



Financial and Performance Audits  
Building Fund (Measure SMS)  
June 30, 2021

# Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District

Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District  
Building Fund (Measure SMS)

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June 30, 2021

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Financial Audit  
Building Fund (Measure SMS)  
June 30, 2021

# Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District



## Independent Auditor's Report

Governing Board and  
Bond Oversight Committee  
Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District  
Santa Monica, California

### Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District's (the District), Building Fund (Measure SMS), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2021, and the related notes to the financial statements, as listed in the table of contents.

### Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statement in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting principles used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

**Opinion**

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Building Fund (Measure SMS) of Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District as of June 30, 2021, and the changes in financial position for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

**Emphasis of Matter**

As discussed in Note 1, the financial statements of the Building Fund specific to Measure SMS are intended to present the financial position and the changes in financial position attributable to the transactions of that Fund. They do not purport to, and do not, present fairly the financial position of Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District as of June 30, 2021, and the changes in financial position for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

**Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards***

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated January 20, 2022, on our consideration of Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



Rancho Cucamonga, California  
January 20, 2022

Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District  
Building Fund (Measure SMS)

Balance Sheet  
June 30, 2021

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Assets	
Investments	\$ 11,027,333
Receivables	<u>37,065</u>
Total assets	<u>\$ 11,064,398</u>
Liabilities and Fund Balance	
Liabilities	
Accounts payable	<u>\$ 9,954,361</u>
Fund Balance	
Restricted for capital projects	<u>1,110,037</u>
Total liabilities and fund balance	<u>\$ 11,064,398</u>

Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District  
Building Fund (Measure SMS)  
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance  
Year Ended June 30, 2021

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Revenues	
Interest income	<u>\$ 114,682</u>
Expenditures	
Facilities acquisition and construction	
Salaries and benefits	184,758
Capital outlay	
Building and improvements to buildings	47,167,302
Equipment	<u>41,781</u>
Total expenditures	<u>47,393,841</u>
Net Change in Fund Balance	(47,279,159)
Fund Balance - Beginning	<u>48,389,196</u>
Fund Balance - Ending	<u><u>\$ 1,110,037</u></u>

## **Note 1 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

The accounting policies of the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District's (the District) Building Fund (Measure SMS) conform to accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America as prescribed by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) and the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA), who is not an accounting standard setting body, but does produce non-authoritative guidance. The Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Building Fund accounts for financial transactions in accordance with the policies and procedures of the California School Accounting Manual.

### **Financial Reporting Entity**

The financial statements include only the Building Fund of the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District used to account for Measure SMS projects. This Fund was established to account for the expenditures of general obligation bonds issued under Measure SMS. These financial statements are not intended to present fairly the financial position and results of operations of the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District in compliance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

### **Fund Accounting**

The operations of the Building Fund are accounted for in a separate set of self-balancing accounts that comprise its assets, liabilities, fund balance, revenues, and expenditures. Resources are allocated to and accounted for in the fund based upon the purpose for which they are to be spent and the means by which spending activities are controlled.

### **Basis of Accounting**

The Building Fund is accounted for using a flow of current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. With this measurement focus, only current assets and current liabilities generally are included on the balance sheet. The statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balance reports on the sources (revenues and other financing sources) and uses (expenditures and other financing uses) of current financial resources.

### **Budgets and Budgetary Accounting**

Annual budgets are adopted on a basis consistent with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America for all governmental funds. The District's governing board adopts an operating budget no later than July 1 in accordance with State law. A public hearing must be conducted to receive comments prior to adoption. The District's governing board satisfied these requirements. The Board revises this budget during the year to give consideration to unanticipated revenue and expenditures primarily resulting from events unknown at the time of budget adoption. The District employs budget control by minor object and by individual appropriation accounts. Expenditures cannot legally exceed appropriations by major object account.



