

<b>Policy</b>	It is the policy of the District to invest public funds in a manner that ensures the safety of invested funds, maintains sufficient liquidity to provide for the daily needs of the District, and achieves maximum yield in relation to the risk assumed. Safety of invested principal, however, remains highest in priority.
<b>Investment Authority</b>	The chief financial officer, the executive director of finance, and the director of finance shall serve as the investment officers of the District and shall invest District funds as directed by the Board and in accordance with the District's written investment policy and generally accepted accounting procedures.
<b>Scope</b>	This investment policy applies to all financial assets of the District. These funds are accounted for in the District's comprehensive annual financial report and include:
General Fund	The general fund usually includes transactions as a result of revenues from local maintenance taxes, Foundation School Program entitlements, and other locally generated sources.
Special Revenue Funds	Special revenue funds are governmental funds used to account for the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are legally restricted to expenditures for specified purposes.
Debt Service Funds	A debt service fund is a governmental fund, with budgetary control, that must be used to account for general long-term debt principal and interest for debt issues and other long-term debts for which a tax has been dedicated.
Capital Projects Funds	A capital projects fund is a governmental fund that must be used to account, on a project basis, for projects financed by the proceeds from bond issues, or for capital projects otherwise mandated to be accounted for in this fund.
Internal Service Funds	Internal service funds are proprietary funds accounted for on the accrual basis.
Trust and Custodial Funds	This group of funds is used to account for assets held by a school district in a trustee capacity of the District, or as an agent for individuals, private organizations, other governmental units and/or other funds. This fund type consists of expendable trust funds, nonexpendable trust funds, pension trust funds and custodial funds.
<b>Texas Teacher Retirement Fund</b>	<p>The Texas Teacher Retirement Fund shall not be covered by this policy.</p> <p>All employees of the District employed for one-half or more of the standard work load, and who are not exempted from membership under Government Code, Section 822.002, are required to partici-</p>

pate in the Teacher Retirement System of Texas, a multiple-employer public employee retirement system. It is a cost-sharing public employee retirement system with one exception — all risks and costs are not shared by the District, but are the liability of the state of Texas, and as such, all investments are maintained by the Teacher Retirement System.

**Objectives**

The primary objectives, in priority order, of investment activities shall be safety, liquidity, and yield:

1. Safety of principal is the foremost objective of the investment program. Investments shall be undertaken in a manner that seeks to ensure the preservation of capital in the overall portfolio. The objective will be to mitigate credit risk and interest rate risk.
  - a. The District will minimize credit risk, which is the risk of loss due to the failure of the security issuer or backer, by:
    - (1) Limiting investments to the types of securities listed in this investment policy;
    - (2) Pre-qualifying the financial institutions, brokers/dealers, and advisors with which the District will do business in accordance with this policy; and
    - (3) Diversifying the investment portfolio so that the impact of potential losses from any one type of security or from any one individual issuer will be minimized.
  - b. To reduce exposure to changes in interest rates that could adversely affect the value of investments, the District shall use final and weighted-average-maturity limits and diversification. The District shall monitor interest rate risk using weighted average maturity and specific identification.
2. The investment portfolio shall remain sufficiently liquid to meet all operating requirements that may be reasonably anticipated. This is accomplished by structuring the portfolio so that securities mature concurrent with cash needs to meet anticipated demands (static liquidity). Furthermore, since all possible cash demands cannot be anticipated, the portfolio should consist largely of securities with active secondary or resale markets (dynamic liquidity). Alternatively, a portion of the portfolio may be placed in money market mutual funds or local government investment pools that offer same-day liquidity for short-term funds.

3. The investment portfolio shall be designed with the objective of attaining a market rate of return throughout budgetary and economic cycles, taking into account the investment risk constraints and liquidity needs. Return on investment is of secondary importance compared to the safety and liquidity objectives described above. The core of investments are limited to relatively low risk securities in anticipation of earning a fair return relative to the risk being assumed. Securities shall generally be held until maturity with the following exceptions:
  - a. A security with declining credit may be sold early to minimize loss of principal.
  - b. A security swap would improve the quality, yield, or target duration in the portfolio.
  - c. Liquidity needs of the portfolio require that the security be sold.

