

# **Oxnard Union High School District Retiree Health Benefits Trust**

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## ***Investment Policies, Guidelines, and Objectives***

*Revised and Adopted – May 3, 2018*

### **Introduction**

This document establishes the investment policies, guidelines and objectives of the Oxnard Union High School District Benefit Trust (the “Trust”), and it will be used to facilitate an understanding between the Board of Trustees (the “Board”) and the Trust’s investment advisors and managers. As such, this document expresses the position of the Board with respect to risk, return on assets, and diversification, and it also sets forth specific objectives, guidelines, and limitations for the management of the Trust’s assets.

### **General Information**

The Trust is maintained exclusively to provide retiree health and welfare benefits for eligible retired employees of the Oxnard Union High School District and their dependents. The Board is responsible for oversight of the Trust’s assets, and as such it will review the performance of the Trust and the investment managers’ conformity to the Trust’s guidelines. In this capacity, the Board may choose a corporate custodian, trustee and/or investment counsel to provide services necessary for it to perform its obligations as set forth in the policy statement.

## **Investment Plan**

*The following investment plan has been adopted by the Board and may be amended as necessary:*

### ***Policy***

The Trust shall be invested to provide safety through diversification in a portfolio of common stocks, bonds, cash equivalents and other investments which may reflect varying rates of return. The overall rate of return objective for the portfolio is a reasonable "real" rate consistent with the risk levels established by the Board.

The investments shall also be diversified within asset classes (e.g., equities shall be diversified by economic sector, industry, quality, and size). Portfolio diversification provides protection against a single security or class of securities having a disproportionate impact on aggregate performance.

### ***Investment Objectives***

**Return:** The long-term (ten or more years) return objective shall be to exceed the Discount Rate (7.5%) used in the Actuarial Valuation. In addition, over a full market cycle the return should meet or exceed the return of the market, defined as the asset allocation policy applied to the S&P 500, MSCI EAFE, and the Barclays Capital Aggregate Bond indices.

**Risk:** The objective is to mitigate the risk of capital loss through diversification. In addition, the portfolio should experience volatility of returns commensurate with the market. The market is defined as the portfolio's asset allocation policy applied to the S&P 500 Index, MSCI EAFE, and the Barclays Capital Aggregate Bond indices.

### ***Asset Allocation***

The long-term target asset allocation of the investment portfolio is determined by the Board to achieve the Trust's long-term investment objective within the established risk parameters. The allocation is based on an investment time horizon in excess of ten years. Due to the fact that the allocation of funds between asset classes may be the single most important determinant of the Trust's investment performance over the long run, the Trust's assets shall be divided into asset classes as follows:

	<u><b>Maximum %</b></u>	<u><b>Minimum %</b></u>	<u><b>Target %</b></u>
<b>Equities</b>	70	50	65
Large Cap Value	20	10	12.5
Large Cap Growth	20	10	12.5
Small/Mid Cap	20	10	15
International	20	10	25
Real Assets	10	0	5
<b>Fixed Income</b>	50	30	30

The actual asset allocation, which will fluctuate with market conditions, will receive the regular scrutiny of the Board, which bears the responsibility for making adjustments in order to maintain target ranges and for making any permanent changes to the policy.

### **Equities**

The purpose of the equity segment is to provide principal appreciation that exceeds inflation. The combination of domestic and international equities is intended to provide portfolio diversification and minimize the overall volatility of the equity segment. It is recognized that equity investments carry greater market price variability and risk than other asset classes.

Assets not committed to fixed income and cash shall be allocated to equities. The domestic equity component (including large cap value/growth and small/mid cap) of the Fund should represent approximately 45% of the total assets at market value, while the international equity component should represent approximately 15%. The real assets equity component should represent approximately 5%. Although the actual percentage in equity investments will vary with market conditions, levels in excess of 70% or below 50% will require authorization by the Board.

### **Fixed Income**

The purpose of the fixed income segment is to provide a hedge against deflation, protect against disinflation, provide a stable component of return, and minimize the overall volatility of the Trust.

The percentage of assets allocated to fixed income should be sufficient to ensure that neither the current income nor the principal value of the Trust declines by an intolerable amount. The fixed income segment should normally represent approximately 35% of the total assets at market value. Although the actual percentage will fluctuate with market conditions, levels of less than 30% or in excess of 50% will require authorization by the Board.

