

## **RESOLUTION**

Authorizing the Execution and Delivery of an Amendment to Installment Purchase Contract and a Supplement to Declaration of Trust and Approving the Issuance, Sale and Delivery of \$18,385,000 Taxable Full Term Refunding Certificates of Participation, Series 2021A

BE IT RESOLVED, by the School Board (the “School Board”) of Independent School District No. 709, St. Louis County (Duluth), Minnesota (the “District”), as follows:

Section 1.     Authority and Background.

A.     Pursuant to the authority contained in Minnesota Statutes, Section 126C.40, Subd. 6 (the “Act”), the District is authorized to purchase real or personal property under an installment contract or may lease real or personal property with an option to purchase under a lease purchase agreement upon application to, and approval by, the Minnesota Commissioner of Education.

B.     The District has approved a Long-Range Facilities Plan (the “Plan”) and the Commissioner of Education has approved the District’s borrowing of \$111,442,577 under the Act to finance the purchase of real and personal property for the projects set forth in the Plan as described in the Original Contract, as hereinafter defined (the “Original Project”).

C.     By Resolution B-5-08-2541, adopted May 29, 2008, the School Board determined that it was necessary, expedient and in the best educational interests of the District’s pupils and residents that the District enter into an installment purchase contract pursuant to the Act to finance the costs of the Original Project and issuing full term certificates of participation in the installment payments under the installment purchase contract in the maximum principal amount of \$111,440,000 pursuant to a declaration of trust.

D.     Pursuant to the Act, the District applied to the Commissioner of Education for permission to make an additional levy for the installment payments under the Original Contract to finance the Original Project and the Commissioner authorized the Original Project and the levy.

E.     The District selected U.S. Bank National Association, St. Paul, Minnesota (the “Trustee”) to act as vendor and the trustee as follows: the Trustee, as vendor, entered into an Installment Purchase Contract dated as of June 1, 2008 (the “Original Contract”), with the District regarding the acquisition, construction and equipping of the Original Project, and the District and the Trustee entered into a Declaration of Trust dated as of June 1, 2008 (the “Original Declaration”), pursuant to which Full Term Certificates of Participation, Series 2008B, in the installment payments under the Original Contract in the principal amount of \$111,440,000 (the “2008 Certificates”), were executed and delivered by the Trustee.

F.     The District has approved an amendment to the Plan and modified the projects to be financed under the Original Contract and the Commissioner of Education approved the amendment to the Plan and the modification to the Original Project and has approved the District’s borrowing of an additional \$5,000,000 under the Act to finance the Original Project, as modified, and as described in the First Amendment to Contract, as hereinafter defined.

G. By Resolution B-9-10-2819 adopted September 13, 2010, the School Board determined that it was necessary, expedient and in the best educational interests of the District's pupils and residents that the District enter into an amendment to the Original Contract to provide additional funds to purchase the real and personal property described in the Plan, as amended, and issuing full term certificates of participation in the installment payments under a supplement to the Original Declaration in the maximum principal amount of \$5,000,000.

H. The Trustee, as vendor, and the District, as vendee, entered into an Amendment to Installment Purchase Contract dated as of October 1, 2010 (the "First Amendment to Contract"), to revise and restate the installment payments, modify the description of the Original Project and amend other related matters, such amendment shall modify the Original Contract. The District and the Trustee entered into a Supplement to Declaration of Trust dated as of October 1, 2010 (the "First Supplement to Declaration"), pursuant to which the Full Term Certificates of Participation, Series 2010C, in the installment payments under the Contract in the principal amount of \$5,000,000 (the "2010C Certificates") were executed and delivered by the Trustee.

I. Pursuant to the Act, the District applied to the Commissioner of Education for permission to make an additional levy for the Installment Payments under the Original Contract, as amended, to finance a portion of the costs of the acquisition and improvements to Congdon Elementary and Grant Elementary (now Myers-Wilkins Elementary).

