

SANTA CLARA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
MEASURE H OF 2014 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS
PERFORMANCE AUDIT
June 30, 2020

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Board of Trustees
Santa Clara Unified School District
Santa Clara, California

We have conducted a performance audit of the Santa Clara Unified School District (the "District") Measure H of 2014 General Obligation Bond funds for the year ended June 30, 2020.

We conducted our performance audit in accordance with *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 the evidence obtained provides a reasonable basis for our findings and conclusions based on our audit objectives.

Our audit was limited to the objectives listed on page 3 of this report which includes determining the compliance with the performance requirements for the Proposition 39 Measure H of 2014 General Obligation Bonds under the applicable provisions of Section 1(b)(3)(C) of Article XIII A of the California Constitution and Proposition 39 as they apply to the bonds and the net proceeds thereof. Management is responsible for Santa Clara Unified School District's compliance with those requirements.

Solely to assist us in planning and performing our performance audit, we obtained an understanding of the internal controls of Santa Clara Unified School District to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate for the purpose of providing a conclusion on the District's compliance with the requirements of Proposition 39, as specified by Section 1(b)(3)(C) of Article XIII A of the California Constitution, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control. Accordingly, we do not express any assurance on the internal control.

The results of our procedures indicated that, in all significant respects, Santa Clara Unified School District expended Measure H of 2014 General Obligation Bond funds for the year ended June 30, 2020 only for the specific projects developed by the District's Governing Board and approved by the voters, in accordance with the requirements of Proposition 39, as specified by Section 1(b)(3)(C) of Article XIII A of the California Constitution.


Crowe LLP

Sacramento, California
February 4, 2021

SANTA CLARA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
MEASURE H OF 2014 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS
BACKGROUND INFORMATION

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

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, "for the construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation or replacement of school facilities, including the furnishing and equipping of school facilities, or the acquisition or lease of real property for school facilities", upon approval by 55% of the electorate.

Education Code Section 15278 provides additional accountability measures:

1. A requirement that the school district establish and appoint members to an independent citizens' oversight committee.
2. A requirement that the school district expend bond funds only for the purposes described in Section 1(b)(3) of Article XIII A of the California Constitution, and ensuring that no funds are used for any teacher or administrative salaries or other school operating expenses.
3. A requirement to conduct an annual independent performance audit required by Section 1(b)(3)C of Article XIII A of the California Constitution.
4. A requirement to conduct an annual independent financial audit required by Section 1(b)(3)D of Article XIII A of the California Constitution.

SANTA CLARA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT MEASURE H GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS

On November 4, 2014, the electorate of Santa Clara Unified School District approved the \$419 million "Measure H" General Obligation Bonds with greater than 55% of the qualified votes in favor. The summarized text of the ballot language was as follows:

"To repair or replace deteriorating roofs, plumbing and wiring, remove asbestos, lead and hazardous materials; to upgrade outdated classrooms and career training facilities to support 21st century learning and prepare students for college and careers; to acquire, renovate, construct/equip classrooms and facilities to relieve overcrowding and attract quality teachers, shall the Santa Clara Unified School District issue \$419 million in bonds at legal rates, with independent citizen oversight, no money for administrators and all money staying local?"

On May 14, 2015, the District issued Election of 2014, Series 2015 General Obligation Bonds totaling \$140,700,000. The Bonds bear interest at rates ranging from 3.0% to 5.0% and are scheduled to mature through July 1, 2041.

On November 14, 2017, the District issued Election of 2014, Series 2017 General Obligation Bonds totaling \$232,300,000, to finance new construction and modernization of school facilities. The Bonds bear interest at rates ranging from 3.125% to 5.0% and are scheduled to mature through July 1, 2042.

On April 11, 2019, the District issued Election of 2014, Series 2019 General Obligation Bonds totaling \$46,000,000. The Bonds bear interest at rates ranging from 3.0% to 5.0% and are scheduled to mature through July 1, 2042.

SANTA CLARA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
MEASURE H OF 2014 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS
OBJECTIVES, SCOPE, METHODOLOGY AND CONCLUSIONS

OBJECTIVES

The objective of our performance audit was to determine that the District expended Measure H of 2014 General Obligation Bond funds for the year ended June 30, 2020 only for the purposes approved by the voters and only on the specific projects developed by the District's Board of Trustees, in accordance with the requirements of Proposition 39, as specified by Section 1(b)(3)C of Article XIII A of the California Constitution.

SCOPE

The District provided to us a list of all Measure H of 2014 General Obligation Bond project expenditures for the year ended June 30, 2020. A total of \$95,639,724 in expenditures was identified from July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020.

METHODOLOGY

We performed the following procedures to the list ("the List") of Measure H of 2014 General Obligation Bonds project expenditures for the year ended June 30, 2020:

- Reconciled the mathematical accuracy of the List.
- Reconciled to the List to total bond expenditures as reported by the District in the District's audited Measure H of 2014 General Obligation Bonds financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2020.
- Selected a sample of 41 expenditures totaling \$10,232,507. The sample was selected to provide a representation across specific construction projects, vendors and expenditure amounts. The sample represented approximately 11% of the total expenditure value. Verified that the funds were generally expended for the construction, renovation, furnishing, and equipping of school facilities constituting authorized bond projects. Verified that the funds used to pay the salaries of district employees were allowable per Opinion 04-110 issued on November 9, 2004 by the State of California Attorney General.

CONCLUSION

The results of our procedures indicated that, in all significant respects, Santa Clara Unified School District expended Measure H of 2014 General Obligation Bond funds for the year ended June 30, 2020 only for the purposes approved by the voters and only on the specific projects developed by the District's Board of Trustees, in accordance with the requirements of Proposition 39, as specified by Section 1(b)(3)C of Article XIII A of the California Constitution.