

NOTICE OF BOND ELECTION

TO THE RESIDENT, QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF GREGORY-PORTLAND INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an election will be held in the GREGORY-PORTLAND INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, on the 3rd day of November, 2020, in accordance with the following order:

ORDER BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF GREGORY-PORTLAND 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 Gregory-Portland Independent School District (the “District”) adopted an order on February 10, 2020 (the “Initial Bond Order”) calling for a bond election (the “May Bond Election”) to be held within the District on May 2, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, pursuant to the authority vested in the Governor of Texas (the “Governor”) by Section 418.014 of the Texas Government Code, the Governor certified that the novel coronavirus posed an imminent threat of disaster and declared a state of disaster (the “Disaster Declaration”) for all counties in the State of Texas (the “State”); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the authority vested in the Governor by 418.016 of the Texas Government Code, the Governor has the express authority to suspend the provisions of any regulatory statute prescribing the procedures for the conduct of State business or the orders or rules of a State agency if strict compliance with the provisions, orders, or rules would in any way prevent, hinder or delay necessary action in coping with a disaster; and

WHEREAS, on March 18, 2020, pursuant to the authority vested in the Governor by the Constitution and the Laws of the State, the Governor issued a proclamation (the “Proclamation”) to (i) suspend Sections 41.0052(a) and (b) of the Texas Election Code, and Section 49.103 of the Texas Water Code to the extent necessary to allow political subdivisions that would otherwise hold elections on May 2, 2020 to move their general and special elections for 2020 only to the next uniform election date of November 3, 2020, without otherwise adjusting the term of office for the directors, and (ii) to suspend Sections 31.093 and 42.0621(c) of the Texas Election Code to the extent necessary to require all county election officers, if requested by an affected political subdivision, to enter into a contract to furnish election services with any political subdivision that postponed its election to November 3, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Governor further proclaimed in his Proclamation that pursuant to Section 3.004 of the Texas Election Code, a political subdivision has the authority to make the decision to postpone its election until November 3, 2020; and

WHEREAS, State and local health officials have strongly recommended that people avoid mass gatherings and attempt to stay distant to avoid the spread of the virus; and

WHEREAS, in light of the Governor’s Disaster Declaration, Proclamation, and Executive Order, the Board has found and determined that it is necessary and in the best interest of the District and its citizens that it postpone the May Bond Election until the next uniform election date of November 3, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Board finds and determines that it is in the best interest of the District to adopt this order to amend, restate and supplement the Initial Bond Order to call and authorize all actions required to reschedule and hold the May Bond Election to November 3, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Board finds and determines that all facilities to be acquired, constructed, renovated, improved or equipped pursuant to Proposition A herein will be used predominantly for required classroom instruction and essential administrative operations for faculty and staff and the general benefit of the District; and

WHEREAS, the Board hereby 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, and the March 16, 2020 action by the Governor of the State of Texas under Section 418.016, Texas Government Code, suspending certain provisions of the Texas Open Meetings Act; now therefore

BE IT ORDERED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF GREGORY-PORTLAND 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 in the District on Tuesday, November 3, 2020 ("Election Day"), a uniform election date as established by Section 41.001(a) of the Texas Election Code, as amended (the "Code"). At the Election, the following propositions (the "Propositions") shall be submitted to the qualified voters of the District in accordance with law:

GREGORY-PORTLAND ISD – PROPOSITION A

Shall the Board of Trustees of Gregory-Portland Independent School District (the "District") be authorized to issue and sell at any price or prices the bonds of the District in the principal amount of \$98,486,333 for the construction, acquisition, renovation, and equipment of school buildings in the District, for the purchase of the necessary sites for school buildings, and for the purchase of new school buses, and shall there be levied, assessed and collected annually 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 as the same become due and to pay 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 in one or more series or issues, to mature serially or otherwise not more than 40 years from their date, and to bear interest at such rate or rates not to exceed the limit prescribed by law at the time of issuance, as the board of trustees in its discretion shall determine?

GREGORY-PORTLAND ISD – PROPOSITION B

Shall the Board of Trustees of Gregory-Portland Independent School District (the "District") be authorized to issue and sell at any price or prices the bonds of the District in the principal amount of \$9,253,667 for the acquisition or update of technology equipment, and shall there be levied, assessed and collected annually 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 as the same become due and to pay 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 in one or more series or issues, to mature serially or otherwise not more than 40 years from their date, and to bear interest at such rate or rates not to exceed the limit prescribed by law at the time of issuance, as the board of trustees in its discretion shall determine?

