

HIDALGO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

ORDER OF SPECIAL ELECTION

**FOR VOTER AUTHORIZED MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS TAX RATE
RATIFICATION**

THE STATE OF TEXAS)*(*

COUNTY OF HIDALGO)*(*

On this the 21st day of August 2023, the Board of Trustees of the Hidalgo Independent School District convened with sufficient members present to constitute a quorum, and among other proceedings had by said Board of Trustees were the following:

WHEREAS, pursuant to Tex. Tax Code § 26.08(a), if a school board adopts a tax rate above its Maintenance and Operations rollback tax rate, it must hold an election to ratify that rate; and,

WHEREAS, a proposed 2023 tax levy upon all the real property situated within the limits of the Hidalgo Independent School District and all personal property which was owned within said district on the first day of January 2023, except so much thereof as may be exempt by the Constitution and laws of the State of Texas, of a Maintenance and Operations Tax at the rate of \$0.8179 DOLLARS on each ONE HUNDRED AND NO/100TH (100.00) DOLLARS of assessed valuation of said taxable property will be levied for the Tax Year 2023 for general school purposes and to pay the current operating expenses of said School District for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, which tax, when collected, shall be appropriated to and deposited in and to the credit of the Maintenance and Operating Fund of said school district.

WHEREAS, the adoption of a the \$0.8179 per \$100.00 valuation tax rate will result in the need for an election under the provisions of Texas Tax Code § 26.08, which the Board by separate Resolution will call for Tuesday, November 7, 2023, a date at least seventy-eight (78) days from the adoption of the tax rate, and this Election Order.

WHEREAS, adopting such Maintenance & Operations tax rate would raise more taxes for Maintenance and Operations than last year's maintenance and operations tax rate.

WHEREAS, prior to the adoption of the District’s 2023 Maintenance & Operations Tax Rate, and pursuant to Tex. Educ. Code § 11.184(b-1), the District has not yet completed an “efficiency audit.” The District is located in an area declared a disaster area by the Governor under Chapter 418 of the Texas Government Code, within the two-year period prior to the date of this Order. However, such an efficiency audit has been commissioned

WHEREAS, it is necessary for this Board to pass an Order establishing the procedure for conducting said Maintenance & Operations Tax Ratification Election:

THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE HIDALGO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT;

Section 1. An election is hereby ordered to be held on Tuesday, November 7, 2023, for the purpose of voter approval of the Board’s adoption of Maintenance and Operation Tax Rate of \$0.8179 per \$100.00 valuation.

Section 2. Places and times for Election Day voting are as set forth in the list of election day polling places to be approved by the Hidalgo County Elections Department and published by such Office in accordance with the Texas Election Code. On Election Day, the polls shall be open from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. Any qualified voter for the Maintenance and Operations Tax Ratification Election may vote on Election day at any early voting location.

Section 3. Early voting by personal appearance will be conducted beginning Monday, October 23, 2023, and continuing through Friday, November 3, 2033, at the Places and Times for early voting to be approved by the Hidalgo County Elections Department and published by such Office in accordance with the Texas Election Code. Any qualified voter for the Maintenance and Operations Tax Ratification Election may vote early by personal appearance at any early voting location.

Section 4. The Ballot language for such election shall be as set forth on the attached Exhibit A.

Section 5. Applications for ballot by mail shall be mailed to:

Hilda A. Salinas
Elections Administrator,
P.O. Box 659,
Edinburg, Texas 78540-0659

or

213 S. Closner Blvd.
Edinburg, Texas 78539-4558

Section 6. The Presiding Election Judges and an Alternate Presiding Election Judge appointed to serve at said polling places shall be appointed in conformance with the provisions of the Texas Election Code.

Section 7. An Early Voting Ballot Board is hereby created pursuant to Section 87.001 of the Texas Election Code. The Early Voting Ballot Board shall be made up of members appointed in the manner stated in the Texas Election Code.

Section 8. Hilda A. Salinas, Hidalgo County Elections Administrator, is appointed as early voting clerk in compliance with Section 271.006 of the Texas Election Code. Hilda A. Salinas will be clerk and appoint other early voting clerks as needed to process early voting mail and to conduct early voting at the main location.

Section 9. The Superintendent shall publish an Election Order and Notice to be published one time in a newspaper of general circulation in Hidalgo County, Texas.

It is further found and determined that in accordance with an Order of the Board of Trustees, the Secretary posted written notice of the date, place and subject of this meeting on the bulletin board located in the Central Administrative Office in this School District, a place convenient and readily accessible to the general public, and said notice, having been so posted, remained posted for at least 72 hours preceding the scheduled time of said meeting.

The call for election was moved and seconded and passed in regular session of the Board of Trustees. Thereupon, the question being called for, the following members of the Board voted, PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this the 21st day of August 2023.

Hidalgo Independent School District

By: *Norma Torres*

President
Board of Trustees

ATTEST:

By: 

Secretary
Board of Trustees

Voter-Approval Tax Rate Election Ballot for School Districts

For Hidalgo Independent School District Date November 7, 2023
(Name of School District) *(Date of Election)*

OFFICIAL BALLOT

Place an "X" in the square beside the statement indicating the way you wish to vote.

FOR AGAINST

Ratifying the ad valorem tax rate of \$ \$0.8179 in
(Adopted Tax Rate)

Hidalgo Independent School District for the current year, a rate that will result
(Name of School District)
in an increase of minus 9.709 *(insert percentage increase in maintenance and operations tax revenue under the adopted rate as compared to maintenance and operations tax revenue in the preceding tax year)* percent in maintenance and operations tax revenue for the district for the current year as compared to the preceding year, which is an additional \$ -657,970 *(insert dollar amount of increase in maintenance and operations tax revenue under the adopted tax rate as compared to maintenance and operations tax revenue in the preceding tax year).*