### **Cash Equivalents**

The percentage of total assets allocated to cash equivalents should be sufficient to assure enough liquidity to meet disbursements and general operational expenses. Cash equivalents may also be used as an alternative to other investments when the investment manager feels that other asset classes carry higher than normal risk. In addition, cash equivalents may be used as a vehicle to temporarily hold assets until they can be invested.

## ***Cash Flows and Portfolio Rebalancing***

New cash flow shall be allocated to investment managers by the Board. As a general rule, new cash will first be used to rebalance the total fund in accordance with the target asset allocation policy. Additional rebalancing will also be implemented through disbursements and transfers among investment managers. The purpose of rebalancing is to maintain the risk/reward relationship implied by the stated long-term asset allocation targets.

### ***Transaction Guidelines***

All transactions should be entered into on the basis of best execution (best realized net price). Subject to the above, reasonable commissions may be designated for payment of services rendered in connection with the day to day management of the assets. All fees, commissions and other transaction costs shall be reported as requested by the Board.

### ***Performance Monitoring***

All guidelines and objectives shall be in force until modified in writing by the Board.

Investment managers' performance will be reviewed by the Board on a quarterly basis. The Trust's investment consultant will provide a quarterly report in order to facilitate to Board's review process.

### ***Roles and Responsibilities***

The Board may engage various financial service providers to assist in fulfilling its fiduciary responsibilities. In order to clarify the roles of these service providers, a description of each is each is provided below:

- The *investment consultant's* role is to advise on investment policies, asset allocation strategies, investment manager selection, and to monitor investment performance on an ongoing basis.
- The *investment managers* construct and manage a portfolio of individual stocks or bonds based on the specific allocation or mandate assigned to them. Investment managers may manage a portfolio for an individual client or as part of a commingled vehicle such as a mutual fund.
- A *custodian* holds or takes custody of the individual securities in a portfolio. A custodian may hold securities for an individual account or for a commingled vehicle such as a mutual fund. A custodian may also hold the shares of a mutual fund itself.

## **Managers' Investment Objectives and Guidelines**

### ***General Guidelines for All Managers***

The investment managers shall have complete discretion in the management of the assets subject to the guidelines set forth herein. Mutual funds or commingled funds may be used in any category of investment management. When one is selected, however, it is expected that the fund(s), will be consistent with the guidelines set forth herein. Any exceptions to these Guidelines shall be listed in the Appendix under Exceptions to Investment Manager Guidelines.

Cash equivalents may be held in any manager's portfolio at the manager's discretion so long as the securities used comply with the guidelines established for Fixed Income Managers. Managers will be evaluated, however, based upon their performance relative to the appropriate benchmark, regardless of the amount of cash equivalents held during any performance measurement period.

### ***Fixed Income Managers***

The investment objective for the fixed income segment is to outperform the Barclays Capital Aggregate Bond Index, net of fees, over a three to five year period. It is expected that the manager(s) will meet the fixed income objective established and will consistently provide investment returns placing the portfolio's performance above the median of its peer group over rolling three to five year periods. In addition to short-term performance reviews, the manager(s) will be evaluated over rolling three and five year periods.

Certain guidelines for acceptable fixed income instruments, portfolio quality, diversification, and limitations on the use of certain securities are the same for all fixed income managers unless specifically noted within a specific style category. Exceptions to these guidelines will be specifically identified in the Appendix.

### **Fixed Income Instruments**

Inasmuch as the fixed income allocation is currently managed by PIMCO in its Total Return Fund, "fixed income instruments" shall be defined by Fund's prospectus dated October 1, 2009, which may be amended from time to time. These instruments include the following:

- Securities issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Government, its agencies or government-sponsored enterprises ("U.S. Government Securities");

- Corporate debt securities of U.S. and non-U.S. issuers, including convertible securities and corporate commercial paper;
- Mortgage-backed and other asset-backed securities;
- Inflation-indexed bonds issued by governments and corporations;
- Structured notes, including hybrid or indexed securities and event-linked bonds;
- Loan participations and assignments;
- Delayed funding loans and revolving credit facilities;
- Bank certificates of deposit, fixed time deposits and bankers' acceptances;
- Repurchase agreements on fixed income instruments and reverse repurchase agreements on fixed income instruments;
- Debt securities issued by states or local governments and their agencies, authorities and other government-sponsored enterprises;
- Obligations of non-U.S. governments or their subdivisions, agencies and government-sponsored enterprises;
- Obligations of international agencies or supranational entities

Securities issued by U.S. government agencies or government-sponsored enterprises may not be guaranteed by the U.S. Treasury. The Fund may invest in derivatives based on fixed income instruments.