J. By Resolution B-4-12-3007 adopted April 24, 2012, as amended by Resolution B-6-12-3031 adopted June 11, 2012, the School Board determined that it was necessary, expedient and in the best educational interests of the District's pupils and residents that the District enter into an amendment to the Original Contract, as amended, to provide additional funds to purchase real and personal property for Congdon Elementary and Grant Elementary (now Myers-Wilkins Elementary) which are a portion of the Project and issuing full term capital appreciation certificates of participation in the Installment Payments under a supplement to the Original Declaration, as supplemented.

K. The Trustee, as vendor, and the District, as vendee, entered into an Amendment to Installment Purchase Contract dated as of June 1, 2012 (the "Second Amendment to Contract"), to revise and restate the Installment Payments, modify the description of the Original Project, as amended (the "Project"), and amend other matters, such amendment shall modify the Original Contract, as amended. The District and the Trustee entered into a Supplement to Declaration of Trust dated as of June 1, 2012 (the "Second Supplement to Declaration"), pursuant to which Full Term Capital Appreciation Certificates of Participation, Series 2012A, in the Installment Payments under the Contract in the original principal amount of \$12,800,424.50 and a total accreted amount at maturity of \$21,700,000.00 (the "2012A Certificates"), were executed and delivered by the Trustee.

L. Pursuant to the Act, the District applied to the Commissioner of Education for permission to make an additional levy for the additional installment payments under the Second Amendment to Contract to finance a portion of the Congdon Elementary and Grant Elementary (now Myers-Wilkins Elementary), which is a portion of the Project, and the Commissioner authorized the modified Original Project and the levy.

M. Under and pursuant to the Act and Minnesota Statutes, Section 475.67, Subdivisions 1 through 12 and Resolution B-7-16-3385, the District in order to reduce debt service costs provided for the issuance of Full Term Refunding Certificates of Participation, Series 2016A (the “2016 Certificates”) in the principal amount of \$82,605,000 to refund the outstanding principal of the 2008 Certificates.

N. The Trustee, as vendor, and the District, as vendee, entered into an Amendment to Installment Purchase Contract dated as of August 1, 2016 (the “Third Amendment to Contract”), to revise and restate the installment payments and amend other related matters. The District and the Trustee also entered into a Supplement to Declaration of Trust dated as of August 1, 2016 (the “Third Supplement to Declaration”), pursuant to which the 2016 Certificates were executed and delivered by the Trustee.

O. Under and pursuant to the Act and Minnesota Statutes, Section 475.67, Subdivisions 1 through 4 and Resolution B-4-19-3640, the District in order to reduce debt service costs provided for the issuance of Full Term Refunding Certificates of Participation, Series 2019C (the “2019C Certificates”) in the principal amount of \$2,710,000 to refund the outstanding principal of the 2010C Certificates.

P. The Trustee, as vendor, and the District, as vendee, entered into an Amendment to Installment Purchase Contract dated as of May 1, 2019 (the “Fourth Amendment to Contract”), to revise and restate the installment payments and amend other related matters. The District and the Trustee also entered into a Supplement to Declaration of Trust dated as of May 1, 2019 (the “Fourth Supplement to Declaration”), pursuant to which the 2019C Certificates were executed and delivered by the Trustee.

Q. Under and pursuant to the Act and Minnesota Statutes, Section 475.67, Subdivisions 1 through 12, the District may, in order to reduce debt service costs, refinance its outstanding obligations through the issuance and sale of refunding certificates of participation. The School Board has determined that the District shall provide for the issuance of Taxable Full Term Refunding Certificates of Participation, Series 2021A, to provide for the defeasance, payment and prepayment and redemption of the 2012A Certificates maturing on and after February 1, 2022 (the “Refunded Certificates”). The Refunded Certificates maturing on and after February 1, 2023, are called for prepayment and redemption on February 1, 2022 (February 1, 2022 is herein referred to as the “Redemption Date”).