## Encumbrances

The District utilizes an encumbrance accounting system under which purchase orders, contracts and other commitments for the expenditure of monies are recorded in order to reserve that portion of the applicable appropriation. Encumbrances are liquidated when the commitments are paid and all outstanding encumbrances lapse at June 30.

## Fund Balance - Building Fund (Measure SMS)

As of June 30, 2021, the fund balance is classified as follows:

**Restricted** - amounts that can be spent only for specific purposes because of constitutional provisions or enabling legislation or because of constraints that are externally imposed by creditors, grantors, contributors, or the laws or regulations of other governments.

## Spending Order Policy

When an expenditure is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted fund balance is available, the District considers restricted funds to have been spent first. When an expenditure is incurred for which committed, assigned, or unassigned fund balances are available, the District considers amounts to have been spent first out of committed funds, then assigned funds, and finally unassigned funds, as needed, unless the governing board has provided otherwise in its commitment or assignment actions.

## Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenditures/expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

## Note 2 - Investments

### Policies and Practices

The District is authorized under *California Government Code* to make direct investments in local agency bonds, notes, or warrants within the State: U.S. Treasury instrument; registered State warrants or treasury notes; securities of the U.S. Government, or its agencies; bankers acceptances; commercial paper; certificates of deposit placed with commercial banks and/or savings and loan companies; repurchase or reverse repurchase agreement; medium term corporate notes; shares of beneficial interest issued by diversified management companies, certificates of participation, obligations with first priority security, and collateralized mortgage obligations.

### Investment in County Treasury

The District is considered to be an involuntary participant in an external investment pool as the District is required to deposit all receipts and collections of monies with their County Treasurer (*Education Code* Section 41001). The fair value of the District's investment in the pool is reported in the accounting financial statement at amounts based upon the District's pro-rata share of the fairly value provided by the County Treasurer for the entire portfolio (in relation to the amortized cost of that portfolio). The balance available for withdrawal is based on the accounting records maintained by the County Treasurer, which is recorded on the amortized cost basis.

### General Authorizations

Limitations as they relate to interest rate risk, credit risk, and concentration of credit risk are indicated in the schedules below:

Authorized Investment Type	Maximum Remaining Maturity	Maximum Percentage of Portfolio	Maximum Investment in One Issuer
Local Agency Bonds, Notes, Warrants	5 years	None	None
Registered State Bonds, Notes, Warrants	5 years	None	None
U.S. Treasury Obligations	5 years	None	None
U.S. Agency Securities	5 years	None	None
Banker's Acceptance	180 days	40%	30%
Commercial Paper	270 days	25%	10%
Negotiable Certificates of Deposit	5 years	30%	None
Repurchase Agreements	1 year	None	None
Reverse Repurchase Agreements	92 days	20% of base	None
Medium-Term Corporate Notes	5 years	30%	None
Mutual Funds	N/A	20%	10%
Money Market Mutual Funds	N/A	20%	10%
Mortgage Pass-Through Securities	5 years	20%	None
County Pooled Investment Funds	N/A	None	None
Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF)	N/A	None	None
Joint Powers Authority Pools	N/A	None	None

### Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that changes in market interest rates will adversely affect the fair value of an investment. Generally, the longer the maturity of an investment, the greater the sensitivity of its fair value is to changes in market interest rates. The District manages its exposure to interest rate risk by investing in the Los Angeles County Treasury Investment Pool. The District maintains a Building Fund (Measure SMS) investment of \$11,027,333 (cost basis of \$11,089,704 less fair market value loss adjustment of \$62,226) with the Los Angeles County Treasury Investment Pool, with an average maturity of 1,045 days.

**Credit Risk**

Credit risk is the risk that an issuer of an investment will not fulfill its obligation to the holder of the investment. This is measured by the assignment of a rating by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization. The District's investments in the County Pool are not required to be rated, nor have they been rated as of June 30, 2021.

