

RESOLUTION NO. #23/24-20

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF RIM OF THE
WORLD UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT ORDERING AN
ELECTION, AND ESTABLISHING SPECIFICATIONS OF THE
ELECTION ORDER

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees (the “Board”) of the Rim of the World Unified School District (the “District”) is devoted to improving the quality of education in our local public schools by upgrading technology to support instruction in core subjects like math, science, engineering, the arts, and technology; and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that schools within the District need to be upgraded, repaired, expanded, improved and better equipped, in a fiscally prudent manner, to enable the District to improve student success and also improve student safety and campus security by installing fencing, security cameras, emergency communications systems, smoke detectors, fire alarms and sprinklers; and

WHEREAS, since some District schools were built more than 50 years ago, additional resources are necessary to make basic improvements, including upgrading deteriorating roofs, plumbing, and electrical systems, so that our schools can serve the community well for decades to come; and

WHEREAS, the science labs at our high school have not been updated in 25 years and classrooms and science labs need to be modernized to meet today’s academic standards; and

WHEREAS, classrooms get too hot to teach in and ventilation systems are not sufficient to ensure healthy clean air for students and educators, so inefficient and failing heating and cooling systems need to be replaced; and

WHEREAS, the Board believes that if we want kids to succeed in college, careers, they must be skilled in use of today’s technology and have a solid background in science, math, engineering, and technology; and

WHEREAS, the Board further believes that additional facility improvements funding will ensure that students who plan to go to college are prepared to succeed, and those who do not plan to go receive career training they need to compete for good paying jobs; and

WHEREAS, even for homeowners with no school-age children, supporting a school bond is a wise investment because good schools improve quality of life in the community and protect the value of our homes; and

WHEREAS, the State of California (the “State”) has not provided the District with enough money for the District to adequately construct and repair schools to provide an optimal learning environment for all students and which keep pace with other top-performing districts; and

WHEREAS, the District has completed a facilities assessment with community engagement to identify the most pressing needs in each of the District's schools to provide safe and modern classroom environments for all students; and

WHEREAS, the Board has received information regarding the possibility of a local bond measure and its bonding capacity; and

WHEREAS, a local measure will help provide funds that cannot be taken away by the State to upgrade aging schools, protect student safety and help the District qualify for State matching funds; and

WHEREAS, such measure will include mandatory taxpayer protections, including an independent citizens' oversight committee and mandatory audits to ensure funds are spent as promised; and

WHEREAS, on November 7, 2000, the voters of California approved the Smaller Classes, Safer Schools and Financial Accountability Act ("Proposition 39") which reduced the voter threshold for *ad valorem* property tax levies used to pay for debt service on bonded indebtedness to 55% of the votes cast on a school district general obligation bond; and

WHEREAS, concurrent with the passage of Proposition 39, Chapter 1.5, Part 10, Division 1, Title 1 (commencing with Section 15264) of the Education Code (the "Act") became operative and established requirements associated with the implementation of Proposition 39; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires to make certain findings herein to be applicable to this election order and to establish certain performance audits, standards of financial accountability and citizen oversight that are contained in Proposition 39 and the Act; and

WHEREAS, the Board and District has solicited stakeholder and community input on school priorities from parents, teachers, staff, the community and civic leaders; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires to authorize the submission of a proposition to the District's voters at an election to authorize the issuance of bonds to pay for certain necessary improvements and enhancements to District educational facilities which will improve the health, safety and quality of education for students in the District; and

WHEREAS, the Board hereby directs that, in accordance with Opinion No. 04-110 of the Attorney General of the State, the restrictions in Proposition 39 which prohibit any bond money from being wasted or used for inappropriate administrative salaries or other operating expenses of the District be monitored closely by the District's Citizens' Oversight Committee; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Education Code Section 15270, based upon a projection of assessed property valuation, the Board has determined that, if approved by voters, the tax rate levied to meet the debt service requirements of the bonds proposed to be issued will not exceed the Proposition 39 limits per year per \$100,000 of assessed valuation of taxable property; and

WHEREAS, Elections Code Section 9400 *et seq.* requires that a tax rate statement be contained in all official materials relating to the election, including any ballot pamphlet prepared, sponsored, or distributed by the District; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires to authorize the filing of a tax rate statement and a ballot argument in favor of the proposition to be submitted to the voters at the election; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Elections Code, it is appropriate for the Board to request consolidation of the election with any and all other elections to be held on Tuesday, November 5, 2024, and to request the San Bernardino County Registrar of Voters to perform certain election services for the District.

NOW THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE RIM OF THE WORLD UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT DOES HEREBY RESOLVE, DETERMINE AND ORDER AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. That the Board, pursuant to Education Code Sections 15100 *et seq.*, 15264 *et seq.*, and Government Code Section 53506, hereby requests the San Bernardino County Registrar of Voters to conduct an election under the provisions of Proposition 39 and the Act and submit to the electors of the District the question of whether bonds of the District in the aggregate principal amount of \$71,000,000 (the "Bonds") shall be issued and sold for the purpose of raising money for the projects described in Exhibits "A" and "B" hereto. Both exhibits are directed to be printed in the voter pamphlet. The District's Superintendent, or designee, is hereby authorized and directed to make any changes to the text of the measure, or to the abbreviated form of the measure, as may be convenient or necessary to comply with the intent of this Resolution, the requirements of election officials, and requirements of law.