R. The Trustee, as vendor, and the District, as vendee, shall enter into an Amendment to Installment Purchase Contract dated as of March 1, 2021 (the “Fifth Amendment to Contract”) to revise and restate the installment payments and amend other related matters, such amendment shall modify the Original Contract, as amended (the Original Contract, as amended, and amended by the Fifth Amendment to Contract, is herein referred to as the “Contract”). The District and the Trustee shall enter into a Supplement to Declaration of Trust dated as of March 1, 2021 (the “Fifth Supplement to Declaration”), pursuant to which the Taxable Full Term Refunding Certificates of Participation, Series 2021A, in the installment payments under the Contract in the principal amount of \$18,385,000 (the “2021A Certificates”) shall be executed and delivered by the Trustee (the Original Declaration, as supplemented, and as supplemented by the Fifth Supplement to Declaration is herein referred to as the “Declaration”).

S. Forms of the following documents relating to the financing have been prepared and submitted to the School Board:

(1) the Fifth Amendment to Contract proposed to be made and entered into between the District and the Trustee;

(2) the Fifth Supplement to Declaration proposed to be made and entered into between the District and the Trustee; and

(3) the Escrow Agreement proposed to be made and entered into between the District and the Trustee (escrow agent), which provides for the payment of (i) the total accreted amount at maturity for the 2022 maturity of the 2012A Certificates; and (ii) the Prepayment Price for the 2023 through 2028 maturities of the 2012A Certificates, calculated in accordance with the Second Supplement to Declaration, with prepayment and redemption on the Redemption Date.

Section 2. A. The School Board has determined to proceed with the sale of the 2021A Certificates by direct negotiation to Robert W. Baird & Co. Incorporated in Milwaukee, Wisconsin (“Baird”), and has determined to retain Blue Rose Capital Advisors, LLC, in Minneapolis, Minnesota, an independent municipal advisor to provide pricing opinion services.

B. Baird has proposed and the pricing committee of the District has accepted Baird’s proposal to purchase the 2021A Certificates at a cash price of \$18,109,225.00, plus accrued interest on the total principal amount from March 9, 2021, to the date of delivery and upon condition that the 2021A Certificates are payable at the times and on the terms set forth in the Contract and the Declaration. The School Board hereby ratifies and approves the Certificate Purchase Agreement, dated February 2, 2021, with Baird regarding the purchase and sale of the 2021A Certificates.

C. The 2021A Certificates to be issued shall mature on February 1 in the respective years and amounts stated and shall bear interest at the annual rates as follows:

<b>Year</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Interest Rate</b>
2022	\$1,570,000	0.710%
2023	1,550,000	0.760%
2024	1,560,000	0.870%
2025	2,060,000	1.100%
2026	3,620,000	1.300%
2027	3,880,000	1.570%
2028	4,145,000	1.720%

D. Redemption. (i) The 2021A Certificates shall not be subject to optional redemption and prepayment before maturity.

(ii) In the event of damage to all or a portion of the Project and the District makes the certification and election at the times and in the manner set forth in the Contract, the 2021A Certificates, or a portion thereof, shall be subject to prepayment on any date, at par plus accrued interest to the date of redemption, as provided for in the Declaration.

E. For purposes of complying with Minnesota Statutes, Section 475.54, Subd. 1, the maturity schedule for the 2021A Certificates shall be combined with the other full term certificates of participation of the District issued and outstanding.

Section 3. It is hereby found, determined and declared by the School Board that:

A. It is desirable and in the best interests of the District to enter into the Fifth Amendment to Contract and the Fifth Supplement to Declaration;

B. The terms of the Fifth Amendment to Contract and the Fifth Supplement to Declaration are found to be advantageous to the District and are hereby approved;

C. The Installment Payments under the Contract are absolute and unconditional as provided for in Article III of the Contract and are not subject to annual appropriation of the District; and

D. Based upon information from Robert Thomas CPA, LLC, the proceeds of the 2021A Certificates and the funds available and appropriated to the escrow account in the Escrow Agreement will be sufficient, together with earnings on the investments on deposit in the Escrow Agreement, to pay (i) the accreted amount at maturity for the 2022 maturity of the 2012A Certificates; and (ii) the Prepayment Price for the 2023 through 2028 maturities of the 2012A Certificates, calculated in accordance with the Second Supplement to Declaration, with prepayment and redemption on the Redemption Date.

