# **California School Finance Authority**

#### MEMORANDUM

**Date**: January 28, 2021 Staff Summary No. 5

To: Members, California School Finance Authority

From: Katrina M. Johantgen, Executive Director

**Re:** Pooled TRANs Programs for K-12 & Community College Districts and Charter

School ASAP Program (Information Item)

<u>Background</u>: The State's 2020-21 adopted budget includes deferrals of up to \$12.9 billion in state aid to school districts, community colleges, county offices of education and charter schools (Local Education Agencies or LEAs). These LEAs are expected to receive between 64% - 70% of their State apportionment payments for the 2020-21 school year, with deferrals starting in February 2021 through June 2021, and deferral repayment expected from July 2021 through November 2021. Unless an LEA has sufficient cash reserves it is likely to need to borrow from external sources, such as its county or access funding through the capital markets.

To assist LEAs with a cost-effective external borrowing option, the California School Finance Authority (CSFA or Authority) and the State Treasurer's Office (STO) created the Pooled TRANs Program for K-12 & Community College Districts, and the Charter School Advances on State Aid Payments Program. These Tax and Revenue Anticipation Note (TRAN) Programs were designed to help LEAs manage the financial impacts of these deferrals. Leveraging the Authority's broad statutory mandate, intercept mechanism, and other key provisions, the Authority sponsored TRAN programs are low-cost, streamlined, and secure. Working with STO's Public Finance Division colleagues, the Authority assembled a team of capital market participants to perform an array of tasks and duties to launch the two TRAN Programs. Financing Team Members are listed in Exhibit A of this staff summary.

The Governor's recent budget proposal announcement brings much needed relief from scheduled FY 2021-22 deferrals; however, many LEAs still anticipate financial hardship related to the still scheduled deferrals in FY 2020-21.

# K-12 & Community College District TRAN Program (Program)

The Program began accepting applications in August 2020, since that time, Authority staff members and our capital market partners have been in close contact with Program applicants at every step; working to ensure the applicants are eligible, providing cost estimates and providing financing documents to present to their respective school boards. The following two tables illustrate the initial interest in the programs and the current applicant pool.

# **Original Applicant Pool:**

LEA Type	#	Students Represented	Anticipated Deferrals
District	142	1,077,929	\$ 2,123,545,120
County Office of Education	3	2,278	\$ 4,518,463
Community College District	8	243,060	\$ 204,261,947
Total	153	1,323,267	\$ 2,332,325,530

To date, 73 K-14 districts have confirmed participation in the Program seeking \$1.2 billion in funding. Please note that applicants have no obligation to issue notes through the Program and the Authority believes the final number of borrowers may be less than the current number of applicants. At this time, two Authority TRAN issuances for K-14 districts are anticipated. The targeted funding date for the first K14TRAN is March 2021 and the targeted funding date for the second TRAN is April 2021. Participants in the K14 Program are listed in Exhibit B.

# **Current Confirmed Applicant Pool:**

LEA Type	#	Students Represented	Not to Exceed Amount
District	67	553,520	\$ 1,101,292,000
County Office of Education	1	346	\$ 1,000,000
Community College District	5	135,140	\$ 114,548,690
Total	73	689,006	\$ 1,216,840,690

### Charter School Advances on State Aid Payments (ASAP) Program

The ASAP Program began accepting applications in September 2020, since that time, Authority staff members and our capital market partners have been in close contact with program applicants at every step; working to ensure they are eligible, providing cost estimates and providing financing documents to present to their respective Boards.

The Governor's recent budget announcement brings much needed relief from scheduled FY 2021-22 deferrals; however, many California Charter Schools still anticipate financial hardship related to deferrals scheduled in FY 2020-21. The following two tables present the original and remaining applicant pools.

