

AN ORDER CALLING A BOND ELECTION TO BE HELD BY THE HOWE 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 HOWE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT (the *District*), located in Grayson County, Texas (the *County*) 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 amount and for the purposes hereinafter identified (the *Election*); and

WHEREAS, the District will contract (the *Election Contract*) with the elections administrator (the *Elections Administrator*) of the County to conduct all aspects of the Election for all registered voters of the District; and

WHEREAS, the Election will be conducted by the County and held jointly with other political subdivisions for which the County is also conducting their elections (such other political subdivisions, collectively, the *Participants*), as provided pursuant to the provisions of an election agreement and/or a joint election or similar agreement between or among (as applicable) the District, the County, and/or any Participants, entered into in accordance with the 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 general obligation bonds for the purposes hereinafter identified; now, therefore,

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

SECTION 1: The Election shall be held in the HOWE 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 proposition to the qualified voters of the District:

PROPOSITION A

“Shall the Board of Trustees of the Howe Independent School District be authorized to issue and sell bonds of the District in the principal amount not to exceed

\$32,000,000 for the purposes of designing, constructing, renovating, improving, upgrading, updating, acquiring, and equipping school facilities in the District and the purchase of the necessary sites for school facilities, such bonds to mature serially or otherwise (not more than 30 years from their date of issuance) in accordance with law; any issue or series of such bonds to bear interest per annum at such rate or rates (fixed, floating, variable, or otherwise) as may be determined within the discretion of the Board of Trustees, provided that such rate or rates of interest shall not exceed the maximum rate per annum authorized by law at the time of the issuance of any issue or series of such bonds; 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: On Election Day, the polls shall be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the locations designated by the Elections Administrator in accordance with the Election Contract. The locations of such polling places on Election Day are set forth in **Exhibit A** which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference as a part of this Order for all purposes. **Exhibit A** shall be modified to include additional or different Election Day polling places designated by the Elections Administrator and to conform to the Election Contract.

The County participates in the Countywide Polling Place Program under Section 43.007, as amended, Texas Election Code, meaning that any County voter can vote in the Election at any polling place identified in **Exhibit A**.

SECTION 3: Early voting shall be administered by the Elections Administrator. Early voting shall be conducted by personal appearance at the locations and during the period early voting is required or permitted by law on the dates and at the times set forth in **Exhibit B** which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference as a part of this Order for all purposes. **Exhibit B** shall be modified to include additional or different early voting locations designated by the Elections Administrator and to conform to the Election Contract.

SECTION 4: A voting system or systems meeting the standards and requirements of the Texas Election Code, as amended, is hereby adopted and approved for early voting and for election day voting. Such voting system shall comply with Texas and federal laws establishing the requirement for a voting system that is equipped for disabled individuals. Pursuant to Section 61.012, as amended, Texas Election Code, the Elections Administrator shall provide at least one accessible voting system in each polling place used in the Election.

SECTION 5: The Elections Administrator will appoint the Presiding Judges, Alternate Presiding Judges, Election Clerks, and all other election officials for the Election.

An Early Voting Ballot Board shall be created to process early voting results of the Election and the Presiding Judge of an Early Voting Ballot Board shall be designated by the Elections Administrator. The Presiding Judge shall appoint not less than two resident qualified voters of the District to serve as members of each such Early Voting Ballot Board.

The District shall utilize a Central Counting Station (the *Station*) as provided by Section 127.001, *et seq.*, as amended, Texas Election Code. The Administrator, 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 Administrator, or the designee thereof, to appoint the Presiding Judge, the Tabulation Supervisor, and the Programmer of the Station and may appoint Station clerks as needed or desirable. The Administrator will publish (or cause to be published) notice and conduct testing on the automatic tabulation equipment relating to the Station and conduct instruction for the officials and clerks for the Station in accordance with the provisions of the Texas Election Code.

SECTION 6: 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 proposition which shall appear on the ballot substantially as follows:

PROPOSITION A

“THE ISSUANCE OF \$32,000,000 OF BONDS BY THE HOWE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR SCHOOL FACILITIES AND THE PURCHASE OF THE NECESSARY SITES FOR SCHOOL FACILITIES AND THE IMPOSITION OF A TAX SUFFICIENT TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL OF AND INTEREST ON THE BONDS. THIS IS A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE.”