Section 4. A. For the prompt and full payment of the installment payments under the Contract when due, there is hereby levied a direct, annual, ad valorem tax, as an additional levy pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 126C.40, and other laws, upon all taxable property within the District which shall be extended upon the tax rolls and collected with and as part of the other general property taxes in the District for the years and in the amounts set forth on Exhibit A hereto.

B. The District maintains a Debt Service Fund on its books and records. A separate account was created within the Debt Service Fund and is designated as the "Installment Purchase Contract Account" (the "Contract Account"). The tax levies provided for in this Section 4 are hereby pledged to, and shall be used for no purpose other than, the payment of Installment Payments under the Contract; provided, however, that if any such Installment Payment shall become due when there is not sufficient money in the Contract Account, the Treasurer may pay the same from any other funds of the District and said funds shall be reimbursed for such advance out of the proceeds of the taxes herein levied or appropriated.

C. Except as permitted by Minnesota Statutes, Section 475.61, Subd. 3, such tax levies shall be irrevocable as long as the Contract remains in effect.

Section 5. The Chair and the Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver the Fifth Amendment to Contract, the Fifth Supplement to Declaration and the Escrow Agreement substantially in the forms now on file with the Clerk, with such necessary and appropriate omissions, modifications, insertions and additions as do not materially affect the substance of the transaction, consistent with the Act, as the Chair in his discretion shall determine. The execution of the Fifth Amendment to Contract, the Fifth Supplement to Declaration and the

Escrow Agreement by the Chair, with the advice of the Attorney for the District, shall be conclusive evidence of such determination. All of the provisions of the Fifth Amendment to Contract, the Fifth Supplement to Declaration and the Escrow Agreement, when executed and delivered as authorized herein, shall be deemed to be a part of this Resolution as fully and to the same extent as if incorporated herein and shall be in full force and effect from the date of execution and delivery thereof. The District approves the 2021A Certificates being registered as depository obligations with The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York, as set forth in the Declaration.

Section 6. The Chair and the Clerk are hereby authorized to execute and deliver, on behalf of the District, such other documents as are necessary or appropriate in connection with the Fifth Amendment to Contract, the Fifth Supplement to Declaration and the Escrow Agreement, and the issuance, sale and delivery of the 2021A Certificates.

Section 7. All covenants, stipulations, obligations and agreements of the District contained in this Resolution and the Contract and the Declaration shall be deemed to be the covenants, stipulations, obligations and agreements of the District to the full extent authorized or permitted by law, and all such covenants, stipulations, obligations and agreements shall be binding upon the District upon execution and delivery of the Fifth Amendment to Contract, the Fifth Supplement to Declaration and the Escrow Agreement. Except as otherwise provided in this Resolution, all rights, powers and privileges conferred and duties and liabilities imposed upon the District or its officers by the provisions of this Resolution or of the aforementioned documents to be executed and delivered by the District shall be executed or performed by the District or by such officers of the District, or such board, body, authority or agency thereof as may be required by law to exercise such powers and to perform such duties.

Section 8. Except as herein otherwise expressly provided, nothing in this Resolution or in the Contract and the Declaration, expressed or implied, is intended or shall be construed to confer upon any person or firm or corporation, other than the District, the Trustee, Baird, or any holder of the 2021A Certificates issued under the provisions of this Resolution, any right, remedy or claim, legal or equitable, under and by reason of this Resolution or any provision hereof, that the aforementioned documents and all of their provisions being intended to be and being for the sole and exclusive benefit of the District, the Trustee, Baird, and any holder from time to time of the 2021A Certificates issued under the provisions of this Resolution.