Section 2. That the date of the election shall be November 5, 2024.

Section 3. That the purpose of the election shall be for the voters in the District to vote on a proposition, a copy of which is attached hereto and marked Exhibit "A," incorporated by reference herein, and containing the question of whether the District shall issue the Bonds to pay for improvements to the extent permitted by such proposition. In compliance with Proposition 39 policies of the Board and the Act, the ballot propositions in Exhibits "A" and "B" are subject to the following requirements and determinations:

(a) that the proceeds of the sale of the Bonds shall be used only for the purposes set forth in the ballot measure and not for any other purpose, including teacher or administrator salaries or other school operating expenses;

(b) that the Board, in establishing the projects set forth in Exhibit "B," evaluated the safety, class size reduction, classroom, educational and information technology needs of the District as well as the importance of the projects to improve student learning in core subjects like math, science, engineering, the arts, and technology;

(c) that the Board shall cause an annual, independent performance audit to be conducted to ensure that the Bond monies get spent only for the projects identified in Exhibit "B" hereto;

(d) that the Board shall cause an annual, independent financial audit of the proceeds from sale of Bonds to be conducted until all of the Bond proceeds have been expended;

(e) that the Board shall appoint a Citizens' Oversight Committee in compliance with Education Code Section 15278 no later than 60 days after the Board enters the election results in its minutes pursuant to Education Code Section 15274; and

(f) that the tax levy authorized to secure the Bonds of this election shall not exceed the Proposition 39 limits per \$100,000 of taxable property in the District when assessed valuation is projected by the District to increase in accordance with Article XIII A of the California Constitution.

Section 4. That the authority for ordering the election is contained in Education Code Sections 15100 *et seq.*, 15264 *et seq.*, and Government Code Section 53506.

Section 5. That the authority for the specifications of this election order is contained in Education Code Section 5322.

Section 6. That the San Bernardino County Registrar of Voters and the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors are hereby requested to consolidate the election ordered hereby with any and all other elections to be held on November 5, 2024 within the District. As provided in Elections Code Section 10403, the District acknowledges that the consolidation election will be conducted in the manner described in Elections Code Section 10418.

Section 7. That the Secretary of the Board is hereby directed to deliver a certified copy of this Resolution to the San Bernardino County Registrar of Voters no later than August 8, 2024.

Section 8. That Bonds may be issued pursuant to Education Code Section 15264 *et seq.* or Government Code Section 53506. The maximum rate of interest on any Bond shall not exceed the maximum rate allowed by Education Code Sections 15140 to 15143, as modified by Government Code Section 53531.

Section 9. That the Board requests the governing body of any such other political subdivision, or any officer otherwise authorized by law, to partially or completely consolidate such election and to further provide that the canvass of the returns of the election be made by any body or official authorized by law to canvass such returns, and that the Board consents to such consolidation. The Board further authorizes the submission of a tax rate statement and primary and rebuttal arguments, as appropriate, to be filed with the San Bernardino County Registrar of Voters by the established deadlines.

Section 10. Pursuant to Education Code Section 5303 and Elections Code Section 10002, the Board of Supervisors of San Bernardino County is requested to permit the Registrar of Voters to render all services specified by Elections Code Section 10418 relating to the election, for which services the District agrees to reimburse San Bernardino County, such services to include the publication of a Formal Notice of School Bond Election and the mailing of the sample ballot and tax rate statement (described in Elections Code Section 9401) pursuant to the terms of Education Code Section 5363 and Elections Code Section 12112.

ADOPTED, SIGNED AND APPROVED this 27th day of June, 2024.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE RIM OF THE
WORLD UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

By  _____
President

Attest:

 _____
Secretary

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
)ss
SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY)

I, Dr. Paul Sevillano, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of Resolution No. 23/24-20, which was duly adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Rim of the World Unified School District at the meeting thereof held on the 27th day of June, 2024, and that it was so adopted by the following vote:

AYES: 5

NOES: 0

ABSENT: N/A

ABSTENTIONS:

By  _____
Secretary

EXHIBIT A

“To improve school safety and security systems, repair/replace deteriorating roofs, plumbing, heating, cooling/ electrical systems, remove asbestos/ lead pipes and upgrade, acquire, construct classrooms, facilities, sites/equipment to support college and career readiness in science, math, engineering, arts, and skilled trades, shall Rim of the World Unified School District’s measure authorizing \$71,000,000 bonds at legal rates be adopted, levying 3 cents per \$100 assessed value (\$4,000,000 annually) while bonds are outstanding, with citizen oversight, audits and all money staying local?”

Bonds – Yes

Bonds – No