### **Fund Strategies**

Appropriate investment strategies shall be developed by fund category. The strategies must define the investment objectives for each fund type, with priority consideration being given to the suitability of the investment for the type of funds being invested, the preservation and safety of principal, liquidity, marketability, diversification, and yield. Investments shall be made in accordance with these objectives, and the maximum allowable stated maturity for any individual security may exceed one year provided legal limits are not exceeded.

The District shall have a similar investment strategy for each of the following covered funds:

1. General fund.
2. Special revenue fund(s) — including funds used to account for federal, state, and local grants, as well as the food service fund and the campus activity fund.
3. Debt service fund(s).
4. Capital project fund(s).
5. Proprietary fund(s) — including the funds used to account for the workers' compensation and medical self-insurance programs.
6. Trust and custodial funds — including the student activity fund.

The District shall follow the investment strategies listed below (in order of importance) for each covered fund:

OTHER REVENUES  
INVESTMENTS

CDA  
(LOCAL)

1. Each investment option shall be reviewed to ensure understanding of the suitability of the investment to the financial requirements of the District;
2. Investments shall be selected that provide preservation and safety of invested funds;
3. Investment strategies for all covered funds shall have as their objective sufficient investment liquidity to timely meet obligations. Maturities longer than one year are authorized provided legal limits are not exceeded;
4. The investment shall be marketable if the need arises to liquidate invested funds before maturity;
5. The investment type shall be consistent with the Board's desired diversification of the investment portfolio; and
6. All invested funds of the District shall attain a rate of return commensurate with the District's investment risk constraints and the cash flow characteristics of the portfolio.

The District shall diversify its investments in all funds by security type and institution. The District shall consider purchase of high quality short-term to medium-term securities that will complement each other in a laddered or liability-matching portfolio structure.

**Prudence**

Investments shall be made with judgment and care — under circumstances then prevailing which persons of prudence, discretion and intelligence exercise in the management of their own affairs, not for speculation, but for investment, considering the probable safety of their capital as well as the probable income to be derived.

The standard of prudence to be used by investment officials shall be the “prudent person” standard and shall be applied in the context of managing an overall portfolio. Investment officers acting in accordance with written procedures and the investment policy and exercising due diligence shall be relieved of personal responsibility for an individual security’s credit risk or market price changes, provided deviations from expectations are reported in a timely fashion and appropriate action is taken to control adverse developments.

In determining whether an investment official has exercised prudence with respect to an investment decision, the determination shall be made taking into consideration the investment of all funds over which the official had responsibility rather than consideration as to the prudence of a single investment and, whether the investment decision was consistent with the District’s investment policy and written investment procedures.

**Ethics and Conflicts  
of Interest**

Officers and employees involved in the investment process shall refrain from personal business activity that could conflict with proper execution of the investment program, or which could impair their ability to make impartial investment decisions.

Officers and employees involved in the investment process shall sign annual statements agreeing to abide by this section of the investment policy and affirming no known conflicts of interest.

An officer or employee involved in the investment process has a personal business relationship with a business organization if:

1. The officer or employee owns ten percent or more of the voting stock or shares of the business organization or owns \$5,000 or more of the fair market value of the business organization;
2. Funds received by the officer or employee from the business organization exceed ten percent of his/her gross income for the previous year;
3. The officer or employee has acquired from the business organization during the previous year investments with a book value of \$2,500 or more for his/her personal account; or
4. The officer is related within the second degree by affinity or consanguinity, as determined under Chapter 573 of the Texas Government Code, to an individual seeking to transact investment business with the entity.

If the investment officer has a personal business relationship with a business organization, a disclosure statement must be filed with the Texas Ethics Commission.

**Authorized  
Investments**

From those investments authorized by law and described further in CDA(LEGAL) under Authorized Investments, the Board shall permit investment of District funds, including bond proceeds and pledged revenue to the extent allowed by law, in only the following investment types, consistent with the strategies and maturities defined in this policy:

1. Obligations of the United States or its agencies and instrumentalities; direct obligations of the state of Texas or its agencies; other obligations, the principal and interest of which are unconditionally guaranteed or insured by, or backed by the full faith and credit of the state of Texas, the United States, or its instrumentalities; including obligations that are fully guaranteed or insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) or by the explicit full faith and credit of the United States; obligations of states, agencies, counties, cities, and

other political subdivisions of any state rated as to investment quality by a nationally recognized investment rating firm not less than A or its equivalent. *Gov't Code 2256.009*