Section 9. The officers and other agents or employees of the District are hereby authorized to do all acts and things required of them by or in connection with this Resolution, the refunding of the Refunded Certificates, the Fifth Amendment to Contract, the Fifth Supplement to Declaration, the Escrow Agreement and the 2021A Certificates, without further action of the Board, for the full, punctual and complete performance of all the terms, covenants and agreements contained in the 2021A Certificates, the aforementioned documents and this Resolution.

Section 10. In the event any of the officers of the District authorized to execute the documents on behalf of the District under this Resolution shall for any reason be unable to do so, any other officer of the District authorized to act for such designated officer is hereby directed and authorized to do so on behalf of the District with the same effect as if executed by the officer authorized to do so in this Resolution.

Section 11. All actions of the members, officers, employees and staff of the District heretofore taken and in furtherance of this financing are hereby approved, ratified and confirmed.

Section 12. A. The Clerk of the District is directed to file in the office of the County Auditor of St. Louis County a certified copy of this Resolution and such other information as the County Auditor may require, and to obtain from the County Auditor a certificate stating that the 2021A Certificates herein authorized have been duly entered on her register.

B. The Chair, the Clerk, the Treasurer and other officers of the District are authorized and directed to prepare and furnish, with regard to the issuance of the 2021A Certificates, certified copies of all proceedings and records of the District relating to the 2021A Certificates and such other affidavits, certificates and opinions as may be required to show the facts relating to the legality, tax exemption and marketability of the 2021A Certificates as such facts appear from the books and records in the officers' custody and control or as otherwise known to them; that all such certified copies, certificates, affidavits and opinions, including and heretofore furnished, shall constitute representations of the District as to the truth of all statements made by the District and contained herein.

Section 13. The School Board has covenanted and has obligated itself in Resolution B-1-21-3790, adopted January 19, 2021, to be bound by the provisions of Minnesota Statutes, Section 126C.55. The School Board hereby reaffirms such covenants and obligations.

Section 14. The District hereby authorizes the circulation of the final Official Statement in connection with the sale and delivery of the 2021A Certificates.

Section 15. Continuing Disclosure. The District acknowledges that the 2021A Certificates are subject to the continuing disclosure requirements of Rule 15c2-12 promulgated by the Securities and Exchange Commission under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (17 C.F.R. § 240.15c2-12) (the "Rule"). The Rule governs the obligations of certain underwriters to require that issuers of municipal bonds enter into agreements for the benefit of the bondholders to provide continuing disclosure with respect to the bonds. To provide for the public availability of certain information relating to the 2021A Certificates and the security therefor and to permit underwriters of the 2021A Certificates to comply with the Rule, which will enhance the marketability of the 2021A Certificates, the Chair and the Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute a Continuing Disclosure Certificate substantially in the form of the Certificate currently on file in the office of the District.

**EXHIBIT A**

**Tax Levy Schedule**

<b>Levy Year</b>	<b>Collection Year</b>	<b>2016 Certificates Tax Levy</b>	<b>2019C Certificates Tax Levy</b>	<b>2021A Certificates Tax Levy</b>	<b>Total Tax Levy</b>
2020	2021	\$ 8,951,850	\$373,000	\$1,785,000**	\$11,109,850
2021	2022	9,170,350	374,750	1,777,282*	11,322,382
2022	2023	9,402,100	375,750	1,775,502	11,553,352
2023	2024	9,655,100	376,000	2,261,930	12,293,030
2024	2025	9,851,850	370,500	3,799,270	14,021,620
2025	2026	10,068,600	374,500	4,012,210	14,455,310
2026	2027	10,281,000	367,500	4,216,294	14,864,794

\* Such amount shall be reduced by the rounding amount of \$1,553.74.

\*\* The 2020/2021 tax levy for the 2012A Certificates in the amount of \$1,785,000 shall be deposited in the Contract Account for payment of the principal and interest due on the 2021A Certificates on August 1, 2021 and February 1, 2022.