

## **REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT 13 EXPLANATORY TEXT**

### **QUESTION:**

The following question will be voted on by electors and citizens qualified to vote in town meetings in the Towns of Durham and Middlefield, Connecticut on Tuesday, February 8, 2022 between the hours of 6:00 A.M. and 8:00 P.M.

“Shall Regional School District No. 13, comprised of the Towns of Durham and Middlefield, appropriate \$7,500,000 for renovations and improvements to John Lyman Elementary School and authorize the issuance of bonds, notes or temporary notes in an amount not to exceed \$7,500,000 to finance the appropriation?

YES      NO”

Voters approving the resolution shall vote “Yes” and those opposing the resolution shall vote “No”.

### **BACKGROUND:**

A proposed amendment to the Regionalization Plan of Regional School District No. 13 to close John Lyman Elementary School in Middlefield was rejected at a referendum held in the Towns of Durham and Middlefield on November 2, 2021. As a result, the Board of Education has recommended that the District finance various improvements to John Lyman Elementary School, including the improvements that are detailed in a report on the District’s website titled “JOHN LYMAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FACILITIES STUDY”, dated December 14, 2021.

The recommended improvements include repairs to driveways, parking areas and playground areas and repairs or upgrades to the exterior of the building, including door and roof replacements, windows and calking.

Interior improvements include various repairs to ensure compliance with the American with Disabilities Act (ADA), the abatement of asbestos tile flooring, renovations to the kitchen, the replacement of hot water circulating pumps, expansion of the fire sprinkler system and associated pumps, the replacement of various boilers and pumps, the replacement of the air cooled chiller and ventilators, the replacement of exhaust fans and various upgrades to electrical facilities.

The estimated cost of the various improvements, as displayed in a table in the JOHN LYMAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FACILITIES STUDY, is approximately \$6,608,620. However, the Board of Education has estimated that the total cost of the project will be approximately \$7,500,000 when engineering costs and possible price increases are factored into the total cost. A portion of the improvements may be eligible for reimbursement from the State Department of Education which would help defray in part the total cost of the project.

The appropriation for the project may be expended for design, construction, renovation and installation costs, engineering and professional fees, materials, equipment, purchase costs, legal fees, financing costs, interest expense on temporary borrowings, and other costs related to the project. The appropriation shall include any federal, state or other grants-in-aid received for the project.

If the District issued bonds for a period of 20 years to pay for the project (assuming an interest rate of 3%), the first estimated annual debt service payment would be \$276,239. It is anticipated that the first debt service payment would be due in fiscal year 2023-2024.

The Board of Education and its Building Committee are required to adhere to all procurement policies and regulations for the engagement or purchase of services and equipment.

This explanatory text was authorized to be prepared by the Regional School District No. 13 Board of Education pursuant to Section 9-369b of the Connecticut General Statutes.