MORRIS-UNION JOINTURE COMMISSION AUDITORS' MANAGEMENT REPORT ON ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS -FINANCIAL, COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE JUNE 30, 2015

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# AUDITORS MANAGEMENT REPORT ON ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS - FINANCIAL, COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE

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# LERCH, VINCI & HIGGINS, LLP

# CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS REGISTERED MUNICIPAL ACCOUNTANTS

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> Honorable President and Members of the Board of Education Morris-Union Jointure Commission New Providence, New Jersey

We have audited in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the basic financial statements of the Morris-Union Jointure Commission as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2015, and have issued our report thereon dated November 23, 2015.

As part of our audit, we performed procedures required by the Office of School Finance, Department of Education, State of New Jersey and the findings and results thereof are disclosed on the following pages, as listed in the accompanying table of contents.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management, the Board of Trustees, others within the District and the New Jersey State Department of Education. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.

LERCH, VINCI & HIGGINS, LLP

LERCH, Visci & Hiccins, CCP

Certified Public Accountants Public School Accountants

Jeffrey C. Bliss

Public School Accountant PSA Number CS00932

Fair Lawn, New Jersey November 23, 2015

#### **Scope of Audit**

The audit covered the financial transactions of the Board Secretary/School Business Administrator and Treasurer of School Moneys, the activities of the Commission and the records of the various funds under the auspices of the Board of Education.

#### **Administrative Practices and Procedures**

#### Insurance

Fire insurance coverage was carried in the amounts as detailed on the Insurance Schedule contained in the district's <u>CAFR</u>.

#### Official Bonds

Name	<u>Position</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Michael Davison	Business Administrator/Board Secretary	\$ 275,000
Anthony Richel	Treasurer of School Monies	275,000

All employees are covered by a blanket position bond.

#### **Tuition Charges**

The provisions of NJAC 6A:23-3.1(f)3 are not applicable.

#### Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting

#### **Examination of Claims**

An examination of claims paid during the period under review did not indicate any material discrepancies with respect to signatures, certification or supporting documentation.

#### Payroll Account

The net salaries of all employees of the Board were deposited in the Payroll Account. Employees' payroll deductions and employer's share of payroll taxes were deposited in the Payroll Agency Account.

All payrolls tested were approved by the Superintendent and were certified by the President of the Board and the Board Secretary/School Business Administrator.

Salary withholdings were promptly remitted to the proper agencies including health benefit premium contribution amounts withheld due to the other funds.

#### Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting (Continued)

#### Reserve for Encumbrances and Accounts Payable

A review of outstanding issued purchase orders was made as of June 30, for goods not yet received or services not yet rendered and it was determined that no blanket purchase orders were included in the balance of the reserves for encumbrances. Also, unpaid purchase orders included in the balance of accounts payable were reviewed for propriety and to determine that goods were received and services were rendered, as of June 30.

**Finding** – The Commission's financial accounting software does not provide a report of open accounts payable at year end.

**Recommendation** – The Commission review with its financial accounting software provider the ability of the system to produce a complete report of open accounts payable at year end.

### Classification of Expenditures

The coding of expenditures was tested for proper classification in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.2(f) as part of our test of transactions of randomly selected expenditure items. We also reviewed the coding of all expenditures included in our compliance and single audit testing procedures. As a result of the procedures performed, no additional procedures were deemed necessary to test the propriety of expenditure classification.

#### **Board Secretary's Records**

The financial records, books of account and minutes maintained by the Board Secretary were in good condition.

The prescribed contractual order system was followed.

Bids received were summarized in the minutes (N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-21).

Acknowledgment of the Board's receipt of the Board Secretary's monthly financial reports was included in the minutes.

The original budget per the budget appropriation report did agree to the appropriations reflected in the adopted budget.

#### Treasurer's Records

The Treasurer did perform cash reconciliations for the general operating account, capital projects, food service and payroll accounts.

All cash receipts were promptly deposited.

The Treasurer's records were in agreement with the records of the Board Secretary.

The Treasurer's cash balance for the general operating accounting was in agreement with the reconciled cash balance as determined during the audit.

#### **Unemployment Compensation Insurance Trust Fund**

The Board has adopted the direct reimbursement method and has established an Unemployment Compensation Insurance Trust Fund. The financial transactions of this fund are reported in the Trust Fund.

#### Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting (Continued)

#### Other Special Projects

The district's Special Projects were approved as listed on Exhibit K-3 and Exhibit K-4 located in the CAFR.

The financial exhibits are contained within the Special Revenue Section of the CAFR. This section of the CAFR documents the financial position pertaining to the aforementioned special projects.

#### T.P.A.F. Reimbursements

Our audit procedures included a test of the semi-monthly reimbursement forms filed with the Department of Education for district employees who are members of the Teachers Pension and Annuity Fund. No exceptions were noted.

#### T.P.A.F. Reimbursement to the State for Federal Salary Expenditures

There were no TPAF employees' salaries paid from federal funds during the current fiscal year. Therefore, there were no reimbursement amounts due to the State at June 30, 2015.

