

NOTICE OF BOND ELECTION

THE STATE OF TEXAS	§	
	§	
COUNTIES OF RUSK AND CHEROKEE	§	
	§	
RUSK INDEPENDENT SCHOOL	§	
DISTRICT	§	
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TO THE RESIDENT, QUALIFIED VOTERS OF THE

RUSK INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING THE ELECTION HEREINAFTER
DESCRIBED CAN BE FOUND AT <https://www.ruskisd.net/>.

TAKE NOTICE that an election will be held in the Rusk Independent School District on May 3, 2025 in accordance with an order duly entered by the Board of Trustees of the Rusk Independent School District on February 13, 2025, which order reads substantially as follows:

**AN ORDER CALLING A BOND ELECTION TO BE HELD BY THE
RUSK INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, MAKING PROVISION
FOR THE CONDUCT OF THE ELECTION, AND RESOLVING OTHER
MATTERS INCIDENT AND RELATED TO SUCH ELECTION**

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees (the *Board*) of the RUSK INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT (the *District*), located in Cherokee and Rusk Counties, Texas hereby finds and determines that an election should be held to determine whether the District shall be authorized to issue bonds of the District in the amounts and for the purposes hereinafter identified (the *Election*); and

WHEREAS, the District anticipates conducting the Election jointly with the City of Rusk, Texas (the *City*), which is a municipality within the District, in a manner permitted under applicable Texas law; and

WHEREAS, the Election may be held jointly with other political subdivisions (such other political subdivisions, collectively, the *Participants*), as provided pursuant to the provisions of an election services agreement and/or a joint election similar agreement between or among (as applicable) the District and any Participants, entered into in accordance with

provisions of Section 271.002, as amended, Texas Election Code; and

WHEREAS, the Board hereby finds and determines that the anticipated capital improvements referenced in Proposition A may be submitted to the qualified voters of the District as a single proposition as authorized by Section 45.003(g) of the Texas Education Code (the *Code*) because these capital improvements will be used predominantly for teaching required curriculum and/or administrative purposes and are not the type of facilities described in Section 45.003(g)(1-6); and

WHEREAS, the Board hereby finds and determines that it is in the public interest to call and hold the Election at the earliest possible date to authorize the issuance of bonds for the purposes hereinafter identified; now, therefore,

BE IT ORDERED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE RUSK INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT THAT:

SECTION 1: The Election shall be held in the RUSK INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT on the 3rd day of May, 2025 (*Election Day*), which is a uniform election date under the Texas Election Code, as amended, and is 78 or more days from the date of the adoption of this order (the *Order*), for the purpose of submitting the following propositions to the qualified voters of the District:

PROPOSITION A

“Shall the Board of Trustees of the Rusk Independent School District be authorized to issue and sell bonds of the District in the principal amount not to exceed \$45,240,000 for the purposes of constructing, acquiring, renovating, improving, upgrading, updating, acquiring, and equipping school facilities, including a new school campus, the purchase of necessary sites for school facilities, and the purchase of school buses, with the bonds to mature, bear interest and be issued and sold in accordance with law at the time of issuance as may be determined within the discretion of the Board of Trustees; and shall the Board of Trustees of the District 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 the bonds?”

PROPOSITION B

“Shall the Board of Trustees of the Rusk Independent School District be authorized to issue and sell bonds of the District in the principal amount of \$11,930,000 for the purposes of designing, constructing, renovating, improving, upgrading, updating, acquiring, and equipping school stadium facilities, including a new field house and related infrastructure, with the bonds to mature, bear interest and be issued and sold in accordance with law at the time of issuance as may be determined within the discretion of the Board of Trustees; and shall the Board of Trustees of the District 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 the bonds?”

SECTION 2: One or more school election precincts are hereby established for the purpose of holding the Election, and one or more polling places are hereby designated for holding the Election in the school election precincts as identified in Exhibit A to this Order (which is incorporated herein by reference for all purposes). At least 79 days prior to the scheduled Election Day, or as soon thereafter as is reasonably practicable, the President, Board of Trustees, the Superintendent of Schools, or the respective designees thereof, in coordination with the City and the Participants, if any and as applicable, will appoint the Presiding Judge, Alternate Presiding Judges, Election Clerks, and all other election officials for the Election, together with any other necessary changes to election practices and procedures and can correct, modify, or change the Exhibits to this Order based upon the final locations and times agreed upon by the District, the City, and the Participants, if any and as applicable, to the extent permitted by applicable law.

