# CALIFORNIA SCHOOL FINANCE AUTHORITY EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES REVENUE BONDS (HIGH TECH HIGH NORTH COUNTY PROJECT); SERIES 2010 QUALIFIED SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION BONDS (DIRECT SUBSIDY BONDS) EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## **RESOLUTION 10-38**

Borrower: High Tech High

**Loan Amount:** Not to exceed \$5,000,000

**Expected Issuance:** February 1, 2011

**Project:** A new public charter school facilities to be operated by

the Borrower and located in San Marcos, California, (grades 6-8) serving approximately 312 students

**Bond Type:** Revenue Bond, Qualified School Construction Bonds

(Direct Subsidy) (the "Bonds")

**Credit Enhancement:** City National Bank direct pay letter of credit "wrapped"

by Federal Home Loan Bank of San Francisco

Expected Rating(s): Aaa/AAA

**Structure:** Term Bond maturing in approximately ten years

Sale Method: Negotiated Public Offering
Senior Manager: RBC Capital Markets, Inc.

**Bond and Disclosure** 

Counsel:

Orrick Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP

# I. Background

The State has allocated to the California School Finance Authority ("CSFA") Qualified School Construction Bonds ("QSCBs") in the approximate amount of \$73 million. In July 2010, the board approved an open application period for the QSCB program. CSFA accepted applications from qualifying charter schools that were interested in taking advantage of the federal subsidies afforded by QSCBs via a conduit issuance through CSFA. High Tech High (the "Borrower") was awarded \$5 million of QSCB borrowing authority on a preliminary basis in October 2010 and is now ready to proceed with a financing, pending approval of the transaction and bond documents by CSFA.

### II. Structure

CSFA will issue the Bonds, the proceeds of which will be loaned to the Borrower pursuant to a Loan Agreement by and between CSFA and the Borrower, through a negotiated, public offering. The Bonds will be sold as taxable obligations with a single "bullet" maturity in 2020. Prior to this date, the Bonds will pay semi-annual interest only. CSFA, acting at the request of the Borrower, will elect for the Department of the Treasury to transfer to the trustee on a periodic basis a federal subsidy payment (based

on current law) equal to the lesser of (i) 100% of the interest payable on the Bonds; or (ii) the interest that would have been payable on the Bonds if it were computed based on the rate applicable for qualified tax credit bonds in effect at the time of sale.

## III. Security and Source of Payment

Semi-annual interest and principal, as applicable, will be paid by City National Bank under the terms of an irrevocable, direct pay letter of credit. The letter of credit will be further "wrapped" by the Federal Home Loan Bank of San Francisco by means of a standby letter of credit and is expected to result in a "AAA"-rating for the transactions. Ultimately, the Borrower will be responsible for reimbursing all payments made by City National Bank as well as any associated letter of credit fees (CSFA is obligated to pay the principal of, premium, if any, and interest on the Bonds and "Credit Provider Reimbursement Obligations" solely from the payments received from the Borrower under the Loan Agreement). In addition, Borrower loan payments will also fund annual "sinking fund" deposits into an account held by the bond trustee (BNY Mellon) in advance of the final stated maturity of the Bonds. Such deposit amounts, including interest earnings thereon, will be sufficient to ensure that adequate funds are on hand to reimburse City National Bank for the repayment of the principal payment due upon the final stated maturity of the Bonds in 2020. The Borrower will utilize the State Controller's Intercept Mechanism (Section 17199.4, Education Code) to transfer a portion of its annual state allotment of revenue limit funds (i.e., the general purpose entitlement component of its annual principal apportionment). The State Controller will be provided with a schedule at closing detailing funds to be intercepted and forwarded to the bond trustee on a periodic basis. Such amounts will cover the aforementioned interest payments, letter of credit fees, and required sinking fund deposits and will be transferred by the trustee to City National Bank. Federal subsidy payments will be made by the Department of the Treasury to the trustee. Certain excess amounts may be periodically transferred to the Borrower.

## IV. The Borrower

The Borrower currently operates eight public charter schools in San Diego County. The Borrower is affiliated with HTH Learning ("Learning"). Learning is also affiliated with Explorer Elementary Charter School and the High Tech High Graduate School of Education. A supporting organization, High Tech High Foundation, is under High Tech High's corporate control. All of the Borrower's affiliates are 501(c)3 organizations with the exception of its newest affiliate, the High Tech High Graduate School of Education, created in July 2009. High Tech High Graduate School of Education was established in CA as a nonprofit public benefit corporation and is currently in the process of making its application to the Internal Revenue Service for tax exempt status.

