

HAYS CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Date: August 18, 2025

Agenda Item: E.8

Board Goal: Community Relations

Subject: Consideration and possible approval to enter into the required Joint Election Agreements and Election Services Contracts that are necessary to hold a November Election, and authorize District Administration to execute the documents with Hays, Travis, and Caldwell Counties on behalf of the Board of Trustees

Administrator Responsible/Position: Tim Savoy, Chief Communication Officer

A. Purpose of Agenda Item:

☒ Action needed

☐ Information only

☐ Receive input

B. Authority for This Action:

☐ Local Policy:

☒ Law or Rule

CCG (Legal) – Local Revenue Sources: Ad Valorem Taxes

BBB series of policy

Texas Election Code

C. Goal or Need Addressed: To allow for the district to conduct a tax rate election if one is ordered to appear on the November uniform election date ballot.

D. Summary:

☐ Previous board action relating to this item: N/A

☐ Future action anticipated: All required actions associated with conducting a tax rate election, which are similar to the steps required to conduct a regular election.

☐ Background information: The district is recommending the Board order a tax rate to be held on the November 2025 uniform election date. This action item is the adoption of the standard joint election agreements and election services contracts with the three counties that make up the school district. The action item authorizes Chief Communication Officer Tim Savoy, who is the district's election coordinator, to execute those documents. To hold an election, the district must contract for election services with Hays, Travis, and Caldwell Counties. Additionally, the district must enter into joint election agreements with Hays and Travis Counties because both counties use vote centers shared by all entities in the counties holding elections on the same date. A joint election agreement with the City of Hays is not needed for a tax rate election. It is only needed to meet election requirements for trustee elections in May.

E. Comments Received:

☒ Cabinet

☐ DLT

☐ Teacher Org. Reps.

☐ Other: District election legal counsel

F. Administrative Recommendation: The administration recommends the Board enter into the required joint election agreements and election services contracts that are necessary to hold a November election and that it authorizes Tim Savoy to execute the relevant documents with Hays, Travis, and Caldwell Counties on behalf of the Board of Trustees.

Advantages and benefits of this proposal: The district utilizes the expertise and equipment of the respective county elections administrators and offices to conduct balloting and polling activities to meet required election law.

Expected results in terms of student benefit/achievement: This item would allow for voters to consider a tax rate election which would, if approved by voters, increase the maintenance and operations (M&O) tax rate to generate additional revenue to pay for educational services, needs, supplies, teachers, and staff. The order of election would be under separate action by the Board. This item specifically addresses some of the required items necessary to conduct an election.

Effect of this action on other parts of the system: Conducting the election will require partnership between all cabinet level chiefs, particularly in the communication and business and finance divisions.

Consequences of not approving this recommendation: The district does not have the equipment or specific polling location expertise, nor staff to operate polling locations (including election judges and trained poll workers), without the services contracts with the county elections administrations.

G. Fiscal Impact and Cost: Approximately \$100,000

☒ **Budget** ☐ **Bond** ☐ **Grant/Special Funds:** ☐ **Other**

☒ **Budget Amendment Needed**

The final cost of the election will depend on the total number of entities participating in the election (in each county) and the total number of polling locations open in each county, which would not be known until after the deadline has passed for entities to call for elections. In each county, all entities participating in the election split the total election cost proportionally based on the number of registered voters each has in the territory.

Prior Year Spending for this item/service: N/A

Reasons for rejecting alternatives: N/A

Future/Ongoing: The cost of a tax rate election would be a one-time expenditure involving three county invoices, plus the cost to publish in the newspaper the required election information.

H. Monitoring and Reporting Time Line:

Person responsible for evaluating this decision or action: Tim Savoy

Evaluation method and timeline: The November uniform election date timeline is prescribed in state law and summarized by the Texas Secretary of State's Office in the published November 2025 election law calendar.

Next report to the Board: November canvassing following the election, should the Board choose to order an election.

I. Suggested Motion:

I move that the Hays CISD Board of Trustees enter into the required joint election agreements and election services contracts that are necessary to hold a November election and authorize district administration to execute the documents with Hays, Travis, and Caldwell Counties on behalf of the Board of Trustees, as presented.