A. The Presiding Judge shall appoint not less than two resident qualified voters of the District to act as clerks in order to properly conduct the Election. To the extent required by the Texas Election Code, as amended, or other applicable law, the appointment of these clerks must include a person fluent in the Spanish language to serve as a clerk to render oral aid in the Spanish language to any voter desiring such aid at the polls on Election Day. If the Presiding Judge appointed actually serves, the Alternate Presiding Judge shall serve as one of the clerks. In the absence of the Presiding Judge, the Alternate Presiding Judge shall perform the duties of the Presiding Judge of the election precinct.

B. On Election Day, the polls shall be open as designated on Exhibit A.

C. The main early voting location is designated in Exhibit B to this Order (which is incorporated herein by reference for all purposes). The individual named as the Early Voting Clerk as designated in Exhibit B is hereby appointed as the Early Voting Clerk to conduct such early voting in the Election. The Early Voting Clerk shall appoint the Deputy Early Voting Clerks. This office or place shall remain open to permit early voting on the days and at the times as stated in Exhibit B. Early voting shall commence as provided on Exhibit B and continue through the date set forth on Exhibit B, all as provided by the provisions of the Texas Election Code, as amended.

An Early Voting Ballot Board is hereby established for the purpose of processing early voting results. The individual designated in Exhibit B as the Presiding Judge of an Early Voting Ballot Board is hereby appointed the Presiding Judge of the indicated Early Voting Ballot Board. The Presiding Judge shall appoint not less than two resident qualified voters of the District to serve as members of the Early Voting Ballot Board.

SECTION 3: Electronic voting machines may be used in holding and conducting the Election on Election Day; provided, however, in the event the use of such electronic voting machines is not practicable, the Election may be conducted on Election Day by the use of paper ballots (except as otherwise provided in this section). Electronic voting machines or paper ballots may be used for early voting by personal appearance (except as otherwise provided in this section). Pursuant to Section 61.012, as amended, Texas Election Code, the District shall provide at least

one accessible voting system in each polling place used in the Election. Such voting system shall comply with Texas and federal laws establishing the requirement for voting systems that permit voters with physical disabilities to cast a secret ballot. Any legally permissible voting method may be used for early voting and Election Day voting by personal appearance. Certain early voting may be conducted by mail.

SECTION 4: The District shall utilize a Central Counting Station (the *Station*) as provided by Section 127.001, *et seq.*, as amended, Texas Election Code. The Early Voting Clerk, or the designee thereof, is hereby appointed as the Manager of the Station who will establish a written plan for the orderly operation of the Station in accordance with the provisions of the Texas Election Code. The Board authorizes the Early Voting Clerk, or the designee thereof, to appoint the Tabulation Supervisor, and the Programmer of the Station and may appoint Station clerks as needed or desirable. Lastly, the District hereby appoints the Secretary of the Board as the Presiding Judge of the Station.

SECTION 5: The official ballot shall be prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Texas Election Code, as amended, so as to permit voters to vote "FOR" or "AGAINST" the aforesaid propositions which shall appear on the ballot substantially as follows:

PROPOSITION A

"THE ISSUANCE OF \$45,240,000 OF BONDS BY THE RUSK INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR A NEW SCHOOL CAMPUS, LAND, AND BUSES AND THE IMPOSITION OF A TAX SUFFICIENT TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL OF AND INTEREST ON THE BONDS. THIS IS A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE."

PROPOSITION B

"THE ISSUANCE OF \$11,930,000 OF BONDS BY THE RUSK INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR STADIUM FACILITIES, INCLUDING A NEW FIELD HOUSE, AND THE IMPOSITION OF A TAX SUFFICIENT TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL OF AND INTEREST ON THE BONDS. THIS IS A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE."