Section 3. Official Ballot. The official ballots for the Election shall be prepared in accordance with 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 form:

GREGORY-PORTLAND ISD – PROPOSITION A

- FOR) "THE ISSUANCE OF \$98,486,333 OF BONDS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, ACQUISITION, RENOVATION, AND EQUIPMENT OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS IN THE DISTRICT, FOR THE PURCHASE OF THE NECESSARY SITES FOR SCHOOL BUILDINGS, AND FOR THE PURCHASE OF NEW SCHOOL BUSES; AND THE LEVYING OF A TAX SUFFICIENT, WITHOUT LIMIT AS TO RATE OR AMOUNT, TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL OF AND INTEREST ON THE BONDS AND TO PAY THE COSTS OF ANY CREDIT AGREEMENTS EXECUTED OR AUTHORIZED IN ANTICIPATION OF, IN RELATION TO OR IN CONNECTION WITH THE BONDS. THIS IS A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE."
- AGAINST)

GREGORY-PORTLAND ISD – PROPOSITION B

- FOR) "THE ISSUANCE OF \$9,253,667 OF BONDS FOR THE ACQUISITION OR UPDATE OF TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT AND THE LEVYING OF A TAX SUFFICIENT, WITHOUT LIMIT AS TO RATE OR AMOUNT, TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL OF AND INTEREST ON THE BONDS AND TO PAY THE COSTS OF ANY CREDIT AGREEMENTS EXECUTED OR AUTHORIZED IN ANTICIPATION OF, IN RELATION TO OR IN CONNECTION WITH THE BONDS. THIS IS A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE."
- AGAINST)

Section 4. Bilingual Election Materials. All notices, instructions, and ballots pertaining to the Election shall be furnished to voters in both English and Spanish and persons capable of acting as translators in both English and Spanish shall be made available to assist Spanish language speaking voters in understanding and participating in the election process.

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 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, which is incorporated herein by reference and made a part hereof for all purposes; provided, however, such locations may be changed if so directed by the Elections Administrator without further action of the District. San Patricio County (the "County") or its Elections Administrator is 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 designee is hereby authorized to update Exhibit A to reflect the locations designated by the County or the 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. Early Voting Locations, Dates and Times.

(a) Pamela Hill is appointed as the Early Voting Clerk of the County for purposes of this Election (the "Early Voting Clerk"). The early voting places and the addresses for early voting by mail for the Election are hereby designated as set forth in Exhibit B; provided, however, such locations 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 locations as may be necessary for the proper conduct of the Election. The President of the Board or his designee is hereby authorized to update Exhibit B to reflect the locations designated by the Elections Administrator, and such locations are hereby approved and ratified for all purposes. 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.

(b) Early voting by personal appearance shall be conducted on the days and during the hours set forth in Exhibit B, as may be adjusted by the Elections Administrator without further Board action.

(c) Applications for early voting by mail shall be submitted to the Elections Administrator at the locations identified in Exhibit B.

(d) 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. Appointment of Election Officers. The Election shall be conducted under the jurisdiction of the County's Elections Office (the "Election Administrator") pursuant to a Joint Election Contract (the "Contract") by and among the District, the County and other participating entities, if any, described in the Contract. The Contract providing for the joint election and the conduct of the Election by the Elections Administrator shall be presented to the Board for consideration and approval. The Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee is authorized to amend or supplement the Contract to the extent required for the Election to be conducted in an efficient and legal manner as determined by the Elections Administrator.

Section 9. 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, (ii) posting a copy of this Order and the Voter Information Document (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 Document, 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 ballot 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 Document 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 not later than the sixtieth (60th) day before the Election Day; which notice the County is hereby authorized and directed to post to its website not later than the twenty-first (21st) day prior to the date set for the Election. \

Section 10. 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 Federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended, including particularly Chapter 272 of the Code pertaining to bilingual requirements.

Section 11. District's Outstanding Debt. As of the adoption date of this Order, the District's aggregate principal amount of outstanding of tax-supported debt was \$131,570,000 and the aggregate amount of outstanding interest on such tax-supported debt was \$78,017,675. The District's total ad valorem tax rate for the current fiscal year was \$1.26835, which is comprised of a maintenance and operations tax rate component of \$1.06835 per \$100 of taxable assessed valuation and a debt service tax rate of \$0.20000 per \$100 of assessed valuation. The District's taxable assessed valuation for calendar year 2019, as of the date that the current tax rate was established, was \$8,513,044,779.

Section 12. 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 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 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 and estimated future growth in the District's taxable assessed valuation, if all of the bonds authorized by the Propositions were issued in accordance with the District's current project finance plan, the maximum interest rate on the bonds is not expected to exceed 3.50%.

Section 13. Voter Information Document. 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 attorney and bond counsel, is hereby authorized and directed to provide with respect to each of the Propositions a voter information document, in the form prescribed by Section 1251.052(b), Texas Government Code (collectively, the "Voter Information Document").

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 the Voter Information Document in the manner provided under Section 9 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. Necessary Actions. 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 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 Federal 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 or as may become necessary due to circumstances arising after the date of this Order.

Section 15. 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 16. Appointment of Election Administrator. The Elections Administrator of the County is hereby appointed Election Administrator for the District and agent for the custodian of voted ballots in the respective jurisdictions.

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

PASSED AND APPROVED the 27th day of July, 2020.