#### **School Purchasing Programs**

## Contracts and Agreements Requiring Advertisement for Bids

Effective July 1, 2010, the bid thresholds in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-2 and N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-3(a) (as amended) are \$36,000 (with a Qualified Purchasing Agent) and \$26,000 (without a Qualified Purchasing Agent) respectively. The law regulating bidding for public school transportation contracts under N.J.S.A. 18A:39-3 is currently \$18,300.

If the purchasing agent is qualified pursuant to subsection b of section 9 of P.L. 1971, c. 198 (c.40A:11-9), the Board of Education may establish that the bid threshold may be up to \$36,000. Such authorization may be granted for each contract or by a general delegation of the power to negotiate and award such contracts pursuant to this section. The Board has designated the Business Administrator as the qualified purchasing agent.

The Board of Education has the responsibility of determining whether the expenditures in any category will exceed the statutory thresholds within the fiscal year. Where question arises as to whether any contract or agreement might result in violation of the statute, the Board Attorney's opinion should be sought before a commitment is made.

Inasmuch as the system of records did not provide for an accumulation of payments for categories for the performance of any work or the furnishing or hiring of any materials or supplies, the results of such an accumulation could not reasonably be ascertained. Disbursements were reviewed, however, to determine whether any clear-cut violations existed.

The results of our examination indicated no instances where payments, contracts, or agreements were made" for the performance of any work or the furnishing or hiring of any materials or supplies," in excess of the statutory thresholds where there had been no advertising for bids in accordance with the provision of N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-4.

Resolutions were adopted authorizing the awarding of contracts or agreements for "Professional Services" per N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-5.

The system of records did not provide for an accumulation of purchases for which the school board used contracts entered into by the State Department of Purchase and Property pursuant to Ch. 114, P.L. 1977, therefore, the extent of such purchases could not reasonably be ascertained. Our examination did reveal, however, that purchases were made through the use of State contracts. However, the District does follow a rigorous policy where all purchases are publicly bid, quoted or bought through the use of state contracts.

#### **School Food Service**

The financial transactions and statistical records of the school food services were maintained in satisfactory condition. The financial accounts, meal count records and eligibility applications were reviewed on a test-check basis.

Cash receipts and bank records were reviewed for timely deposit.

The free and reduced price meal policy is uniformly administered throughout the school system. The required verification procedures for free and reduced price applications was completed and available for review.

Expenditures were separately recorded as food, labor and other costs. Vendor invoices were reviewed and costs verified. Inventory records on food supply items were currently maintained and properly applied in determining the cost of food and supplies used.

The cash disbursements records reflected expenditures for program related goods and services. The appropriate revenue and expenditure records were maintained in order to substantiate the non-profit status of the school food service. Net cash resources did not exceed three months average expenditures.

Exhibits reflecting Child Nutrition Program operations are included in the section entitled Enterprise Funds.

**Finding** – The Commission had an Administrator Review (AR) of the National School Lunch Program. It disclosed one finding relating to the counting of direct certified students. The Commission has prepared a corrective action plan which was received and approved by the State.

#### **Special Programs Enterprise Fund**

The Commission maintains a Special Programs Fund to account for the financial activity of various educational programs and transportation services provided on a fee-for-service basis.

The Commission closed numerous sub-funds effective July 1, 2015 and will account for those programs in the General Fund. The Commission will determine how to allocate any remaining fund balance from those programs during 2015-16.

#### **Pupil Transportation**

Our procedures included a review of transportation related contracts and purchases. Based on our review, the commission complied with proper bidding procedures and award of contracts. No exceptions were noted in our review of transportation related purchases of goods and services.

# MORRIS-UNION JOINTURE COMMISSION FOOD SERVICE FUND SCHEDULE OF MEAL COUNT ACTIVITY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015

#### **SCHEDULE OF MEAL COUNT ACTIVITY**

NOT APPLICABLE

FOOD SERVICE FUND COMPARISON OF NET CASH RESOURCES TO THREE MONTHS AVERAGE EXPENDITURES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015

NET CASH RESOURCE SCHEDULE

**NOT APPLICABLE** 

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### I. Administrative Practices and Procedures

There are none.

## II. Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting

It is recommended that the Commission review with its financial accounting software provider the ability of the system to produce a complete report of open accounts payable at year end.

#### III. School Purchasing Program

There are none.

#### IV. Food Service Fund

There are none.

#### V. Special Programs Enterprise Fund

There are none.

#### VI. Pupil Transportation

There are none.

#### VII. Capital Assets

There are none.

#### VIII. Status of Prior Years' Audit Findings/Recommendations

There were none.

# **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

We received the complete cooperation of all the officials of the school district and we greatly appreciate the courtesies extended to the members of our audit team.

Respectfully submitted,

LERCH, VINCI & HIGGINS, LLP

Jeffrey C. Bliss

Public School Accountant

PSA Number CS00932