# PIEDMONT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

# BUILDING FUND (MEASURE H1) 2016 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS PERFORMANCE AUDIT

**JUNE 30, 2018** 

## PIEDMONT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT MEASURE H1 2016 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS

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#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON PERFORMANCE

Governing Board and Citizens' Oversight Committee Piedmont Unified School District Piedmont, California

We were engaged to conduct a performance audit of the Piedmont Unified High School District (the District), Building Fund Measure H1 for the year ended June 30, 2018.

We conducted this performance audit in accordance with the standards applicable to performance audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain sufficient, appropriate evidence to provide a reasonable basis for our conclusion based on our audit objectives. We believe that the evidence obtained provides a reasonable basis for our conclusions based on our audit objectives.

Our audit was limited to the objectives listed within the report which includes determining the District's compliance with the performance requirements as referred to in Proposition 39 and outlined in Article XIIIA, Section 1(b)(3)(C) of the California Constitution. Management is responsible for the District's compliance with those requirements.

In planning and performing our performance audit, we obtained an understanding of the District's internal control in order to determine if the internal controls were adequate to help ensure the District's compliance with the requirements of Proposition 39 and outlined in Article XIIIA, Section 1 (b)(3)(C) of the California Constitution but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal controls. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control.

The results of our tests indicated that the District expended Building Fund Measure H1 funds for the specific projects approved by the voters, in accordance with Proposition 39 and outlined in Article XIIIA, Section 1 (b)(3)(C) of the California Constitution.

Pleasanton, California

March 4, 2019

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#### **AUTHORITY FOR THE BONDS**

The general obligation bonds associated with Measure H1 were issued pursuant to the Constitution and laws of the State of California (the State), including the provisions of Chapters 1 and 1.5 of Part 10 of the California Education Code, and other applicable provisions of law. Measure H1 was placed on the ballot pursuant to a request of the District made by a resolution adopted by the Board of Education of the District on June 22, 2016.

The District received authorization at an election held on November 8, 2016, to issue bonds of the District in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$66,000,000 to finance specific construction and renovation projects approved by eligible voters within the District. The proposition required approval by at least 55 percent of the votes cast by eligible voters within the District (the 2016 Authorization). The first \$26 million of the bonds issued under the 2016 Authorization were issued April 12, 2017.

#### **PURPOSE OF THE BONDS**

The net proceeds of the general obligation bond funds and any other series of general obligation bonds issued under the Authorization will be used for the purposes specified in the District bond proposition submitted at the Election, which includes repair, construction, and replacement of school classrooms and facilities and equipment.

The purpose of the net proceeds of the bonds will be used for:

- "Construction of a new Piedmont High School building, focused on Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics ("STEAM"), with size, scope and location to be determined following additional public input;
- Renovation, refurbishment, or replacement of existing Piedmont High School, Piedmont Middle School, and Millennium High School buildings, including classrooms, infrastructure and landscaping;
- Addition of classrooms to elementary schools sufficient to meet higher educational standards for kindergarten;
- Energy efficiency measures to reduce long term operational expense and environmental impact;
- Addition or expansion of security measures, safe playground and outdoor structures, and "green" areas at existing schools;
- Furnish and equip new, renovated and existing buildings, including modern technology and infrastructure"

#### **AUTHORITY FOR THE AUDIT**

On November 7, 2000, California voters approved Proposition 39, the Smaller Classes, Safer Schools and Financial Accountability Act. Proposition 39 amended portions of the California Constitution to provide for the issuance of general obligation bonds by school districts, community college districts, or county offices of education, "for the construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, or replacement of school facilities, including the furnishing and equipping of school facilities, or the acquisition or lease of rental property for school facilities", upon approval by 55% of the electorate. In addition to reducing the approval threshold from two-thirds to 55%, Proposition 39 and the enacting legislation (AB 1908 and AB 2659) requires the following accountability measures as codified in Education Code sections 15278-15282:

1. Requires that the proceeds from the sale of the bonds be used only for the purposes specified in Article XIIIA, Section 1(b)(3)(C) of the California Constitution, and not for any other purpose, including teacher and administrator salaries and other school operating expenses.

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- 2. The school district must list the specific school facilities projects to be funded in the ballot measure, and must certify that the governing board has evaluated safety, class size reduction and information technology needs in developing the project list.
- 3. Requires the school district to appoint a citizen's oversight committee.
- 4. Requires the school district to conduct an annual independent financial audit and performance audit in accordance with the Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States of the bond proceeds until all of the proceeds have been expended.
- 5. Requires the school district to conduct an annual independent performance audit to ensure that the funds have been expended only on the specific projects listed.

#### **OBJECTIVES OF THE AUDIT**

- 1. Determine whether expenditures charged to the Building Fund have been made in accordance with the bond project list approved by the voters through the approval of Measure H1.
- 2. Determine whether salary transactions, charged to the Building Fund were in support of Measure H1 and not for District general administration or operations.

#### SCOPE OF THE AUDIT

The scope of our performance audit covered the period of July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018. The population of expenditures tested included all object and project codes associated with the bond projects. The propriety of expenditures for capital projects and maintenance projects funded through other State or local funding sources, other than proceeds of the bonds, were not included within the scope of the audit. Expenditures incurred subsequent to June 30, 2018 were not reviewed or included within the scope of our audit or in this report.

#### PROCEDURES PERFORMED

We obtained the general ledger and the project expenditure reports prepared by the District for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2018 for the Building Fund (Measure H1). Within the fiscal year audited, we obtained the actual invoices and other supporting documentation for a sample of expenditures to ensure compliance with the requirements of Article XIIIA, Section 1(b)(3)(C) of the California Constitution and Measure H1 as to the approved bond projects list. We performed the following procedures:

- 1. We selected a sample of expenditures for the period starting July 1, 2017 and ending June 30, 2018, and reviewed supporting documentation to ensure that such funds were properly expended on the projects listed in the ballot text.
- 2. Our sample included 40 non-payroll related transactions and two employee's payroll totaling \$3,027,305. This represents 82 percent of the total expenditures of \$3,683,170.
- 3. We verified that funds from the Building Fund (Measure H1) were expended for the construction, renovation, furnishing and equipping of District facilities constituting authorized bond projects.

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### **CONCLUSION**

The results of our tests indicated that, in all significant respects, the Piedmont Unified School District has properly accounted for the expenditures held in the Building Fund (Measure H1) and that such expenditures were made for authorized Bond projects.

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# SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS JUNE 30, 2018

None reported.