an easily accessible manner beginning not later than the twenty-first (21st) day before the date set for the Election and ending on the day after Election Day.

Section 14. Findings and Determinations. The Board finds and determines that the facilities and equipment to be acquired, constructed, renovated or equipped pursuant to the Propositions are predominately for required classroom instruction and essential administrative operations for faculty and staff, equipment used for school security purposes, and/or technology infrastructure integral to the construction of a facility.

Section 15. Necessary Actions. The President of the Board or the Superintendent or his designee, acting on behalf of the Board, in consultation with the District’s attorney and bond counsel is hereby authorized and directed to take any and all actions necessary to comply with the provisions of the Code and the Voting Rights Act in carrying out and conducting the Election, whether or not expressly authorized herein, including making changes or additions to polling places or procedures to the extent required or desirable as determined by the Elections Administrator.

Section 16. Severability. If any provision, section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this Order, or the application of same to any person or set of circumstances is for any reason held to be unconstitutional, void, invalid, or unenforceable, neither the remaining portions of this Order nor their application to other persons or sets of circumstances shall be affected thereby, it being the intent of the Board in adopting this Order that no portion hereof or provision or regulation contained herein shall become inoperative or fail by reason of any unconstitutionality, voidness, invalidity or unenforceability of any other portion hereof, and all provisions of this Order are declared to be severable for that purpose.

Section 17. Effective Date. This Order shall take effect immediately upon its approval.

EXHIBIT A/ ANEXO A

ELECTION DAY SCHEDULE/ CRONOGRAMA DEL DÍA DE LA ELECCIÓN

Saturday, May 4, 2024 – Polls are open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Sábado 4 de mayo de 2024: Los lugares de votación estarán abiertos de 7:00 a. m. a 7:00 p. m.

ELECTION DAY POLLING LOCATIONS*
LUGARES DE VOTACIÓN EL DÍA DE LA ELECCIÓN*

Colorado County Precinct 101 (Columbus)	Colorado County Services Facility	305 Radio Lane, Columbus
Colorado County Precinct 102 (Rock Island)	Full Gospel Church – Fellowship Hall	2304 Cushen, Rock Island
Colorado County Precinct 103 (Garwood-Nada)	Nada Community Center – St. Mary’s	7825 Hwy. 71, Nada
Colorado County Precinct 201 & 202 (Weimar & Sheridan)	Weimar City Hall	106 E. Main, Weimar
Colorado County Precinct 302 (Frelsburg) & Austin County Precinct 208 (Brushy)	St. Peter & Paul Church Dining Hall	1031 Church Lane, Frelsburg
Colorado County Precinct 303 & 304 (Mentz & Bernardo)	Bernardo Fire Station	2845 FM 949, Bernardo
Colorado County Precinct 305 (Columbus)	Colorado County Election Center	1117 Travis, Columbus
Colorado County Precinct 401 (Altair)	Robert R. Wells Airport	1084 CR 102, Altair
Colorado County Precinct 402 (Eagle Lake)	Eagle Lake Community Center	100 N. Walnut, Eagle Lake

* Subject to change. To verify, please go to the Colorado County Elections Administrator website, <http://www.co.colorado.tx.us/page/colorado.Elections>.

* Sujeto a cambios. Para confirmar, visite el sitio web de la Administradora de Elecciones del Condado de Colorado, <http://www.co.colorado.tx.us/page/colorado.Elections>.

EXHIBIT B/ ANEXO B

Colorado County Early Voting Schedule – May 4, 2024 General Election*
Cronograma de votación anticipada del Condado de Colorado: Elección General del 4 de mayo de 2024*

**Colorado County Election Center (Main)	1117 Travis Columbus, TX 78934
Weimar City Hall (Branch)	106 E. Main St. Weimar, TX 78934

Hours: 7:30 a.m. till 5:30 p.m. Monday – Friday
First Day of Early Voting: Monday, April 22, 2024
Last Day of Early Voting: Tuesday, April 30, 2024

Horarios: de lunes a viernes de 7:30 a. m. a 5:30 p. m.
Primer día de votación anticipada: lunes 22 de abril de 2024
Último día de votación anticipada: martes 30 de abril de 2024

* Subject to change. To verify, please go to the Colorado County Elections Administrator website, <http://www.co.colorado.tx.us/page/colorado.Elections>.

** Main Early Voting Polling Location.

* Sujeto a cambios. Para confirmar, visite el sitio web de la Administradora de Elecciones del Condado de Colorado, <http://www.co.colorado.tx.us/page/colorado.Elections>.

** Lugar principal de la votación anticipada.