2. Certificates of deposit or share certificates issued by a depository institution that has its main office or a branch office in Texas that is guaranteed or insured by the FDIC or its successor or the National Credit Union Share Insurance Fund or its successor and is secured by obligations described in item 1 above, including mortgage-backed securities directly issued by a federal agency or instrumentality that have a market value of not less than the principal amount of the certificates or are secured in any other manner and amount provided by law for the deposits of the investment entity. *Gov't Code 2256.010*
3. In addition to the authority to invest funds in certificates of deposit under the previous section, an investment in certificates of deposit made in accordance with the following conditions is an authorized investment under Government Code 2256.010:
  - a. The funds are invested by the District through a broker that has its main office or a branch office in this state and is selected from a list adopted by the District as required by Government Code 2256.025, or a depository institution that has its main office or a branch office in this state and that is selected by the District;
  - b. The broker or depository institution selected by the District arranges for the deposit of the funds in certificates of deposit in one or more federally insured depository institutions, wherever located, for the account of the District;
  - c. The full amount of the principal and accrued interest of each of the certificates of deposit is insured by the United States or an instrumentality of the United States; and
  - d. The District appoints the depository institution selected by the District, an entity described by Government Code 2257.041(d), or a clearing broker-dealer registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission and operating pursuant to Securities and Exchange Commission Rule 15c3-3 (17 C.F.R. Section 240.15c3-3) as custodian for the District with respect to the certificates of deposit is-

sued for the account of the District entity. *Gov't Code 2256.010(b)*

4. Fully collateralized repurchase agreements that have a defined termination date, are secured by a combination of cash and obligations of the United States or its agencies and instrumentalities, require the securities being purchased by the District or cash held by the District to be pledged to the District, held in the District's name, and deposited with a third party selected and approved by the investment committee, and placed through a primary government securities dealer, as defined by the Federal Reserve or a financial institution doing business in the State of Texas. *Gov't Code 2256.011*
5. The District shall have a master repurchase agreement signed with the bank or dealer with whom all repurchase agreements are traded.
6. Commercial paper that has a stated maturity of 365 days or fewer from the date of issuance and is rated not less than A1-1 or P-1 or an equivalent rating by at least two nationally recognized credit rating agencies or by one nationally recognized credit rating agency provided the commercial paper is fully secured by an irrevocable letter of credit issued by a bank organized and existing under U.S. law or the law of any state. *Gov't Code 2256.013*
7. No-load mutual funds, except for bond proceeds, and no-load money market mutual funds, as permitted by Government Code 2256.014.
8. A public funds investment pool meeting the requirements of Government Code 2256.016, are rated no lower than AAA or an equivalent rating by at least one nationally recognized rating service, and are authorized by resolution or ordinance by the Board. In addition, a local government investment pool created to function as a money market mutual fund must mark its portfolio to the market daily and, to the extent reasonably possible, stabilize at \$1 net asset value. *Gov't Code 2256.016*
9. Guaranteed investment contracts that have a defined termination date and are secured by obligations described by Government Code 2256.09(a)(1), excluding those obligations described by Government Code 2256.09(b), in an amount at least equal to the amount of bond proceeds invested under the contract; such obligations must be pledged to the District and held in the District's name with an approved third party. *Gov't Code 2256.015*

Corporate bonds are not an eligible investment for a public funds investment pool. *Gov't Code 2256.0204(g)*

**Sellers of  
Investments**

The investment officers will maintain a list of financial institutions, approved by the investment committee, who are authorized to provide investment services. Prior to handling investments on behalf of the District, a broker/dealer or a qualified representative of a business organization must submit required written documents in accordance with law. [See Sellers of Investments, CDA(LEGAL)]

Representatives of brokers/dealers shall be registered with the Texas State Securities Board and must have membership in the Securities Investor Protection Corporation (SIPC) and be in good standing with the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA).

A periodic review, at least annually, of the financial condition and registration of new qualified bidders will be conducted by the investment committee. Recommendations will be provided for consideration by the Board as necessary.

**Monitoring Market  
Prices**

The investment officers shall keep the Board informed of significant declines in the market value of the District's investment portfolio. Information sources may include financial/investment publications and electronic media, available software for tracking investments, commercial or investment banks, financial advisors, and representatives/advisors of investment pools or money market funds. Monitoring shall be done monthly or more often as economic conditions warrant by using appropriate reports, indices, or benchmarks for the type of investment.