SECTION 6: All resident, qualified voters of the District shall be permitted to vote at the Election, and on Election Day, such voters shall vote at the designated polling place. The Election shall be held and conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Texas Election Code, as amended, except as modified by the provisions of the Texas Education Code, as amended, and as may be required by law. To the extent required by law, all election materials and proceedings relating to the Election shall be printed in both English and Spanish.

SECTION 7: Notice of election, including a Spanish translation thereof, shall be published at least one time in a newspaper of general circulation in the District, with such publication occurring not more than 30 days and not less than 10 days before Election Day. A substantial copy of this Order and the voter information document, including a Spanish translation thereof, shall be posted (i) on the bulletin board used for posting notices of Board

meetings not less than 21 days prior to Election Day, (ii) in three additional public places within the District's boundaries not later than 21 days prior to Election Day, (iii) in a prominent location at each polling place on Election Day and during early voting, and (iv) in a prominent location on the District's internet website not less than 21 days prior to Election Day. A sample ballot shall be posted on the District's internet website not less than 21 days prior to Election Day.

SECTION 8: In accordance with Section 3.009(b)(5) and (7) through (9) of the Texas Election Code, the District, as of the date of the adoption of this Order, had outstanding an aggregate principal amount of debt equal to \$4,605,000; the aggregate amount of the interest owed on such District debt obligations, through the respective maturities, totaled \$335,538; and the District levied an ad valorem debt service tax rate for its outstanding debt obligations of \$0.0848 per \$100 of taxable assessed valuation. Based on the bond market conditions on the date of the Board's adoption of this Order, the maximum interest rate for any series of bonds authorized at the Election is 5.00% (expressed as a net effective interest rate applicable to any such series of bonds). The bonds that are the subject of this Election shall mature serially or otherwise over a specified number of years (but not more than the maximum number of years authorized by law), and the District estimates that, based on current bond market conditions, such bonds will amortize over a 30-year period from their respective date of issuance. The foregoing estimated maximum net effective interest rate and amortization period are only estimates, provided for Texas statutory compliance; they do not serve as a cap on the per annum interest rate at which any series of bonds authorized at the Election may be sold, or the amortization period for bonds that are the subject of the Election.

SECTION 9: The Board authorizes the President, Board of Trustees, the Superintendent of Schools, or the respective designee of either of such parties, to negotiate and enter into one or more joint election agreements, election services contracts, and/or similar contracts or agreements with the County, acting by and through the Administrator, the City, and any Participants if desired or if required to comply with applicable law, as permitted and in accordance with the provisions of the Texas Election Code, as amended. The Board authorizes the President, Board of Trustees, the Superintendent of Schools, or the respective designee of either of such parties to make such modifications to this Order that are necessary for compliance with applicable Texas or federal law or to carry out the intent of the Board, as evidenced herein.

SECTION 10: The recitals contained in the preamble hereof are hereby found to be true, and such recitals are hereby made a part of this Order for all purposes and are adopted as a part of the judgment and findings of the Board.

SECTION 11: All orders and resolutions, or parts thereof, which are in conflict or inconsistent with any provision of this Order are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict, and the provisions of this Order shall be and remain controlling as to the matters ordered herein.

SECTION 12: This Order shall be construed and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas and the United States of America. If any provision of this Order or the application thereof to any person or circumstance shall be held to be invalid, the remainder of this Order and the application of such provision to other persons and circumstances shall nevertheless be valid, and the Board hereby declares that this Order would have been enacted without such invalid provision.

SECTION 13: It is officially found, determined, and declared that the meeting at which this Order is adopted was open to the public and public notice of the time, place, and subject matter of the public business to be considered at such meeting, including this Order, was given, all as required by Chapter 551, as amended, Texas Government Code.

SECTION 14: This Order shall be in force and effect from and after its final passage, and it is so ordered.

YOU WILL, THEREFORE, take notice of all the matters and facts set out in the foregoing Notice of Bond Election.

//s// Montie Sunday, Secretary, Board of Trustees, Rusk Independent School District

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Exhibit A

ELECTION DAY POLLING INFORMATION*

Election Day: May 3, 2025, 7:00 AM – 7:00 PM

Presiding Judges and Alternates: to be determined by the District.