**Note 3 - Receivables**

Receivables at June 30, 2021, consisted of the following:

Interest	\$ 37,065
	<u>                    </u>

**Note 4 - Accounts Payable**

Accounts payable at June 30, 2021, consisted of the following:

Vendor payables	\$ 9,925,143
Salaries and benefits	<u>29,218</u>
	<u>\$ 9,954,361</u>

**Note 5 - Commitments and Contingencies**

As of June 30, 2021, the Building Fund (Measure SMS) had the following commitments with respect to unfinished projects:

Measure SMS Projects	Remaining Construction Commitment	Expected Date of Completion
SAMOHI - Phase 3	\$ 9,823,135	June 2024
SAMOHI - Interim Repairs/Upgrades Project	3,209,419	June 2024
JAMS Auditorium - Funded from SMS	1,624,388	June 2022
JAMS Middle Schools (MS) Master Planning Assessment	280,421	June 2022
JAMS HVAC & Electrical Project - Phase II	64,996	December 2021
Lincoln Middle Schools (MS) Master Planning Assessment	121,155	June 2022
Lincoln Bldg G & K Modernization	790,044	March 2022
Lincoln HVAC & Electrical Project	7,463,016	September 2022
John Muir/SMASH - Window, Floor, Paint & Door & HVAC Project	4,086,741	June 2022
Grant - HVAC & Electrical Project	4,388,841	December 2022
Will Rogers - HVAC & Electrical Project	2,529,440	December 2022

Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District  
 Building Fund (Measure SMS)  
 Notes to Financial Statements  
 June 30, 2021

Measure SMS Projects	Remaining Construction Commitment	Expected Date of Completion
Roosevelt - HVAC & Electrical Project	\$ 1,906,454	December 2022
Project Based Learning - MBO	845,086	On Hold
Franklin ES Master Planning Assessment	919,497	June 2025
Roosevelt ES Master Planning Assessment	928,960	June 2025
McKinley ES Master Planning Assessment	2,030,988	June 2025
Grant ES Master Planning Assessment	881,498	June 2025
Will Rogers ES Master Planning Assessment	1,314,258	June 2025
Santa Monica Others - FF&E Project	65,114	June 2022
Edison ES - FF&E Project	926	December 2021
Franklin ES - FF&E Project	474,813	June 2022
Grant ES - FF&E Project	797,380	June 2022
McKinley ES - FF&E Project	42,061	December 2021
Will Rogers ES - FF&E Project	63,994	December 2021
Roosevelt ES - FF&E Project	696,343	June 2022
JAMS MS - FF&E Project	1,169,290	June 2022
Lincoln MS - FF&E Project	899,633	June 2022
SAMOHI - FF&E Project	21,705	June 2022
SMASH/Muir ES - FF&E Project	6,377	December 2021
Washington West - FF&E Project	14,023	December 2021
Safety & Security Projects (Will be distributed at end of School Year)	508,838	Ongoing
Edison ES - Safety & Security Project	4,282	December 2021
Franklin ES - Safety & Security Project	21,363	June 2022
Grant ES - Safety & Security Project	21,719	June 2022
McKinley ES - Safety & Security Project	4,094	December 2021
Will Rogers ES - Safety & Security Project	3,939	December 2021
Roosevelt ES - Safety & Security Project	4,670	December 2021
JAMS - MS Safety & Security Project	1,363,513	June 2022
Lincoln MS - Safety & Security Project	8,335	December 2021
Obama Center - Safety & Security Project	94,355	June 2022
Smash/Muir ES - Safety & Security Project	4,680	December 2021
Washington West - Safety & Security Project	112,118	June 2022
SAMOHI - Safety & Security Project	58,240	June 2022
Measure SMS - SMO Centralized Cost	<u>2,429,762</u>	Ongoing
<b>Total</b>	<u><u>\$ 52,099,904</u></u>	

Future bond issuances will fund the additional commitments beyond the current available funds (Note 6).