Currently, the schools operated by the Borrower serve approximately 3,400 students and the Borrower employs approximately 330 staff.

Learning, in addition to serving as the sole member of the Borrower, provides overall supervision, oversight and coordination for the activities of the group, also owns all of the school facilities currently used by existing schools operated by the Borrower, which it leases to the Borrower. The fourth member of the HTH Group, High Tech High Foundation, engages in fund raising activities in support of the Group. The newest affiliate, High Tech High Graduate School of Education was separated from HTH

Learning in July 2009 into its own nonprofit public benefit corporation with IRS approval of 501(c)3 status approved in August 2010.

# V. Preliminary Sources and Uses

Sources				
Qualified School Construction Bonds	\$ 5,000,000			
Borrower Equity	4,500,000			
Total Sources	\$ 9,500,000			
Uses				
Construction Budget	\$6,210,000			
Construction Contingency	621,000			
Equipment	750,000			
Fees During Construction	178,000			
Cost of Issuance	541,000			
Construction Management	150,000			
Other Contingency	1,050,000			
Total Uses	\$9,500,000			

# VI. The Project

The bonds will be used to finance the design and construction of a 27,000 square foot, two story building. The facility will be designed and engineered to meet LEED standards and will replace a temporary campus consisting of leased portable classrooms that have been on site since 2007. The project will consist of the construction of a multipurpose room and 15 total classrooms: 12 seminar rooms and 3 exploratory rooms. Upon completion of the new facility, the temporary campus will be dismantled and the leased portables returned. The project will accommodate 312 students in the Middle School (grades 6-8).

The Borrower intends to continue its award-winning tradition of creating school facilities that achieve rigorous environmental standards. The Facility has been designed to meet LEED Certification and California High Performing Schools (CHPS) standards. High Tech High Chula Vista, has already been LEED Gold certified and is currently under review for CHPS Verification.

The Borrower is working with Bycor General Contractors, as its general contractor, and Studio E Architects to complete this project. Learning, the Borrower's parent, has previously designed and built two facilities with these partners and is currently building a K-8 facility with the same partners in Chula Vista, California. The Borrower provides project management through Paul Dooley, Project Manager, and Christopher Gerber, Director of Facilities. Mr. Dooley and Mr. Gerber were responsible for managing the design and construction of High Tech High Chula Vista (opened January 2009) and High Tech High North County in San Marcos, California (opened August 2009). Both projects were completed on schedule and within budget. This team is currently managing construction of a K-8 facility in Chula Vista (scheduled opening August 2011).

The Borrower will enter into a guaranteed maximum price construction contract at the time of the loan closing with Bycor General Contractors. In addition, the Borrower has established contingency allowances outside of the General Contractor's contracts to cover any unforeseen cost and as contingency for work performed outside of the Bycor contract. All primary construction is encompassed under Bycor's contract. All of the sub-contractors for the Facility have already been bid and selected. The Borrower expects to incur total project costs, inclusive of cost of issuance, capitalized interest, development fees, and furniture, fixtures and equipment of approximately \$8.45 million. Construction of the Facility is subject to prevailing wage under the Davis-Bacon Act.

The project has already gone through design review by the City's Planning Board and final grading work in preparation for construction has already been completed, with structural work beginning by Summer 2011.

The Borrower expects to complete construction in November 1, 2012.

The Facility will be located on a portion of a 5.2 acre parcel of land owned by Learning and located at 1460 West San Marcos Boulevard, San Marcos, California. The Facility will be built adjacent to and to the north of the existing buildings used by HTHNC. The HTHNC facility, which is also operated by the Borrower, was completed in July 2009 and began serving students in August 2009. Initially, the Facility and HTHNC will share that same 5.2 acre parcel of land. Such 5.2 acre parcel is owned by Learning and leased to the Borrower pursuant to a Lease Agreement dated December 19, 2007. At the request of the Borrower, Learning has applied to the City of San Marcos for a parcel map, whereby such 5.2 acre parcel would be split into two parcels.

