



To: Dr. Charles Johns
Board of Education

From: Dr. R.J. Gravel

Date: Monday, August 24, 2020

Re: Credit Rating for Series 2020 General Obligation Refunding School Bonds

This spring, we worked closely with Mrs. Elizabeth Hennessy of Raymond James to prepare for a bond rating presentation, as part of our upcoming debt issuance. The purpose of a rating presentation is to share information about the school district and the planned debt issuance. Using the information provided, an agency issues a rating representing the creditworthiness of the debt and the likelihood of repayment.

On Wednesday, August 5, 2020, Dr. Johns, Dr. Ptak, Ms. Tarver, Mrs. Hennessy, and I presented to analysts from S&P Global Ratings as part of an online teleconference. The presentation lasted approximately 90 minutes, and provided an opportunity for the rating agency's analysts to learn about:

- Our school district's boundaries, the consistent residential and economic development of Glenview and Northbrook, enrollment trends and the accomplishments of our students and staff;
- The leadership structure of the district, and management philosophy leveraging data and defined formulas to make informed decisions ensuring generational equity in educational experiences for our residents;
- The implementation of extensive budget policies and practices, a five-year, rolling, long-term financial plan, and a 10-year capital plan that the Board of Education reviews annually;
- The design of the Learning and Operational Plan for the 2020-21 school year, and the associated financial plan to address the impact of COVID-19 operationally and within the budget;
- The commitment of the Board of Education to maintain a sufficient fund balance, and efforts to implement efficiencies through collective bargaining, outsourcing, and shared services; and
- Our current debt profile and proposed debt structure for the refunding of existing bonds.

With great enthusiasm, I share with the Board of Education that our school district received the highest bond rating possible from S&P Global Ratings:

AAA - The obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitments on the obligation is extremely strong.

Strong - The district's practices are strong, well embedded, and likely sustainable.

As documented in the attached rating report provided by S&P, these ratings represent the school district's long-term commitment to consistent and effective budgetary practices. The rating agency commented favorably regarding the strength of the school district's management team and its ability to communicate the school district's financial condition. As a result of this rating, our school district was positioned to receive the most competitive rates for the Series 2020 bonds.