

NOTICE OF ELECTION

THE STATE OF TEXAS
PALO PINTO AND ERATH COUNTIES
GORDON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

TO THE RESIDENT, QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF SAID DISTRICT:

TAKE NOTICE that an election will be held in said District as provided in an ORDER CALLING A BOND ELECTION duly passed by the Board of Trustees of said District, which Order is substantially as follows:

ORDER CALLING A BOND ELECTION AND PROVIDING NOTICE OF ELECTION

THE STATE OF TEXAS §
PALO PINTO AND ERATH COUNTIES §
GORDON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT §

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees (the "Board") of the Gordon Independent School District (the "District") deems it advisable to call the bond election hereinafter ordered; and

WHEREAS, it is hereby officially found and determined that the meeting at which this Order was adopted was open to the public, and public notice of the time, place, and purpose of the meeting was given, all as required by the Texas Government Code, Chapter 551.

THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF GORDON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT:

Section 1. A bond election shall be held between the hours of 7:00 A.M. and 7:00 P.M. on November 2, 2021, in the District at the following designated polling places for registered voters of the District:

<u>Polling Place</u>	<u>Street Address and Town</u>	<u>Room</u>
Palo Pinto County Elections Office	435 Oak St., Palo Pinto	Lobby
Possum Kingdom Vol. Fire Dept.	358 North FM 2353, Graford	Meeting Room
Strawn City Hall	118 Housley St., Strawn	Meeting Room
Gordon Community Center	201 Houston St., Gordon	Meeting Hall
Justice Of The Peace Pct. 2 Office	11225 FM 337 Graford	Meeting Hall
First Baptist Church Santo	135 W. Palo Pinto, Santo	Church Hall
Fox Hollow- Westlake Chapel	701 Hwy 1148, Graham	Meeting Room
Southside Church of Christ	1401 S.E. 25th Ave, Mineral Wells	Family Center

Fairview Baptist Church	1062 Fairview Rd, Mineral Wells	Meeting Room
Palo Pinto County Annex	109 North Oak Ave, Mineral Wells	Court Room

Voters in Erath County must vote at one of the above locations.

The election shall be conducted pursuant to election services contract (the “Contract”) with the Palo Pinto County Elections Administrator (the “Administrator”). If notified by the Administrator that such voting location is required to be changed, the notices of election shall be modified without further action of the Board to include additional or different election day polling places as may be required to conform to the Texas Election Code or the Contract.

Section 2. Early voting shall be conducted for all voters by personal appearance during the period early voting is required or permitted by law, being October 18, 2021 through October 29, 2021 (excluding weekends and public holidays), at the following designated early voting polling places and during the hours set forth below:

<u>Main Early Voting Location:</u> Palo Pinto County Elections Office 435 Oak St. Palo Pinto, Texas 76484	Gordon Independent School District 112 Rusk St., Gordon (Work Room)	Palo Pinto County Annex 109 North Oak Ave. (Courtroom) Mineral Wells, TX 76067
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Voters in Erath County must vote at one of the above locations.

Early Voting Location and Early Voting Hours

<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Times</u>
Monday	10/18/2021	8am-5pm
Tuesday	10/19/2021	8am-5pm
Wednesday	10/20/2021	8am-5pm
Thursday	10/21/2021	7am-7pm
Friday	10/22/2021	8am-5pm
Saturday	10/23/2021	Closed
Sunday	10/24/2021	Closed
Monday	10/25/2021	8am-5pm
Tuesday	10/26/2021	8am-5pm
Wednesday	10/27/2021	8am-5pm
Thursday	10/28/2021	7am-7pm
Friday	10/29/2021	8am-5pm

Laura Watkins, Palo Pinto County Elections Administrator, or any successor to such office, is hereby appointed early voting clerk and shall appoint and designate deputy clerks for early voting in accordance with the Contract. For purposes of processing ballots cast in early voting, the election officers for the early voting ballot board for this election shall be appointed and designated in accordance with the provisions of the Contract. If notified by the Administrator that such early voting location is required to be changed, the notices of election shall be modified without further

action of the Board to include additional or different early voting polling places and times as may be required to conform to the Texas Election Code or the Contract.

