



## East Nicolaus Joint Union High School District

“A California Distinguished School”

2454 Nicolaus Avenue Nicolaus, CA 95659

Phone (530) 656-2255 Fax (530) 656-1065

[www.eastnicolaus.k12.ca.us](http://www.eastnicolaus.k12.ca.us)

Karen Villalobos, Ed.D., Superintendent/Principal



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### OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Per Proposition 39 requirements, a District that has a bond measure approved by voters must appoint an independent citizen bond oversight committee comprised of local community members within 60 days of the Board certifying the election results. The purpose of the committee is to be independent, to review expenditures, to make recommendations to the District and Board on construction and cost efficiencies, and to annually report to the public of its activities. While a District often seeks counsel and guidance on the subject, the oversight committee is not responsible for prioritizing or authorizing projects to be completed with bond funds.

Please see below for more detail regarding the composition and responsibility of the oversight committee taken from the **Proposition 39 Best Practices Handbook**

<http://www.cashnet.org/resource-material/Proposition39BestPracticesHandbook.html> :

“The Committee shall consist of at least seven (7) members to serve for a term of two (2) years without compensation and for no more than two (2) consecutive terms. The legislation is silent on how and under what conditions a committee member may be removed prior to expiration of his or her term.

The Committee must include:

- ◆ One member who is active in a business organization representing the business community located within the school district;
- ◆ One member active in a senior citizens’ organization;
- ◆ One member who is the parent or guardian of a child enrolled in the school district;
- ◆ One member who is both a parent or guardian of a child enrolled in the school district and active in a parent-teacher organization; and
- ◆ One member who is active in a bona fide taxpayers’ organization. [Education Code §15282(a)]

*No District employees or spouses of employees shall serve on the committee.*

The purpose of the Committee shall be to inform the public concerning the expenditure of the bond proceeds. The Committee shall engage in the following activities to carry out this purpose:

- ◆ Actively review and report on the proper expenditure of taxpayers’ money for school construction;
- ◆ Advise the public as to whether the school district is in compliance with the requirements of Article XIII A, Section 1(b)(3) of the California Constitution; and
- ◆ Convene to provide oversight for, but not limited to:



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- Ensuring that bond revenues are expended only for the construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation or replacement of school facilities, including the furnishing and equipping of school facilities, or the acquisition or lease of real property for school facilities;
  - Ensuring that no funds are used for any teacher or administrative salaries or other school operating expenses. [Education Code §15278(b)]

It is the express intent of the Legislature that the members of the Committee “promptly alert the public to any waste or improper expenditure of school construction bond money.” [Education Code §15264]

The Committee is authorized to engage in any of the following activities in furtherance of its purpose:

- ◆ Receive and review copies of the annual independent performance audit required by Article XIII A, Section 1(b)(3)(C) of the California Constitution;
- ◆ Receive and review copies of the annual independent financial audit required by Article XIII A, Section 1(b)(3)(D) of the California Constitution;
- ◆ Inspect school facilities and grounds to ensure bond revenues are expended in compliance with Article XIII A, Section 1(b)(3) of the California Constitution;
- ◆ Receive and review copies of any deferred maintenance proposals or plans developed by the school district including Education Code Section 17584.1; and
- ◆ Review efforts by the school district to maximize bond revenues by implementing cost saving measures, including, but not limited to:
  - Mechanisms designed to reduce the cost of professional fees;
  - Mechanisms designed to reduce the costs of site preparation;
  - Recommendations regarding the joint use of core facilities;
  - Mechanisms designed to reduce costs by incorporating efficiencies in school site design; and
  - Recommendations regarding the use of cost-effective and efficient reusable plans. [Education Code §15278(c)]

The Committee shall at least annually issue regular annual reports of the results of its activities. [Education Code §15280(b)]”