Precinct	Location	Address
1	Rusk ISD Administration Building	203 East 7 th Street, Rusk, TX 75785

* Preliminary, subject to change. If any locations are changed, this will be reflected on the District's website:
<https://www.ruskisd.net/>

Exhibit B

EARLY VOTING*

Early Voting Clerk: Rachel Thompson, 203 East 7th Street, Rusk, Texas 75785.

Presiding Judge of the Early Voting Ballot Board: to be determined by the District.

Polling Location	Address	City	Dates	Times
Rusk ISD Administration Building (Main)	203 East 7 th Street	Rusk	April 22, 2025 to April 25, 2025 April 28, 2025 to April 29, 2025	8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

* Preliminary, subject to change.

Early Voting By Mail

Applications for voting by mail should be received (not post marked) no later than the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on April 22, 2025. Applications should be sent to:

Early Voting Clerk
Rachel Thompson
203 East 7th Street
Rusk, Texas 75785
Phone: 903-683-5592
fax: 903-683-2104
Email: Rachel.thompson@ruskisd.net

If an application for ballot by mail is faxed or emailed, the applicant must also mail the original application so that the early voting clerk receives the original no later than four days after receiving the emailed or faxed copy.

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VOTER INFORMATION DOCUMENT

Rusk Independent School District Proposition A:

<input type="checkbox"/> FOR <input type="checkbox"/> AGAINST	"THE ISSUANCE OF \$45,240,000 OF BONDS BY THE RUSK INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR A NEW SCHOOL CAMPUS, LAND, AND BUSES AND THE IMPOSITION OF A TAX SUFFICIENT TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL OF AND INTEREST ON THE BONDS. THIS IS A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE."
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principal of debt obligations to be authorized	\$45,240,000
estimated interest for the debt obligations to be authorized presuming an interest rate of 4.75%	\$42,447,188
estimated combined principal and interest required to pay on time and in full the debt obligations to be authorized if amortized over 30 years	\$87,687,188
as of the date the election was ordered, principal of all outstanding debt obligations	\$4,605,000
as of the date the election was ordered, the estimated interest on all outstanding debt obligations	\$335,538
estimated combined principal and interest required to pay on time and in full all outstanding debt obligations amortized over 6 years	\$4,940,538
<p>estimated maximum annual increase in the amount of taxes on a residence homestead with an appraised value of \$100,000 to repay the debt obligations to be authorized, if approved. This figure assumes application of a homestead exemption of \$100,000.</p> <p>This figure makes conservative assumptions about the amortization period of the debt obligations and the estimated interest rate; Estimated future appraised values in the District are not expected to change.</p>	\$0

Rusk Independent School District Proposition B:

<input type="checkbox"/> FOR	"THE ISSUANCE OF \$11,930,000 OF BONDS BY THE RUSK INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR STADIUM FACILITIES, INCLUDING A NEW FIELD HOUSE, AND THE IMPOSITION OF A TAX SUFFICIENT TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL OF AND INTEREST ON THE BONDS. THIS IS A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE."
<input type="checkbox"/> AGAINST	

principal of debt obligations to be authorized	\$11,930,000
estimated interest for the debt obligations to be authorized presuming an interest rate of 4.75%	\$10,637,150
estimated combined principal and interest required to pay on time and in full the debt obligations to be authorized if amortized over 30 years	\$22,567,150
as of the date the election was ordered, principal of all outstanding debt obligations	\$4,605,000
as of the date the election was ordered, the estimated interest on all outstanding debt obligations	\$335,538
estimated combined principal and interest required to pay on time and in full all outstanding debt obligations amortized over 6 years	\$4,940,538
estimated maximum annual increase in the amount of taxes on a residence homestead with an appraised value of \$100,000 to repay the debt obligations to be authorized, if approved. This figure assumes application of a homestead exemption of \$100,000. This figure makes conservative assumptions about the amortization period of the debt obligations and the estimated interest rate; Estimated future appraised values in the District are assumed to increase by 9% each year for the next 3 years and then remain unchanged thereafter.	\$0