
Board of Education

ACTION

TITLE:	Consider Approving Resolution to Advance Refunding of Series 2018A Bonds
DATE:	August 2, 2021
RESPONSIBLE ADMINISTRATOR:	Charles Warren, CFO
VISION 2023 STRATEGY:	Parameter “We will be responsible stewards of our resources” supporting all seven strategies

BACKGROUND/CONSIDERATIONS:

In June of 2018, the Board reviewed a timeline to issue bonds supported by the 2018 election. The initial Series August 15, 2018A Bonds was for \$90 million.

Kevin Faught, Senior VP with Stephens, has identified an advance refunding opportunity for Fort Smith Public Schools for this bond issue. Unlike the February opportunity, this one includes completed bids. Mr. Faught has provided a letter indicating the District will save \$4,719,623.07 in debt service costs over the lifetime of the bond. The timing of the debt service reduction includes an approximate savings of \$2.5 million in FY22 and \$2.1 million in FY23. The savings are not required to be transferred to the Capital Projects Fund, but it could be.

In the supporting documentation, Mr. Faught provided a cover letter, bid results, bond index graph, and a summary of the proceeds. He has also provided a copy of the resolution to be approved and signed by the Board to move forward on this bond advanced refund.

RECOMMENDATION:

The administration recommends the board consider approval of the refinancing or the Series 2018A Bonds.

If the Board agrees, the motion would read: ***move to authorize Stephens Inc. to refund the outstanding Series 2018A Bonds, approving the resolution and required documentation.***

VISION 2023 STRATEGIES - **1. Career Planning:** Develop and implement education and career pathways so that each student graduates with a viable plan and relevant skill set for his or her future. **2. Equity:** Develop and implement a system-wide plan to provide all students with the resources they need to optimize their learning. **3. Instruction:** Design, develop and implement programs to promote rigor, relevance, collaboration, critical- thinking skills and learning environments designed to meet each student’s unique needs and aspirations. **4. Learning Environment/Facilities:** Align resources, facilities and technology strategically and equitably across the district to maximize security and enhance the learning environment. **5. Staffing:** Recruit and retain highly-qualified faculty, staff and administration. **6. Technology:** Provide appropriate technology that is consistently available, effectively supported and equitably distributed for group and individual instruction. **7. Wellness:** Develop and train empathetic and nurturing employees to be sensitive to and supportive of the needs of all children and families.