

# MOODY'S

## INVESTORS SERVICE

### **Rating Action: Moody's assigns Aaa to Cook County SD 29 (Sunset Ridge), IL's 2018 GOLT**

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22 Aug 2018

New York, August 22, 2018 -- Moody's Investors Service assigns a Aaa rating to Cook County School District 29 (Sunset Ridge), IL's \$5.1 million General Obligation Limited Tax School Bonds, Series 2018. Moody's maintains the district's Aaa issuer rating and general obligation limited tax (GOLT) rating, and a stable outlook. Post-sale, the district will have \$23.3 million in debt outstanding.

#### RATINGS RATIONALE

The Aaa rating reflects the district's extremely affluent tax base north of Chicago (Ba1 stable) along with a very strong financial profile lead by strong reserve levels. The district also has a moderate debt burden. The rating also takes into consideration exposure to an underfunded state pension plan through on-behalf payments.

The Aaa GOLT debt service extension base (DSEB) rating is the same as Moody's issuer rating which is the district's hypothetical general obligation unlimited tax (GOULT) rating. The lack of rating distinction on the district's GOLT DSEB debt is due to an all available funds pledge securing the debt and also considers a dedicated levy unlimited as to rate, but limited as to amount.

#### RATING OUTLOOK

The stable outlook reflects our expectation the district will maintain strong reserve levels along with a moderate debt burden that will improve with no additional debt being issued, along with maintenance of the extremely strong socioeconomic indices.

#### FACTORS THAT COULD LEAD TO AN UPGRADE

- Not applicable

#### FACTORS THAT COULD LEAD TO A DOWNGRADE

- Substantial weakening of current reserve levels
- Increase to the debt burden
- Tax base depreciation

#### LEGAL SECURITY

The series 2018 bonds is secured by the district's pledge to levy a tax that is unlimited by rate but limited by the amount of the district's DSEB.

#### USE OF PROCEEDS

The bonds will pay and redeem the district's 2016B debt certificates.

#### PROFILE

The district is located in the northern part of Cook County (A2 stable), approximately 18 miles north of downtown Chicago. The district currently serves approximately 4,100 residents in the Village of Northfield. The district currently operates two facilities. Enrollment is approximately 467 students for the upcoming 2018-2019 school year.

#### METHODOLOGY

The principal methodology used in this rating was US Local Government General Obligation Debt published in December 2016. Please see the Rating Methodologies page on [www.moody's.com](http://www.moody's.com) for a copy of this

methodology.

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