# **Original Applicant Pool:**

Borrower Type	#	Schools	Students Represented	Anticipated Deferrals
Charter Management Organization	33	114	61,829	\$ 150,119,153
Charter School	94	94	53,898	\$ 125,474,401
Total	127	208	115,727	\$ 275,593,554

To date, 75 borrowers representing 114 charter schools have confirmed participation in the ASAP Program seeking \$165 million in funding. The Authority believes the final number of

borrowers may be less than the current number of participants. Given various credit considerations, it is contemplated that there will be at least two series of notes under the charter school program. A Series A will be enhanced by the Authority's U.S. Department of Education credit enhancement grant. The Series B notes will be enhanced by letters of credit provided by RBC and Citi, and a third series of notes may be issued for large standalone borrowers. The targeted funding date for the Authority's Charter School ASAP Program TRAN is March 2021. If a second issuance is warranted, the Authority and its financing team are prepared to structure a subsequent issuance. Participants in the K14 Program are listed in Exhibit C.

### **Current Confirmed Applicant Pool:**

Borrower Type	#	Schools	Students Represented	Series Amount
Charter Management Organization	19	58	10,924	\$ 68,039,505
Charter School	56	56	40,706	\$ 96,699,552
Total	75	114	70,826	\$ 164,739,057

<u>Program Cost</u>: The two TRANs programs are not expected to generate surplus revenue for the Authority. To the contrary, the Authority anticipated the need for cash flow assistance, due to state budget deferrals, would be significant therefore, the Authority decided to fund certain reasonable fixed program development costs, even in the event these costs would not be recouped through Program borrowers after issuance.

The outreach and other activities have elevated the CSFA name within sectors not normally familiar with the Authority. These TRANs programs represents a powerful demonstration of CSFA's value by having the pooled financing, along with the unique intercept mechanism; to be assessed and receive the State's highest credit rating. CSFA's program offers a reliable, simplified, low-cost alternative at a time when our LEAs need it most. Competing pooled financing programs are often structured such that every individual participant's financial soundness must be evaluated by investors, resulting in the pool receiving a lower overall credit rating at significantly higher cost to borrowers.

Designing and delivering a viable solution to two groups of schools creates valuable relationships and inroads that have been slow to grow. CSFA believes the increased recognition and trust built with traditional public school and community college districts will lead to additional funding activities in the future.

Next Steps: CSFA and our capital market partners are working diligently with Program applicants to secure approval from their respective boards no later than their February 2021 meetings. The Authority intends to seek approval from CSFA Board members in February, provide offering documents to potential investors beginning in March, and seek to close on both initial TRANs issuances no later than March 31, 2021. The second TRAN issuance currently planned for the K-14 districts and ASAP will be submitted to the CSFA Board for approval in March, with an anticipated closing date no later than April 30, 2021.

# **California School Finance Authority**

### **EXHIBIT A**

K-12 & Community College District TRAN Financing Team Members

### Montague DeRose

Municipal Advisor
Annette Yee
Managing Director

Mike Kremer Managing Director

### **RBC Capital Markets**

Bookrunning Senior Manager
Greg Dawley
Managing Director

Frank Vega Managing Director

> Christen Gair Director

# Citigroup

Senior Manager Chris Mukai Managing Director

Victor Andrade Director

Chris LeBrett Director

#### <u>Nixon</u>

Disclosure Counsel
Daniel Deaton
Partner

### **Norton Rose Fulbright**

Note Counsel
Ann La Morena Rohlin
Partner

### **Eide Bailly**

Cash Flow Consultant
Caroline Larson
Partner

Charter School ASAP TRAN Program
Financing Team Members

### **Montague DeRose**

Municipal Advisor
Mike Kremer
Managing Director

Annette Yee Managing Director

# **RBC Capital Markets**

Bookrunning Senior Manager
Greg Dawley
Managing Director

Frank Vega Managing Director

John Solarczyk Managing Director

### Citigroup

Senior Manager Chris Mukai Managing Director

Victor Andrade Director

Chris LeBrett Director

#### <u>Nixon</u>

Disclosure Counsel
Daniel Deaton
Partner

#### <u>Orrick</u>

Note Counsel
Marc Bauer
Partner

#### **EXHIBIT B**

### K-12 & Community College District Confirmed Applicants

Adelanto Elementary School District Alameda Unified School District Albany Unified School District

Alpine Union Elementary School District Alum Rock Union Elementary School District

Banta Elementary School District Bear Valley Unified School District Blue Lake Union Elementary School

District

Brawley Elementary School District Buellton Union Elementary School District

Calexico Unified School District
Calipatria Unified School District
Central Union High School District
Ceres Unified School District