**Litigation**

The District is not currently a party to any legal proceedings related to the Building Fund (Measure SMS) as of June 30, 2021.

**Note 6 - Subsequent Event**

On July 1, 2021, the District issued the Election of 2018, Series B, General Obligation Bonds in the amount of \$200,000,000. The Election of 2018, Series B, Bonds, SFID No. 1 were issued as current interest bonds and have a final maturity on August 1, 2050, with interest rates ranging from 0.12% to 4.00%. Proceeds from the sale of the bonds will be used to improve, repair, and modernize school facilities in the District School Facilities Improvement District No. 1 (Santa Monica schools) and to pay issuance costs of the bonds.



Independent Auditor's Report  
June 30, 2021

**Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School  
District**



**Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance  
and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with  
*Government Auditing Standards***

Governing Board and  
Bond Oversight Committee  
Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District  
Santa Monica, California

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District (the District) Building Fund (Measure SMS) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2021, and the related notes of the financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated January 20, 2022.

**Emphasis of Matter**

As discussed in Note 1, the financial statements of the Building Fund specific to Measure SMS are intended to present the financial position and the changes in financial position attributable to the transactions of that Fund. They do not purport to, and do not, present fairly the financial position of Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District as of June 30, 2021, and the changes in financial position for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

**Internal Control over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District's internal control.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the District's Building Fund (Measure SMS) financial statements will not be prevented or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that have not been identified. We did identify a certain deficiency in internal control, described in the accompanying Schedule of Financial Statement Findings as item 2021-001 that we consider to be a material weakness.

### **Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District's Building Fund (Measure SMS) financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

### **Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District's Response to Finding**

Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District's response to the finding identified in our audit are described in the accompanying Schedule of Financial Statement Findings. Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District's response was not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on it.

### **Purpose of this Report**

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.



Rancho Cucamonga, California  
January 20, 2022



The following finding represents a material weakness related to the financial statements that is required to be reported in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*.

2021-001

Criteria or Specific Requirements

Management is responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal controls to ensure the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud. Such internal controls should include a review of financial account balances to ensure that they agree to corresponding supporting records.

Condition

During the course of our engagement, we identified a material misstatement of balances within the District's 2020-2021 unaudited actuals financial report. Through review of supporting records, it was noted that the accounts payable balance of the Building Fund (Measure SMS) was understated by \$519,186.

Questioned costs

There were no questioned costs associated with the condition noted.

Context

The condition was identified through review of available District records related to the accounts payable balances in the Measure SMS Building Fund.

Effect

Due to the condition identified, the District's Measure SMS Building Fund has been overstated by \$519,186.

Cause

The cause of the condition identified appears to be due to inadequate review processes related to the District's financial information.

Repeat Finding

No.

Recommendation

Management should review financial account balances to ensure that balances have been correctly reported. Balances should be traced to supporting records to verify the accuracy and completeness of reported information.

Corrective Action Plan and Views of Responsible Official

The District concurs with the finding.

The project invoices were not accrued in 2020-2021 because they were submitted late by the vendor/contractor and the invoice amount was not reported to the Bond Accountant by the Project Manager prior to close of fiscal year.

In the future, bond project management will review each project with the project managers and with the Accountant prior to the close of the fiscal year in order to ensure that the expenses are reported and can be accrued in the correct year.

These detailed project reviews will occur at minimum at each of the three interim reporting periods throughout the year for First Interim, Second Interim, and Third Budget Revision to ensure accrual adjusting entries are made should the accrual activity materialize based on invoices that should have been received.

Additionally, during the year-end closing, staff will launch a financial report of all accruals and compare the accruals to each project listing maintained the bond program Project Managers and management. This cross-referencing will ensure each accrual entry is accounted for by year-end closing.

Lastly, staff will seek assistance from the District's oversight agency, the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE), to ensure the financial reports launched for the comparison of accruals are the most accurate report to use within the new county-wide financial system that was implemented in July of 2019.