### **Quality and Limitations**

Investment grade issues (Moody's or S&P rating of Baa/BBB or better should be emphasized; however, the investment manager may invest up to 10% in below investment grade securities. The manager may also invest up to 30% of the portfolio in securities denominated in foreign currencies and may invest beyond this limit in U.S. dollar denominated securities of foreign issuers. The average quality of the overall portfolio should be A or better.

### **Diversification**

It is also expected that, in general and unless specifically noted in the Appendix, the fixed income portfolios shall be well-diversified with respect to sector, industry, and issuer in order to minimize risk.

Investments in securities of a single issuer (with the exception of the U.S. government and its fully guaranteed agencies) should not exceed 5% of the portfolio.

### **Duration**

It is expected that the weighted average duration of the portfolio(s) shall be within 25% (plus or minus) of the duration of the Barclays Capital Aggregate Bond Index.

## **Derivatives**

Derivatives are financial instruments that derive their value from the value of some underlying security or asset. The portfolio may be invested in derivative instruments, such as options, futures contracts or swap agreements, and mortgage or asset-based securities.

## **Benchmarks**

### **I. Fixed Income (Target Allocation: 30%)**

The benchmark for the fixed income portfolio shall be the Barclays Capital Aggregate Bond Index. The manager's performance should exceed the index, net of fees, and should also place above the median of an appropriate peer group of managers over rolling three and five year periods.

## ***Equity Managers***

The investment objective for the overall equity segment is to outperform the S&P 500, net of fees, over a three to five year period. The performance of each equity manager will be measured against appropriate benchmarks for each investment style as well as against a universe of managed funds. In addition to short-term performance reviews, the managers will be evaluated over rolling three and five year periods.

Specific portfolio management decisions, including security selection, size, quality, number of industries or holdings, emphasis on income levels, and portfolio turnover are left to the manager's discretion subject to standards of fiduciary prudence and the guidelines set forth herein.

Certain guidelines for portfolio diversification as well as on limitations on the use of certain securities are the same for all equity managers unless specifically noted within a specific style category. Exceptions to these guidelines will be specifically identified in the Appendix.

## **Equity Securities**

Subject to limitations noted below, investment managers may invest in equity securities listed on the principal U.S. exchanges or traded in the over-the-counter markets, including American Depository Receipts ("ADR's"). Managers selected as "International Managers" may also invest in the ordinary shares of non-US companies.

## **Diversification and Limitations**

In no case (excepting mutual fund shares), or without waiver by the, shall a single security exceed 10% of the market value of the total equity segment.

It is the intent of these guidelines to direct managers to construct portfolios that are well diversified across industries and economic sectors.

While the use of ADRs is permitted, it is the intent of the Trust that the domestic equity portfolio(s) primarily reflect the domestic equity markets.

## **Benchmarks**

### **I. Large Cap Domestic Growth (Target Allocation: 12.5%)**

The investment objective for the Large Cap Domestic Growth segment is to outperform the Russell 1000 Growth Index, net of fees, and also place above the median of an appropriate peer group of managers over rolling three to five year periods.

### **II. Large Cap Domestic Value (Target Allocation: 12.5%)**

The investment objective for the Large Cap Domestic Value segment is to outperform the Russell 1000 Value Index, net of fees, and also place above the median of an appropriate peer group of managers over rolling three to five year periods.

### **III. Small/Mid Cap Domestic Equity (Target Allocation: 15%)**

The investment objective for the Small/Mid Cap segment is to outperform the Russell 2500 Index, net of fees, and also place above the median of an appropriate peer group of managers over rolling three to five year periods.

### **IV. International Equity (Target Allocation: 25%)**

The investment objective for the International Equity segment is to exceed the Morgan Stanley Capital Europe, Australia and Far East (EAFE) Index, net of fees, and also place above the median of an appropriate peer group of managers over rolling three and five year periods.

### **V. Real Assets (Target Allocation: 5%)**

The investment objective for the Real Asset segment is to exceed the S&P North American Natural Resources Index, net of fees, and also place above the median of an appropriate peer group of managers over rolling three and five year periods.



## **Appendix - A**

### **Exceptions to Investment Manager Guidelines**