SECTION 7: All resident, qualified voters of the District shall be permitted to vote at the Election.

SECTION 8: 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. Moreover, a substantial copy of this Order and the voter information document as shown in **Exhibit C**, 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 9: 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 \$19,140,482; the aggregate amount of the interest owed on such District debt obligations, through respective maturity, totaled \$8,717,618; and the District levied an ad valorem debt service tax rate for its outstanding debt obligations of \$0.3009 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 6.00% (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 30 years from their date of issuance), 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 issue. 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 10: 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. By incorporating all essential terms necessary for a joint election agreement, this Order is intended to satisfy Section 271.002(d) of the Texas Election Code, as amended, without further action of the Board of Trustees.

SECTION 11: 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 12: 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 13: 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 14: 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 15: This Order shall be in force and effect from and after its final passage, and it is so ordered.

* * *

PASSED AND APPROVED, this the 20th day of January, 2025.

HOWE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT



President, Board of Trustees

ATTEST:



Secretary, Board of Trustees

(DISTRICT SEAL)

Exhibit A

ELECTION DAY POLLING INFORMATION

Election Day: Saturday, May 3, 2025

Election Day Polling Locations open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Location	Address	City	Zip
Grayson County Elections Administration	115 W. Houston St.	Sherman	75090

Grayson County participates in the Countywide Polling Place program under Section 43.007, as amended, Texas Election Code. Registered voters of Grayson County will be able to cast their Election Day ballots at any of the polling places identified above and on Grayson County’s website at: <https://www.co.grayson.tx.us/page/elec.home>. Preliminary, subject to change. If any locations are changed, this will be reflected on the Grayson County website.

Exhibit B

EARLY VOTING

Early voting begins Tuesday, April 22, 2025 and ends on Tuesday, April 29, 2025.

Early Voting Clerk: Julie Phillips, 115 W. Houston Street, Sherman, Texas 75090.

Presiding Judge of the Early Voting Ballot Board: To be appointed by Administrator.

Voters entitled to vote an early ballot by personal appearance may do so at any Early Voting site.

Dates	Times
Tuesday, April 22, 2025 – Friday, April 25, 2025	8:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Saturday, April 26, 2025	Closed
Sunday, April 27, 2025	Closed
Monday, April 28, 2025 – Tuesday, April 29, 2025	7:00 AM – 7:00 PM

Location	Address	City	Zip
Grayson County Elections Administration (main early voting location)	115 W. Houston St.	Sherman	75090

*Preliminary, subject to change. If any locations are changed, this will be reflected on the Grayson County elections website: <https://www.co.grayson.tx.us/page/elec.home>

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 Tuesday, April 22, 2025. Applications should be sent to:

Early Voting Clerk
115 W. Houston Street
Sherman, Texas 75090
phone: (903) 893-8683
fax: (903) 891-4370
email: votegrayson@co.grayson.tx.us

If an application for ballot by mail is faxed or emailed (or if a federal postcard application is faxed), 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.

Exhibit C

VOTER INFORMATION DOCUMENT

Howe Independent School District Proposition A:

<input type="checkbox"/> FOR	"THE ISSUANCE OF \$32,000,000 OF BONDS BY THE HOWE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR SCHOOL FACILITIES AND THE PURCHASE OF THE NECESSARY SITES FOR SCHOOL
<input type="checkbox"/> AGAINST	FACILITIES AND THE IMPOSITION OF A TAX SUFFICIENT TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL OF AND INTEREST ON THE BONDS. THIS IS A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE."

principal of debt obligations to be authorized	\$32,000,000
estimated interest for the debt obligations to be authorized presuming an interest rate of 5.49%	\$41,445,750
estimated combined principal and interest required to pay on time and in full the debt obligations to be authorized if amortized over 30 years	\$73,445,750
as of the date the election was ordered, principal of all outstanding debt obligations	\$19,140,482
as of the date the election was ordered, the estimated interest on all outstanding debt obligations	\$8,717,618
estimated combined principal and interest required to pay on time and in full all outstanding debt obligations amortized over 19 years	\$27,858,100
<p>estimated maximum annual increase in the amount of taxes on a residence homestead with a taxable 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; and presumes growth in estimated future taxable values within the District of 5.00% annually for five years and constant thereafter.</p>	\$199.10