Chaffey Community College District Colton Joint Unified School District Cotati-Rohnert Park Unified School

District

Del Norte County Office of Education
Del Norte County Unified School District

Delhi Unified School District Dixon Unified School District

Dos Palos Oro Loma Joint Unified School

District

Dunsmuir Elementary School District El Centro Elementary School District Enterprise Elementary School District Fillmore Unified School District

Fortuna Union High School District Freshwater Elementary School District Galt Joint Union Elementary School

District

Galt Joint Union High School District Golden Plains Unified School District Happy Valley Union Elementary School

District

Hayward Unified School District Hueneme Elementary School District Imperial Unified School District Inglewood Unified School District Live Oak Unified School District Livermore Valley Joint Unified School

District

Lodi Unified School District

Loleta Union Elementary School District

Lompoc Unified School District
Madera Unified School District
Maxwell Unified School District
Meadows Union School District
Millbrae Elementary School District
Monroe Elementary School District
Montague Elementary School District
Needles Unified School District

Needles Unified School District New Jerusalem Elementary School

District

Oakland Unified School District Ontario-Montclair School District

Pacifica School District

Parlier Unified School District

Pasadena Area Community College

District

Peralta Community College District

Rialto Unified School District

Sacramento City Unified School District
San Lorenzo Unified School District

Santa Monica Community College District Seeley Union Elementary School District

Simi Valley Unified School District Snowline Joint Unified School District Soulsbyville Elementary School District Sweetwater Union High School District

Tehachapi Unified School District Upland Unified School District Vallejo City Unified School District Ventura County Community College

District

Ventura Unified School District Waterford Unified School District Willits Unified School District

Yreka Union Elementary School District Yucaipa-Calimesa Joint Unified School

District

# **California School Finance Authority**

# EXHIBIT C

**Charter School ASAP Confirmed Applicants** 

Agape, Inc.

Amethod Public Schools

Architecture, Construction & Engineering

Charter High School ARISE High School ASA Charter Inc. Audeo Charter School

Calaveras County Office of Education

Caliber Public Schools

California Virtual Academy at San Joaquin California Virtual Academy at San Diego California Virtual Academy at Sutter California Virtual Academy at Fresno California Virtual Academy at Maricopa California Virtual Academy at Sonoma California Virtual Academy at San Mateo California Virtual Academy at Los Angeles Charter High School of Arts Association Collegiate Charter High School of Los

Angeles

CORE Butte, Inc.

**Cottonwood Charter School** 

Crete Academy

**Education for Change Public Schools** 

Element Education, Inc.

Ezequiel Tafoya Alvarado Academy Farmworker Institute of Education and

Leadership Development

Five Keys Schools and Programs

Granada Hills Charter

Harvest Ridge Cooperative Charter

School

Humphrey's College Academy of Business, Law and Education iLEAD California Charters 1

iLEAD Charter Schools (iLEAD Lancaster)

Imagine Schools Riverside County

Insight at San Diego Insight at San Joaquin Insight School of California

International School for Science and

Culture

iQ Academy California - Los Angeles

John Adams Academies, Inc.

Kepler Education Inc LA Promise Fund

Ladera Education Institute

Learning by Design

Learning for Life Charter School Los Angeles College Prep Academy

Manzanita Public Charter Inc.

Mirus Education

Nevada City School of the Arts

North Valley Military Institute College

Preparatory Academy

Northern United Charter Schools

**NSSF** 

OFL-Baldwin Park, Inc.

Options For Youth - Duarte, Inc.

Options For Youth - San Bernardino, Inc. Options For Youth - San Gabriel, Inc.

Pacific View Charter School

Partnership Schools of the Central Coast

Perseverance Preparatory, Inc. Real Journey Academies, Inc

Rex and Margaret Fortune School of

Education

Rising Sun Montessori School

River Charter Schools

River Valley Charter School Ross Valley Charter School Santa Clarita Valley International

Savant Preparatory Academy of Business

Scholarship Prep Sparrow Academy

Student Success Programs

Temecula International Academy, Inc. Unity Middle College High School Vista Charter Public Schools Vista Oaks Charter School

Voices College-Bound Language

Academies

Volunteers of America Comm. Education

and Development Corp.
Western Center Academy