These additional review procedures were implemented after the finding was cited in the audit and presented to the District management.

The responsible parties named by the District to ensure compliance are as follows:

Carey Upton,	Chief Operations Officer
Steve Massetti,	Bond Program Lead Consultant
Ashraf Khimani,	Bond Program Accountant
Assigned Staff,	Bond Program Managers

Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District  
Building Fund (Measure SMS)  
Summary Schedule of Prior Audit Findings  
June 30, 2021

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There were no audit findings reported in the prior year's Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs.



Performance Audit  
Building Fund (Measure SMS)  
June 30, 2021

# Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District



## Independent Auditor's Report on Performance

Governing Board and  
Bond Oversight Committee  
Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District  
Santa Monica, California

We were engaged to conduct a performance audit of the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District (the District) Building Fund (Measure SMS) for the year ended June 30, 2021.

We conducted this performance audit in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain sufficient, appropriate evidence to provide a reasonable basis for our findings and conclusions based on our audit objectives. We believe that 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 within the report which includes determining the District's compliance with the performance requirements as referred to in Proposition 39 and outlined in Article XIII A, Section 1(b)(3)(C) of the California Constitution and Appendix A contained in the *2020-2021 Guide for Annual Audits of K-12 Local Education Agencies and State Compliance Reporting* issued by the California Education Audit Appeals Panel. Management is responsible for the District's compliance with those requirements.

In planning and performing our performance audit, we obtained an understanding of the District's internal control in order to determine if the internal controls were adequate to help ensure the District's compliance with the requirements of Proposition 39 and outlined in Article XIII A, Section 1(b)(3)(C) of the California Constitution, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion of the effectiveness of the District's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control. Had we performed additional procedures; other matters might have come to our attention that would have been reported to you.

The results of our tests indicated that the District expended Building Fund (Measure SMS) funds only for the specific projects approved by the voters, in accordance with Proposition 39 and outlined in Article XIII A, Section 1(b)(3)(C) of the California Constitution.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the District, Governing Board, and Bond Oversight Committee and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Eide Bailly LLP".

Rancho Cucamonga, California  
January 20, 2022

### **Authority for Issuance**

The general obligation bonds associated with Measure SMS were issued pursuant to the Constitution and laws of the State of California (the State), including the provisions of Chapters 1 and 1.5 of Part 10 of the California *Education Code*, and other applicable provisions of law. The bonds are authorized to be issued by a resolution adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the County, pursuant to a request of the District made by a resolution adopted by the Board of Education of the District on July 19, 2018.

The District received authorization from an election held on November 6, 2018, to issue bonds of the District in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$485,000,000 to finance specific construction and renovation projects approved by eligible voters within the District. The proposition required approval by at least 55% of the votes cast by eligible voters within the District (the 2018 Authorization). The bonds represent the first series of the authorized bonds to be issued under the 2018 Authorization.

### **Purpose of Issuance**

“To improve, repair, and modernize outdated Santa Monica classrooms, science labs, libraries, instructional technology and other school facilities; improve school safety/security systems; shall Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District’s School Facilities Improvement District No. 1 (Santa Monica Schools) issue \$485 million of bonds at legal interest rates, averaging \$27.4 million raised annually to repay issued bonds through final maturity, from levies estimated at four cents per \$100 assessed value, with citizens’ oversight, annual audits, and all funds benefitting Santa Monica schools.”