**Monitoring Rating  
Changes**

In accordance with Government Code 2256.005(b), the investment officers shall develop a procedure to monitor changes in investment ratings and to liquidate investments that do not maintain satisfactory ratings.

**Selection of  
Depository**

The Board shall select and designate a depository institution in accordance with CDA(LEGAL). The depository shall be selected based upon its solvency and stability of leadership as well as on the services provided. The depository shall be selected through a formalized bidding process in response to the District's request for bid (RFB) outlining all services required. Such services should provide the greatest flexibility for money management and should include online account management, positive pay accounts, purchasing card capabilities, and other services considered necessary by District management.

The District shall have the discretion to determine the time span for rebidding the depository contract; however, a three-year period will be the maximum length of time between bidding.

**Competitive Bidding**

It is the strategy of the District to require competitive bidding for all individual security purchases and sales except for:

1. Transactions with money market mutual funds and local government investment pools (which are deemed to be made at prevailing market rates);
2. Treasury and agency securities purchased at issue through an approved broker/dealer or financial institution; or
3. Automatic overnight "sweep" transactions with the District Depository.

At least three bids or offers must be solicited for all other transactions involving individual securities. The District's investment advisor is also required to solicit at least three bids or offers when transacting trades on the District's behalf. In situations where other dealers do not offer the exact security being offered, offers on the closest comparable investment may be used to establish a fair market price for the security.

**Collateral**

The investment officers shall ensure that all District funds (principal and accrued interest) are fully collateralized to 110 percent or insured in one or more of the following manners:

1. FDIC insurance coverage; and/or
2. 110 percent of the uninsured value in obligations of the United States or its agencies or instrumentalities or other authorized securities as outlined in item 4 below.
3. All pledged securities shall be held in safekeeping by the District, in a custodial account approved by the District in a third party financial institution, or with a Federal Reserve Bank. The third party custodian shall be required to issue safekeeping receipts directly to the District and to provide a monthly listing of each specific security, rate, description, maturity, CUSIP number, and other information as may be deemed necessary and appropriate by the District. In order to anticipate market changes and provide a level of additional security for all funds, the collateralization level required shall be 110 percent of the market value. The bank shall be liable for pricing securities and providing 110 percent collateralization.
4. Pledged securities shall be limited to only those items which are specifically permitted as approved investment instruments within the definitions of this policy. Should a pledged security fail to meet this requirement, it shall be the sole responsibility of the financial institution to immediately, without notice from

the District or cost to the District, replace any such nonconforming security.

**Safekeeping and Custody**

Safekeeping and custody of securities and collateral shall be in accordance with state law. It shall be the District's intent to place securities and collateral in the possession of a third party custodian designated by the District where feasible, and held in the District's name as evidenced by safekeeping receipts of the institution with which the securities are deposited.

All investment transactions except investment pool funds and mutual funds will be executed by delivery vs. payment (DVP) to ensure that securities are deposited in an eligible financial institution prior to the release of funds. That is, funds shall not be wired or paid until verification has been made that the Trustee received the securities or collateral.

**Diversification**

The investment portfolio shall be diversified in terms of investment instruments, maturity scheduling, and financial institutions to reduce risk of loss resulting from overconcentration of assets in a specific class of investments, specific maturity, or specific issuer.

**Maximum Maturity**

To the extent possible, the District shall attempt to match its investments with anticipated cash flow requirements. Unless matched to a specific cash flow, the District shall not directly invest in securities maturing more than 36 months from the date of purchase.

Bond proceeds and debt service funds may be invested in securities exceeding 12 months if the maturity of such investments is made to coincide as nearly as practicable with the expected use of the funds.

**Arbitrage**

The Tax Reform Act of 1986 provided limitations restricting the amount of income that could be generated from the investment of tax-exempt General Obligation Bond proceeds and debt service income. The arbitrage rebate provisions require that the District compute earnings on investment from each issue of bonds on an annual basis to determine if a rebate is required. To determine the District's arbitrage position, the District is required to perform specific calculations relative to the actual yield earned on the investment of the funds and the yield that could have been earned if the funds had been invested at a rate equal to the yield on the bonds sold by the District. The rebate provision states that periodically (not less than once every five years, and not later than 60 days after the maturity of the bonds), the District is required to pay the U.S. Treasury a rebate of excess earnings based on the District being in a positive arbitrage position. The Tax Reform restrictions require precision in the monitoring and recording of investments as a whole, and particularly as relates to yields and computations so

as to ensure compliance. Failure to comply can dictate that the bonds become taxable, retroactively from the date of issue.

