Agenda Request Form

Meeting Date	Agenda Item Number
December 14, 2023	D-2

Title

Sale of 2024 General Obligation Bonds for Voter-Approved Ed-SPLOST Projects

Requested Action

School Board Consideration of Superintendent's Recommendation for Approval of Staff, General Counsel, Financial Advisor, Bond Counsel and Disclosure Counsel to Proceed with a Public Offering of General Obligation Bonds via Competitive Sale for Voter-Approved Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax for Education (Ed-SPLOST) Projects

Summary Explanation and Background

The Board is requested to approve and authorize its staff, General Counsel, Financial Advisor, Bond Counsel and Disclosure Counsel to proceed with a public offering of competitive sale for up to $100,000,000 in General Obligation Bonds, in accordance with voter approval of the Ed-SPLOST Referendum on November 2, 2021. In addition to current projects, proceeds are to be used for voter-approved capital outlay projects, including but not limited to: construction of Cherokee High School replacement facility, construction of classroom and drive improvements addition at Creekland Middle School, construction of auxiliary gym, classroom addition and drive/parking improvements at Creekview High School, improvements to the athletic facilities at Sequoyah High School, construction of classroom addition at Woodstock High School, major repairs/renovations, technology equipment, property acquisition and security upgrades.

At the February 15, 2024 School Board Meeting, Davenport & Company will present to the Board the pricing results of these bonds and request that the Board adopt the Series 2024 Bond Resolution for the purpose of funding the Board-approved projects.

Proceeds from the sale of these bonds will be subsequently transferred to an escrow account held at Regions Bank in the School District's name and used to pay for ongoing capital outlay projects over the next 18 to 24 months.

Priority Area

Organizational and Operational Effectiveness

Financial Impact

$100,000,000 in Bond Par Amount

Exhibits: (List)

Authorization to Proceed Resolution

Source of Additional Information

Dr. Brian V. Hightower, Superintendent of Schools	770.479.1871
Kenneth Owen, Chief Financial Officer	770.479.1871

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE STAFF AND PROFESSIONALS TO PROCEED WITH THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the Cherokee County School System, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia (the "School System"), embraces all of Cherokee County, Georgia; and

WHEREAS, at an election duly called and held in the School System on November 2, 2021, the qualified voters of the School System approved the issuance of up to $290,000,000 of the School System's general obligation debt (the "Bonds"); and

WHEREAS, the Cherokee County Board of Education (the "Board of Education") is the body charged with contracting debts and managing the affairs of the School System; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has determined that it is in the best interest of the School System to issue up to $100,000,000 in aggregate principal amount of the Bonds and to use the proceeds of the Bonds to finance all or a portion of (a) any of the projects listed in the referendum materials (the "Projects"), (b) capitalized interest on the Bonds (if needed) and (c) the costs of issuing the Bonds; and

WHEREAS, Board of Education desires to authorize (a) its staff members (the "Staff"), (b) the School System's General Counsel, Roach, Caudill & Frost, LLP ("RCF"), (c) the School System's Financial Advisor, Davenport & Company LLC ("DC"), (d) the School System's Bond Counsel, Murray Barnes Finister LLP ("MBF") and (e) the School System's Disclosure Counsel, Butler Snow LLP ("BS") to proceed with a public offering of the Bonds via competitive sale.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education, and it is HEREBY RESOLVED by the same, as follows**:**

Section 1. Authorization to Proceed. The Staff, DC, RCF, MBF and BS are hereby authorized to proceed with a public offering of the Bonds via competitive sale and are hereby empowered and directed to do all such acts and things that are necessary or desirable in connection with a public offering of the Bonds.

Section 2. Authorization to Execute Necessary Documents. The Chairman and the Vice-Chairman of the Board of Education are hereby authorized to execute all documents and certificates needed to carry out the intent of this resolution.

Section 3. Actions Ratified, Approved and Confirmed. All acts and doings of the members, officers, employees and agents of the Board of Education which are in conformity with the purpose and intent of this resolution are in all respects ratified, approved and confirmed.

Section 4. Repealing Clause. All resolutions or parts thereof in conflict with the provisions contained in this resolution are, to the extent of such conflict, hereby superseded and repealed.

Section 5. Effective Date. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

ADOPTED this 14th day of December, 2023.

CHEROKEE COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM

(SEAL)

By:_____
Chairman, Cherokee County Board of Education

Attest:

_____
Secretary, Cherokee County Board of Education

SECRETARY'S CERTIFICATE

The undersigned Secretary of the Cherokee County Board of Education (the "Board of Education") DOES HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing pages of typewritten matter constitute a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Education on December 14, 2023 in a meeting duly called and assembled, which was open to the public and at which a quorum was present and acting throughout, and that the original of the resolution appears of record in the Minute Book of the Board of Education, which is in the undersigned's custody and control.

WITNESS my hand and the official seal of the Board of Education, this 14th day of December, 2023.

(SEAL)

_____

Secretary