ATTEST:

/s/ Carrie Gregory
Secretary, Board of Trustees
Gregory-Portland Independent School District

/s/ Victor Hernandez
President, Board of Trustees
Gregory-Portland Independent School District

[SEAL]

EXHIBIT A

San Patricio County utilizes countywide vote centers. District voters may vote at any of the following locations on Election Day:

CALL (361) 364-6121 For General Information (*Llama para Información General*)
November 3, 2020 (3 de noviembre 2020)

General / Special Election
(*Elección general / especial*)

ELECTION DATE VOTE CENTER LOCATIONS 7:00 AM – 7:00 PM*
(Dia de Elección los Sitios Electorales abren de 7:00 a.m. a 7:00 p.m. *)

<u>San Patricio County</u> <u>Fairgrounds Civic Center –</u> <u>Ballroom A</u> 219 W. 5th St. Sinton, TX 78387	<u>Humble Community</u> <u>Center</u> 2821 Main St. Ingleside, TX 78362	<u>Portland Community Center –</u> <u>Ballroom B</u> 2000 Billy G. Webb Portland, TX 78374
<u>Taft Kiva Hut</u> 401 Park St. Taft, TX 78390	<u>Mathis City Hall Complex</u> 401 E. San Patricio Mathis, TX 78368	<u>Odom Public Library –</u> <u>Community Room</u> 516 Voss Ave. Odem, TX 78370
<u>Aransas Pass Civic Center –</u> <u>Nature Trail Room</u> 700 W. Wheeler Aransas Pass, TX 78336	<u>Gregory Housing Authority</u> 103 Granajo Gregory, TX 78359	<u>Edroy Community Center</u> 17886 HWY 234 Edroy, TX 78352
	<u>GP ISD Training Center</u> <u>Room 4&5</u> 1200 Broadway Portland, TX 78374	

* Subject to change. To verify, go to the San Patricio County website,
www.co.san-patricio.tx.us/page/sanpatricio.Elections

EXHIBIT B

CALL (361) 364-6121 For General Information (*Llama para Información General*)
November 3, 2020 (3 de noviembre 2020)

General / Special Election
(*Elección general / especial*)

EARLY VOTING SCHEDULE AND LOCATIONS*
(Horario Para el Voto Adelantado y Casillas Electorales Para el Voto Adelantado*)

SPC Elections Office – Office Room 2 410 W. Market Sinton, TX 78387	Humble Community Center 2821 Main St. Ingleside, TX 78362	Portland Community Center - Multi Purpose Room 2000 Billy G. Webb Portland, TX 78374
Oct. 13 – 16 8 AM – 6 PM Oct. 17 9 AM – 4 PM Oct. 19 – 23 8 AM – 6 PM Oct. 24 9 AM – 4 PM Oct. 26 & 28 8 AM – 6 PM Oct. 27 & 29 8 AM – 8 PM Oct. 30 8 AM – 4 PM	Oct. 13 – 16 10 AM – 6 PM Oct. 17 9 AM – 4 PM Oct. 19 – 23 10 AM – 6 PM Oct. 26 & 28 10 AM – 6 PM Oct. 27 & 29 8 AM – 8 AM Oct. 30 8 AM – 4 PM	Oct. 13 – 16 10 AM – 6 PM Oct. 17 9 AM – 4 PM Oct. 19 – 23 10 AM – 6 PM Oct. 26 & 28 10 AM – 6 PM Oct. 27 & 29 8 AM – 8 AM Oct. 30 8 AM – 4 PM
Aransas Pass Civic Center – Lightning Welk Room 700 W. Wheeler Aransas Pass, TX 78336	Mathis City Hall Annex 401 E. San Patricio Mathis, TX 77368	Taft Kiva Hut 401 Park St. Taft, TX 78390
Oct. 13 – 16 10 AM – 6 PM Oct. 17 9 AM – 4 PM Oct. 19 – 23 10 AM – 6 PM Oct. 26 & 28 10 AM – 6 PM Oct. 27 & 29 8 AM – 8 AM Oct. 30 8 AM – 4 PM	Oct. 13 – 16 10 AM – 6 PM Oct. 17 9 AM – 4 PM Oct. 19 – 23 10 AM – 6 PM Oct. 26 & 28 10 AM – 6 PM Oct. 27 & 29 8 AM – 8 AM Oct. 30 8 AM – 4 PM	Oct. 13 – 16 10 AM – 6 PM Oct. 17 9 AM – 4 PM Oct. 19 – 23 10 AM – 6 PM Oct. 26 & 28 10 AM – 6 PM Oct. 27 & 29 8 AM – 8 AM Oct. 30 8 AM – 4 PM
	Odem Public Library Community Room 516 Voss Ave. Odem, TX 78374	
	Oct. 13 – 16 10 AM – 6 PM Oct. 17 9 AM – 4 PM Oct. 19 – 23 10 AM – 6 PM Oct. 26 & 28 10 AM – 6 PM Oct. 27 & 29 8 AM – 8 AM Oct. 30 8 AM – 4 PM	

* Subject to change. To verify, go to the San Patricio County website,
www.co.san-patricio.tx.us/page/sanpatricio.Elections

Address for Application of Ballots by Mail

Pamela Hill, San Patricio County Elections Administrator
410 W. Market Street
P.O. Box 579
Sinton, Texas 78387