

Rob Nickell



Rob Nickell
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"Knowing that what I am doing is good for children and helping a community thrive is what motivates me to find the right financing solutions for my clients."

With more than 20 years of experience in investment banking, Robert ("Rob") A. Nickell, Jr. holds a wealth of knowledge and experience in public finance with a focus on education. Prior to becoming a nationally respected leader in financing solutions for charter school and higher education facilities, Rob began his career in corporate investment banking, before pursuing an M.B.A in Finance at the University of Texas in Austin. While gaining experience in the finance industry, Rob uncovered his passion for the nuances of municipal bonds and public finance and has been committed to serving nonprofit and governmental entities ever since.

A Dallas, TX native, Rob grew his career in public finance managing projects in general municipal finance, higher education, nonprofit organizations and charter schools. He considers himself lucky to have had an excellent mentor who guided him, and taught him what it means to be a municipal banker. With that mentorship and the support from a strong team, Rob built up a practice in the higher education and 501(c)(3) education spaces. He is proud to have financed the single largest charter school transaction to date at \$357 million in his home state of Texas. This laid the foundation of Rob's commitment to municipal finance in the education and charter school sector nationally.

Utilizing his entrepreneurial skills and a keen interest in charter schools, Rob expanded his work financing charter schools across the nation. In a niche market such as charter schools, it is a challenge to understand all aspects of the project

in order to meet the unique schools' needs of each client. Rob believes it is critical to possess in-depth knowledge of the mission and goals of each charter school in addition to being well-versed in the market in order to align the mechanics of financing solutions to help the schools' and, ultimately, their communities thrive.

Rob appreciates the strong community of peers dedicated to working in the charter school sector. He is driven each day by the knowledge that not only is he assisting the schools with their financing needs, he is also helping communities flourish. He believes it is critical to remember that he is effectively managing finite dollars in a small but important piece of the budget – the budget of an organization that is not motivated by profits, but by educating children.

Rob continues to call Dallas home with his wife, son and daughter, as well as their three dogs, a Husky and two Dobermans, whom they rescued from the local Doberman rescue shelter. A committed Dallas sports fan, you will also find Rob cheering on his children, coaching on the soccer field or instructing students in martial arts. Rob, himself, is a life-long practitioner and holds a third-degree black belt in Kenpo Karate. If he is not watching sports, Rob is staying active with other sports such as snowboarding or mountain biking. Rob and his family are often brainstorming and planning their next adventure. Travelling throughout US and abroad is one of their favorite things to do as a family. Greece and Turkey were their most exotic countries to visit, so far.