### **Authority for the Audit**

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, community college districts, or county offices of education, "for the construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, or replacement of school facilities, including the furnishing and equipping of school facilities, or the acquisition or lease of rental property for school facilities", upon approval by 55% of the electorate. In addition to reducing the approval threshold from two-thirds to 55%, Proposition 39 and the enacting legislation (AB 1908 and AB 2659) requires the following accountability measures as codified in *Education Code* sections 15278-15282:

1. Requires that the proceeds from the sale of the bonds be used only for the purposes specified in Article XIII A, Section 1(b)(3)(C) of the California Constitution, and not for any other purpose, including teacher and administrator salaries and other school operating expenses.
2. The school district must list the specific school facilities projects to be funded in the ballot measure and must certify that the governing board has evaluated safety, class size reduction and information technology needs in developing the project list.
3. Requires the school district to appoint a bond oversight committee.

4. Requires the school district to conduct an annual independent financial audit and performance audit in accordance with the Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States of the bond proceeds until all of the proceeds have been expended.
5. Requires the school district to conduct an annual independent performance audit to ensure that the funds have been expended only on the specific projects listed.

### **Objectives of the Audit**

1. Determine whether bond proceeds have been segregated and deposited in a separate Bond Fund (Measure SMS).
2. Determine whether expenditures charged to the Building Fund have been made in accordance with the bond project list approved by the voters through the approval of Measure SMS.
3. Determine whether salary transactions, charged to the Building Fund were in support of Measure SMS and not for District general administration or operations.

### **Scope of the Audit**

The scope of our performance audit covered the period of July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021. The population of expenditures tested included all object and project codes associated with the bond projects. The propriety of expenditures for capital projects and maintenance projects funded through other State or local funding sources, other than proceeds of the bonds, were not included within the scope of the audit. Expenditures incurred subsequent to June 30, 2021, were not reviewed or included within the scope of our audit or in this report.

### **Methodology**

We verified that Measure SMS bond funds are accounted for in a separate account within the Building Fund. We obtained the general ledger and the project expenditure reports prepared by the District for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2021, for the Building Fund (Measure SMS). Within the fiscal year audited, we obtained the actual invoices, purchase orders, and other supporting documentation for a sample of expenditures to ensure compliance with the requirements of Article XIII A, Section 1(b)(3)(C) of the California Constitution and Measure SMS as to the approved bond projects list. We performed the following procedures:

1. We identified expenditures and projects charged to the general obligation bond proceeds by obtaining the general ledger and project listing.
2. We selected a sample of expenditures using the following criteria:
  - a. We considered all expenditures recorded in all object codes.
  - b. We considered all expenditures recorded in all projects that were funded from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 from Measure SMS.
  - c. We selected all expenditures that were individually significant expenditures. Individually significant expenditures were identified as individual transactions (expenditures) that exceeded our calculated materiality threshold.

- d. For all items below the individually significant threshold identified in item 2c, judgmentally selected expenditures based on risk assessment and consideration of coverage of all object codes and projects for period starting July 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2021.
3. Our sample included transactions totaling \$34,705,725. This represents 73% of the total expenditures of \$47,393,841.
4. We reviewed the actual invoices and other supporting documentation to determine that:
  - a. Expenditures were supported by invoices with evidence of proper approval and documentation of receipting goods or services.
  - b. Expenditures were supported by proper bid documentation, as applicable.
  - c. Expenditures were expended in accordance with voter-approved bond project list.
  - d. Bond proceeds were not used for salaries of school administrators or other operating expenses of the District.
5. We determined that the District has met the compliance requirement of Measure SMS if the following conditions were met:
  - a. Supporting documents for expenditures were aligned with the voter-approved bond project list.
  - b. Supporting documents for expenditures provided evidence that funds were not used for salaries of school administrators or other operating expenses of the Districts.

### **Conclusion**

The results of our tests indicated that, in all significant respects, Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District has properly accounted for the expenditures held in the Building Fund (Measure SMS) and that such expenditures were made for authorized Bond projects.



Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District  
Building Fund (Measure SMS)  
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs  
June 30, 2021

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None reported.

Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District  
Building Fund (Measure SMS)  
Summary Schedule of Prior Audit Findings  
June 30, 2021

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There were no audit findings reported in the prior year's Schedule of Prior Audit Findings.