

CASE STUDY

FINANCING FOR K-12 SCHOOLS

APRIL 2, 2024



\$63,645,000 | GENERAL OBLIGATION IMPROVEMENT BONDS | SERIES 2024-A
Unified School District No. 437 Shawnee County, Kansas (Auburn-Washburn) | Shawnee County, Kansas

Auburn-Washburn USD 437

Client Profile

Auburn-Washburn is a Unified School District located in Shawnee County, Kansas, whose boundaries include the southwest portion of Topeka along with outlying areas in Shawnee County. The District has an approximate enrollment of 6,007 students, and its mission is to inspire, challenge, and prepare every child, every day.

The Project

On April 12, 2022, voters in the District approved up to \$145,000,000 of general obligation bonds for the purpose of constructing a new middle school facility, and improving, equipping, and furnishing other facilities within the District. Voters approved the projects with the ballot question receiving 60.87% approval. The 2024-A bonds used the remaining authorization from the 2022 election.

The Stifel Difference

Stifel Public Finance in Kansas City helped the District develop the plan of finance for the \$145,000,000 of general obligation bonds and structured the 2024-A bonds to minimize the mill impact on the District's taxpayers. By wrapping the 2024-A Bonds around other outstanding debt, the District was able to issue its remaining 2022 bond authorization without increasing the mill levy from what was stated to voters despite a significant rise in interest rates since the election. The bonds were received well by the market, with 25 accounts placing over \$197 million in orders, an oversubscription of 3.1 times. This oversubscription allowed Stifel to lower yields for the District and achieve a final true interest cost interest rate of 3.82% for the 20-year financing.

The Bankers Team

David Arteberry has over 37 years of experience assisting municipalities in Kansas. He is an accomplished advisor and underwriter who interacts daily with Stifel's clients, providing creative financing options and detailed quantitative analyses. He has assisted his clients with all municipal financing needs, including debt modeling, borrowing capacity analysis, debt refunding, and restructuring and credit analysis.

CONTACT

David Arteberry, Managing Director
(816) 203-8733 | arteberryd@stifel.com

4622 Pennsylvania Avenue, Suite 1210 | Kansas City, Missouri 64112
Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, Incorporated | Member SIPC & NYSE | www.stifel.com

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