The District's investment position relative to arbitrage is the continued pursuit of maximizing the yield on applicable investments while ensuring the safety of capital and liquidity. It is a fiscally sound position to continue maximization of yield and rebate excess earnings, if necessary.

**Benchmark**

The District's investment strategy is a passive one, in that the majority of securities shall be purchased and held to maturity. Additionally, cash inflows and outflows shall be monitored daily. Given this strategy, the basis used by the investment officers to determine whether market yields are being achieved shall be the Two-Year U.S. Treasury Bill and the average Fed Funds rate.

**Internal Control**

The investment portfolio, as well as compliance with this policy, shall be reviewed periodically by the investment committee and annually by the District's external auditor in conjunction with the annual audit of the District's financial statements.

**Investment Committee**

The investment committee shall review the investment strategies periodically and make recommendations for revision as necessary. The investment committee includes, but is not limited to, the Superintendent, the chief financial officer, the executive director of finance, and the director of finance.

**Quality of Investment Management**

Designated investment officers of the District shall participate in periodic training through courses and seminars offered by professional organizations, associations, and other independent sources approved by the investment committee to ensure the quality and capability of investment management in compliance with the Public Funds Investment Act.

**Investment Training**

Within 12 months after taking office or assuming duties, designated investment officers of the District shall attend at least one training session from an independent source approved either by the Board or by the investment committee advising the investment officers. This initial training must contain at least 10 hours of instruction relating to their respective responsibilities under the Public Funds Investment Act. *Gov't Code 2256.008(a)*

The investment officers must also attend an investment training session not less than once in a two-year period that begins on the first day of the District's fiscal year and consists of the two consecutive fiscal years after that date, and receive not less than ten hours of instruction relating to investment responsibilities under the Public Funds Investment Act from an independent source approved by the Board or the investment committee advising the in-

vestment officers. If the District has contracted with another investing entity to invest the District's funds, this training requirement may be satisfied by having a Board officer attend four hours of appropriate instruction in a two-year period that begins on the first day of the District's fiscal year and consists of the two consecutive fiscal years after that date. *Gov't Code 2256.008(a), (b)*

Investment training shall include education in investment controls, security risks, strategy risks, market risks, diversification of investment portfolio, and compliance with the Government Code, Chapter 2256. *Gov't Code 2256.008(c)*

### Reporting

Investment performance shall be regularly monitored by investment staff and reported to the Board. Month-end market prices on each security will be obtained by the Budget and Treasury Officer from a variety of nationally recognized securities databases (e.g., the Wall Street Journal, Bloomberg, etc.). These prices will be recorded in the District's portfolio database and included in all management reports where necessary as well as the District's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.

Not less than quarterly the investment officers will submit to the Board a written report of the status of the current investment portfolio. The report must meet the requirements of Chapter 2256 of the Government Code (Public Funds Investment Act) and:

1. Describe in detail the investment position of the District on the date of the report;
2. Be prepared jointly by all investment officers of the District;
3. Be signed by each investment officer of the District;
4. Contain a summary statement for each pooled fund group that states the beginning market value for the period and the ending market value for the period;
5. State the book value and market value of each separately invested asset at the end of the reporting period by the type of asset and type of fund, and type of institution;
6. Percent of portfolio by type of asset, fund, and institution will be provided;
7. State the maturity date of each separately invested asset that has a maturity date;
8. State the account or fund or pooled fund group for which each individual investment was acquired; and

9. State the compliance of the investment portfolio as it relates to the investment strategy and relevant provisions of this policy and the Public Funds Investment Act.

An independent auditor shall formally review the quarterly reports prepared under this section at least annually, and that auditor shall report the results of the review to the Board.

**Annual Compliance  
Audit**

In conjunction with the annual financial audit, a compliance audit shall be performed that includes an audit of management controls on investments and adherence to the District's established policy.

**Investment Policy  
Approval**

The District's investment policy shall be adopted by resolution of the Board. The policy shall be reviewed annually and approved by the Board.