# VII. Borrower Financial Data

Attached as Exhibit B is a schedule of historic and projected revenues for the Borrower as well as an enrollment history for all High Tech High and associated affiliate schools, including projected enrollment for High Tech High North County Middle School.

# VIII. Due Diligence Undertaken to Date

No information was disclosed to question the financial viability or legal integrity of the Borrower. Standard opinions of counsel (i.e., that the borrowing entity has been duly organized, is in good standing, has the full authority to enter into all documents which are valid and binding, etc.) will be delivered at closing.

#### IX. Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends CSFA approve Resolution Number 10-38 in an amount not to exceed \$5,000,000 for High Tech High subject to final financing terms acceptable to CSFA.

Exhibit B
Projected Enrollment – High Tech High and Affiliate Schools

School	Grade Level	09/10 CBEDS	10/11 Proj	11/12 Proj	12/13 Proj	13/14 Proj	14/15 Proj	15/16 Proj
Explorer Elementary Charter	К	64	44	66	44	66	44	66
	1	42	66	44	66	44	66	44
	2	70	44	66	44	66	44	66
	3	44	66	44	66	44	66	44
	5	72 49	48 72	72 48	48 72	72 48	48 72	72 48
Explorer Elementary Charter Total	3	341	340	340	340	340	340	340
Explorer Elementary Charter Total		341	340	340	340	340	340	340
High Tech High Chula Vista	9	157	150	150	150	150	150	150
	10	150	150	150	150	150	150	150
	11	145	135	135	135	135	135	135
	12	0	125	125	125	125	125	125
High Tech High Chula Vista Total		452	560	560	560	560	560	560
High Tech High International	9	102	102	102	102	102	102	102
- ng con - ng nnonnanonan	10	96	102	102	102	102	102	102
	11	97	98	98	98	98	98	98
	12	97	94	94	94	94	94	94
High Tech High International Total		392	396	396	396	396	396	396
High Tech High Media Arts	9	108	102	102	102	102	102	102
riigir recirriigiriwedia Alts	10	100	102	102	102	102	102	102
	11	105	98	98	98	98	98	98
	12	90	90	90	90	90	90	90
High Tech High Media Arts Total		404	392	392	392	392	392	392
High Tech High North County	9	151	150	150	150	150	150	150
	10 11	137 116	150 135	150 135	150 135	150 135	150 135	150 135
	12	0	110	110	110	110	110	110
High Tech High North County Total	12	404	545	545	545	545	545	545
High Tech High San Diego	9	158	150	150	150	150	150	150
	10	137	150	150	150	150	150	150
	11	121	130	130	130	130	130	130
High Tech High San Diego Total	12	130 546	120 550	120 550	120 550	120 550	120 550	120 550
Tilgit Techt light Gait Diego Total		340	330	330	330	330	330	330
High Tech Middle Media Arts	6	112	112	112	112	112	112	112
	7	112	112	112	112	112	112	112
	8	111	112	112	112	112	112	112
High Tech Middle Media Arts Total		335	336	336	336	336	336	336
High Tech Middle North County	6	106	108	108	108	108	108	108
	7	108	108 108	108 108	108	108	108 108	108
High Tech Middle North County Total	8	108 322	324	324	108 324	108 324	324	108 324
High Tech Middle San Diego	6	112	108	108	108	108	108	108
g reen maaie ean ziege	7	112	108	108	108	108	108	108
	8	112	108	108	108	108	108	
High Tech Middle San Diego Total		336	324	324	324	324	324	324
High Tech Elementary Chula Vista	K	0	0	63	63	63	63	63
	1	0	0	63	63	63	63	63
	2	0	0	63	63	63	63	63
	3	0	0	63	63	63	63	63
	5	0	0	72 72	72 72	72 72	72 72	72 72
Explorer Elementary Charter Total	<del> </del>	0	0	396	396	396	396	396
High Tech Middle Chula Vista	6	0	0	100	100	100		100
	7	0	0	100	100	100		100
	8	0	0	100	100	100	100	100
High Tech Middle San Diego Total		0	0	300	300	300	300	300
High Tech High Entrepeneur	9	0	0	0	0	156	156	156
	10	0	0	0	0	156		156
	11	0	0	0	0	0		135
High Tech High San Diego Total	12	0	0	0	0	0 312	0 447	113 560
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Total All		3532	3767	4463	4463	4775	4910	5023