

EXHIBIT A
BALLOT MEASURE
FULL TEXT OF THE MEASURE

Upon the passage of Measure __, the Sierra Sands Unified School District (the “District”) shall be authorized to issue bonds in the aggregate amount of \$42,000,000 (the “Bonds”), bearing interest at rates not exceeding the statutory limit, for the purpose of funding the school facilities projects listed below (the “Projects”) at the District’s school sites and properties, subject to the accountability safeguards set forth below.

Bond Accountability Measures

At its July 18, 2024 meeting, the Board of Education (the “Board”) of the District certified that it evaluated safety, class size reduction, and information technology needs in developing the list of the Projects (the “Bond Project List”) set forth below. The proceeds of the Bonds shall be used only for the Projects identified in the Bond Project List below, and not for any other purpose (i.e., teacher and administrative salaries and other school operating expenses).

The proceeds of the Bonds will be accounted for separately. The Board is bound to conduct financial and performance audits annually to account for the Bond funds and to assure that funds have only been expended on the specific Projects authorized. There will be public disclosure of all expenditures of Bond proceeds.

The Board will appoint members to a citizens’ oversight committee having a minimum of seven members and including at least one member active in a business organization representing the business community located within the District, one member active in a senior citizens’ organization, one member active in a bona fide taxpayers’ organization, one member who is the parent or guardian of a child enrolled in the District, and one member who is both a parent or guardian of a child enrolled in the District and active in a parent-teacher organization.

Proceeds from the sale of Bonds authorized by this measure shall be used only for the construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, or replacement, along with related costs, of school facilities as set forth herein, 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. Proceeds from the sale of Bonds authorized by this measure shall be deposited with the Kern County Treasurer as required by the California Education Code.

Bond 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.

The Board of the District is committed to “Engaging All Learners” by upgrading local schools; improving school safety; ensuring all schools are prepared for earthquakes; fixing or replacing leaky roofs, doors, and windows; updating science, technology, engineering, and math

classrooms; and utilizing opportunities to qualify for United States Department of Defense matching funds. To achieve these goals and develop this Bond Project List, the Board evaluated its critical facility needs (including safety, class size reduction, and information technology) and sought input from the public, teachers, staff, and parents.

In order to meet all identified facilities needs, the District intends to complete the Projects using a combination of funding sources. These sources may include joint-use funds, development impact fees, state funds, federal funds, 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 Projects on this Bond Project List or other high priority capital outlay expenditures as permitted in Education Code section 17070.63(c).

Specific Projects which may be funded by the Measure __ include, without limitation, the following:

Community priorities:

- Ensure school safety
- Ensure all schools are prepared for earthquakes
- Fix or replace leaky roofs, doors, and windows
- Utilize opportunities for United States Department of Defense matching funds
- Replace deteriorating plumbing, electrical, heating, and cooling systems
- Expand facilities to support programs in reading and literacy for the youngest learners

Tier 1 Funding Priorities for School Site Facilities

- Rebuild, reconstruct, and equip Vieweg Elementary School
- Update, upgrade, renovate, and repair Pierce Elementary School
- Update, upgrade, and renovate classrooms and labs for 21st century learning
- Update, upgrade, renovate, and repair Inyokern Elementary School

Tier 2 Funding Priorities for School Site Facilities

- Upgrade, update, and renovate door locks and gates at all school sites
- Upgrade, update, and renovate student transportation safety measures
- Upgrade, update, renovate, and repair security measures and fencing at Burroughs High School

- Update and renovate traffic flow and drop-off lane at Murray Middle School
- Update and renovate Burroughs High School Football Stadium

Bond Program Management Costs

Project expenditures may also include:

- Staffing and other Bond Project management costs, whether outsourced or performed by District staff, for performing work on or necessary and incidental to the Projects and the Bond Program, such as planning and permitting, construction management, legal, accounting, and performance and financial audit costs.
- Financial reserve for unforeseen or unpredictable inflation or supply demand costs.
- Program reserve for unanticipated scope costs or for unanticipated opportunities to enhance project scope or schedules consistent with authorized Projects.

For any of the Projects, with respect to construction at an existing District site, the District is authorized to identify an alternate site and/or acquire land for such purpose and construct the approved Project at such site if the District has determined that the existing site does not satisfy the requirements of the Division of State Architect or other state laws, codes, and regulations, including, but not limited to hazardous substances, applicable to school district properties.

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. The allocation of Bond proceeds may also be affected by the final costs of each Project.

Necessary site preparation/grading/restoration may occur in connection with new construction, reconstruction, modernization, renovation, upgrading, rehabilitation or replacement, furnishing and equipping, including ingress and egress, removing, replacing or installing irrigation, utility lines, trees and landscaping, relocating fire access roads, and acquiring any necessary easements, leases, licenses, or rights of way to the property and are authorized Project costs.

Additional Specifications

Bond Projects will be completed only as feasible, and may be delayed or not completed depending on the final costs of each Project. It is the intent of the Board to complete the Projects listed under Tier 1 above before completing any Projects listed under Tier 2. Notwithstanding such intent, prioritization among improvements on the Bond Project List within each tier and between each tier remains within the discretion of the Board by subsequent action. The Projects may be completed at any and all school or District sites where such Project is determined necessary. If the Board determines that it is economically feasible and more cost-effective, buildings, fixtures, and equipment may be demolished and replaced or reconstructed rather than modernized, renovated, repaired, or upgraded. Each Project is assumed to include its share of costs of the election and

bond issuance, architectural, engineering, and similar planning costs, construction management, bond project staff, staff training expenses associated with new bond-funded equipment and systems, and a customary contingency for unforeseen design and construction costs. In addition to the Projects listed above, the Bond Project List also includes the acquisition of land, instructional, maintenance and operational furniture and equipment, payment of the costs of preparation of all facilities planning and project implementation studies, feasibility and assessment reviews, master planning, environmental studies (including environmental investigation, remediation, and monitoring), design and construction documents, temporary housing for dislocated programs or activities caused or necessitated by construction projects, and construction, repairs, and improvements in the event of unforeseen design and construction matters, unforeseen emergencies or other circumstances in order to permit the continuance of existing educational services or to avoid danger to life or property.

Single Purpose. All of the purposes enumerated in this proposition shall be united and voted upon as one single proposition, pursuant to Section 15100 of the Education Code, and all the enumerated purposes shall constitute the specific single purpose of the Bonds and proceeds of the Bonds shall be spent only for such purpose.

Other Terms of the Bonds. When sold, the Bonds shall bear interest at an annual rate not exceeding the statutory maximum. The Bonds may be issued and sold in several series, and in accordance with a plan of finance determined by the Board pursuant to requirements of law.

Project Requiring State Matching Funds. Approval of Measure __ does not guarantee that the proposed District Projects that are the subject of Bonds under Measure __ will be funded beyond the local revenues generated by Measure __. Some of the District's Projects may assume the receipt of state matching funds, which could be subject to appropriation by the Legislature or approval of a statewide bond measure.