Section 3. All eligible registered voters of the District (with an effective date of registration on or before October 4, 2021) may vote on election day and during the early voting period at the locations shown above or at any additional or different voting polling places and times as may be required to conform to the Texas Election Code or the Contract.

Section 4. An application to vote by mail may be made by personal delivery or by mail, by common or contract carrier or by email so long as such application is delivered by the close of business on October 22, 2021 at the following address:

Palo Pinto County Elections Administrator
435 Oak St. or P.O. Box 275
Palo Pinto, TX 76484
Email: laura.watkins@co.palo-pinto.tx.us
Phone: (940) 659-1217

Section 5. At the election the following PROPOSITIONS, setting forth the purpose for which the bonds shall be authorized, shall be submitted in accordance with law:

GORDON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT SPECIAL ELECTION
GORDON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT PROPOSITION A

Shall the Board of Trustees of the Gordon Independent School District be authorized to issue the bonds of the District, in one or more series, in the aggregate principal amount of \$12,000,000 for the purpose of acquiring, constructing, renovating and equipping school facilities, and acquiring any necessary school sites, with the bonds of each series to mature serially within the maximum number of years authorized by law and bear interest, and be issued and sold in accordance with law at the time of issuance; and shall the Board of Trustees 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 and the cost of any credit agreements executed in connection with the bonds?

Section 6. 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" the aforesaid PROPOSITION with the ballots to contain such provisions, markings and language as required by law, and with such PROPOSITION to be expressed substantially as follows:

GORDON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT SPECIAL ELECTION
GORDON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT PROPOSITION A

FOR _____) THE ISSUANCE OF \$12,000,000 OF BONDS BY THE GORDON
) INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR ACQUIRING,
 AGAINST _____) CONSTRUCTING, RENOVATING AND EQUIPPING SCHOOL
) FACILITIES AND ACQUIRING NECESSARY SCHOOL SITES
) AND LEVYING TAXES IN PAYMENT THEREOF. THIS IS A
) PROPERTY TAX INCREASE.

Section 7. In all respects, the Election shall be conducted in accordance with the Code. Pursuant to the federal Help America Vote Act ("HAVA") and the Code, at each polling place there shall be at least one voting system that is equipped for disabled individuals, and each such voting system shall be a system that has been certified by the Texas Secretary of State as compliant with HAVA and the Code. The District hereby finds that the voting system to be used by the Election Coordinator in administering the Election is such a system, and orders that such voting equipment or other equipment certified by the Texas Secretary of State shall be used by the District in its elections.

Section 8. The following information is provided in accordance with the provisions of Section 3.009(b), Texas Election Code.

- (a) The proposition language that will appear on the ballot is set forth in Section 5 hereof.
- (b) The purposes for which the bonds are to be authorized is set forth in Section 5 hereof.
- (c) The principal amounts of the bonds to be authorized are set forth in Sections 5 and 6 hereof.
- (d) If the bonds are approved by the voters, the Board of Trustees will be authorized to levy 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 and the cost of any credit agreements executed in connection with the bonds.
- (e) Based upon the bond market conditions at the date of adoption of this Order, the maximum interest rate for any series of the bonds is estimated to be 3.00% as calculated in accordance with applicable law. Such estimate takes into account a number of factors, including the maturity schedule and the expected bond ratings of the proposed bonds. Such estimated maximum interest rate is provided as a matter of information, but is not a limitation on the interest rate at which the bonds, or any series thereof, may be sold.
- (f) If the bonds are approved, they may be issued in one or more series to mature over a specified number of years not exceeding the maximum number of years authorized by law, as prescribed by applicable Texas law, although 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.
- (g) The aggregate amount of the outstanding principal of the District's debt obligations (all of which are secured by an unlimited tax levied for debt service purposes) as of August 11, 2021 (the date this election was called) is \$0.
- (h) The aggregate amount of the outstanding interest of the District's debt obligations (all of which are secured by an unlimited tax levied for debt service purposes) as of August 11, 2021 (the date this election was called) is \$0.
- (i) The ad valorem debt service tax rate for the District for the 2020-2021 fiscal year is \$0.00 per \$100 of taxable assessed valuation.

(j) The website address of the District at which additional information pertaining to the election may be found is <https://www.gordonisd.net/>. The website of Palo Pinto County Elections, which is conducting the election, is <http://www.co.palo-pinto.tx.us/page/palopinto.Elections>.

Section 9. In accordance with provisions of the Code, substantially complete voter information documents pertaining to each Proposition to be voted on at the Election are attached hereto as Exhibit "A" (the "Voter Information Documents"). This order (the "Bond Election Order") and the Voter Information Documents, as may be modified without further Board action in a manner that is consistent with the calling of the election by the Board and the election notice requirements of the Code applicable to the Election, shall serve as proper notice of the election and the voter information document required by Section 1251.052(b), Texas Government Code. The President of the Board of Trustees shall cause the Bond Election Order and the Voter Information Documents to be posted and published as follows:

(a) The Bond Election Order shall be published one time, not earlier than the 30th day or later than the 10th day prior to the date set for the election, in a newspaper published in the District or, if none is published in the District, in a newspaper of general circulation in the District;

(b) The Bond Election Order and the Voter Information Documents shall be posted on the bulletin board used for posting notices of meetings of the Board of Trustees, and at three other places in the District, not later than the 21st day prior to the date set for the election;

(c) The Bond Election Order and the Voter Information Documents shall be posted on election day and during early voting by personal appearance, in a prominent location at each polling place; and

(d) The Bond Election Order and the Voter Information Documents shall be posted during the 21 days before the election, on the District's Internet website.

Each of the Bond Election Order and the Voter Information Documents shall be published and/or posted, as provided above, in both English and Spanish translations.

EXHIBIT A

Voter Information Document

**Gordon Independent School District Special Election
Proposition A**

Ballot Information: At the Election, the following language will appear on the ballot:

GORDON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT SPECIAL ELECTION
GORDON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT PROPOSITION A

FOR _____) THE ISSUANCE OF \$12,000,000 OF BONDS BY THE GORDON
AGAINST _____) INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR ACQUIRING,
_____) CONSTRUCTING, RENOVATING AND EQUIPPING SCHOOL
_____) FACILITIES, ACQUIRING SCHOOL BUSES AND LEVYING
_____) TAXES IN PAYMENT THEREOF. THIS IS A PROPERTY TAX
_____) INCREASE.

Estimated Debt Service Information:

The following table sets forth the estimated principal amount of, and interest due to maturity on, the bonds to be issued if Proposition A passes, and all existing outstanding obligations of the District secured by and payable from ad valorem taxes.

Principal Amount of Bonds to be authorized under Proposition A	Estimated interest for Bonds to be authorized under Proposition A ⁽¹⁾	Estimated combined principal and interest required to pay on time and in full the Bonds to be authorized under Proposition A ⁽¹⁾	Principal of District's Existing Outstanding Debt (as of 8/11/21)	Remaining interest on District's Existing Outstanding Debt (as of 8/11/21)	Combined Principal and Interest to timely pay District's Existing Outstanding Debt (as of 8/11/21)
\$12,000,000	\$6,251,415	\$18,251,415	\$0	\$0	\$0

⁽¹⁾ Interest is estimated based on bond market conditions as of August 11, 2021 and market conditions are likely to change over time. The interest on the proposed bonds under Proposition A was calculated at a rate of 3.00% (which the District believes is a conservative estimate) based on market conditions as of August 11, 2021, and therefore, the interest payable on such proposed bonds may be less than, or more than, the amounts set forth above based on market conditions at the time of the initial sale of the proposed bonds to be authorized under Proposition A.

Based on the information and assumptions provided in the table above, the District estimates that there will be an increase of \$247.50 in the amount of annual taxes that would be imposed on a residence homestead in the District with a taxable appraised value of \$100,000 (taking into account the State mandated homestead exemption) to repay the proposed bonds to be authorized under Proposition A, if those bonds are approved. That estimate assumes (i) the bonds issued under Proposition A will be issued in calendar year 2022, (ii) that the bonds that may be approved under Proposition A would be sold with an annual amortization that does not exceed 30 years, (iii) no growth of District's taxable assessed valuation and (iv) an interest rate that does not exceed 3.00%.

The information provided in this Document is to comply with Tex. H.B. 477 86th Leg., R.S. (2019), which requires a voter information document for each proposition to be submitted to the voters.