NORTHERN VALLEY REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT AUDITORS' MANAGEMENT REPORT ON ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS -FINANCIAL COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE JUNE 30, 2017

NORTHERN VALLEY REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT TABLE OF CONTENTS

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LERCH, VINCI & HIGGINS, LLP CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

REGISTERED MUNICIPAL ACCOUNTANTS

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AUDITOR'S MANAGEMENT REPORT

Honorable President and Members of the Board of Trustees Northern Valley Regional High School District Demarest, 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 Northern Valley Regional High School District as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2017, and have issued our report thereon dated November 30, 2017.

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.

Respectfully submitted,

LERCH, VINCI & HIGGINS

Certified Public Accountants

Public School Accountants

Gary W. Higgins

Public School Accountant

PSA Number CS00814

Fair Lawn, New Jersey November 30, 2017

Scope of Audit

The audit covered the financial transactions of the Board Secretary/School Business Administrator and Board Designee, the activities of the Board of Education 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 Exhibit J-20, Insurance Schedule contained in the district's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (the "CAFR").

Official Bonds

Name	<u>Position</u>	Amount
Joanette Femia	Board Secretary/School	
	Business Administrator	\$85,000

There is a Public Employees' Faithful Performance Blanket Position Bond with New Jersey Schools Insurance Group covering all other employees with multiple coverage of \$1,000,000.

Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting

Examination of Claims

An examination of claims paid during the period under review did not indicate any 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 fringe benefits were deposited in the Payroll Agency Account.

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

Salary withholdings were promptly remitted to the proper agencies, including health benefits withholding due to the general fund.

Payrolls were delivered to the Secretary of the Board who then deposited with a warrant made to his order for the full amount of each payroll.

The District maintains a personnel tracking and accounting (Position Control) system.

Tuition Charges

A comparison of tentative tuition charges and actual certified tuition charges was made. The actual costs were greater than the estimated costs.

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 reserve 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 (CAFR 2017-001) – With respect to year end encumbrances and accounts payable:

- Our audit of year end open purchase orders in the Capital Projects Fund, Little Tots Enterprise Fund and Regional Special Education Enterprise Fund revealed certain encumbrances should have been classified as accounts payable.
- Our review of the District's official minutes revealed an unrecorded encumbrance that was not reflected
 in the District's accounting records in the Capital Projects Fund at year end related to a Board approved
 change order.

Recommendation - Procedures be reviewed and revised to ensure open purchase orders are reviewed at year end for proper classification as accounts payable or encumbrances and all Board approved change orders be encumbered when awarded by the Board of Trustees.

Classification of Expenditures

The coding of expenditures was tested for proper classification in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.2(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. In addition to randomly selecting a test sample, our sample selection specifically targeted administrative coding classifications to determine overall reliability and compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-8.3. As a result of the procedures performed, no transaction errors were noted and 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.

All receipts were promptly deposited

The prescribed contractual order system was followed.

Acknowledgement of the Board's receipt of the Board Secretary's and Treasurer's monthly financial reports was included in the minutes.

Finding — Our audit indicated a General Fund budget appropriation account was overexpended. No recommendation is warranted since the amount is immaterial and it was considered an isolated instance.

Finding – The audit indicated there exists various interfund balances as of June 30, 2017.

Recommendation – All interfund balances be cleared of record.

Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting (Continued)

Bank Reconciliations

The Board finance office personnel did perform cash reconciliations for all District accounts (N.J.S.A. 18A:17-36).

The monthly records pertaining to cash reconciliations were in agreement with the records of the Board Secretary.

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 Expendable Trust Fund.

Elementary and Secondary Education Act (E.S.E.A.)/Improving America's Schools Act (IASA) as Reauthorized by the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act of 2001

The E.S.E.A./IASA financial exhibits are contained within the Special Revenue Fund of the CAFR. This section of the CAFR documents the financial position pertaining to projects under Title I, Title II, and Title III of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

Our examination of the Federal and State funds on a test basis indicated that obligations and expenditures were incurred during the fiscal year or project period for which the project was approved.

Other Special Federal and/or State Projects

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

Our examination of the Federal and State funds on a test basis indicated that obligations and expenditures were incurred during the fiscal year or project period for which the project was approved.

The financial exhibits contained herein represent a true statement of 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.

Finding (CAFR Finding 2017-003) – Our audit of T.P.A.F. FICA reimbursements revealed the salaries used to determine the amount reimbursed by the State for FICA included certain non-pensionable wages.

Recommendation – The District review with its financial accounting software vendor the T.P.A.F. FICA calculation to ensure T.P.A.F. FICA reimbursements are based only a pensionable wages subject to FICA.

Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting (Continued)

TPAF Reimbursement to the State for Federal Salary Expenditures

The amount of the expenditure charged to the current year's Final Report(s) for all federal awards for the school district to reimburse the State for the TPAF/FICA payments made by the State on-behalf of the school district for those employees whose salaries are identified as being paid from federal funds was made prior to the end of the 90 day grant liquidation period required by the Office of Grants Management. The expenditure was reviewed subsequent to the reimbursement and no exceptions were noted.

School Purchasing Programs

Contracts and Agreements Requiring Advertisement for Bids

N.J.S.A. 18A:18-4 states, "Every contract for the provision or performance of any goods or services, the cost of which in the aggregate exceeds the bid threshold, shall be awarded only by resolution of the board of education to the lowest responsible bidder after public advertising for bids and bidding therefore, except as is provided otherwise in this chapter or specifically by any other law".

Effective April 17, 2000 N.J.S.A. 18A:18A (Public School Contracts Law) was revised by P.L. 1999, C. 440.

Effective July 1, 2015 and thereafter the bid thresholds in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-2 and 18A:39-3 are \$40,000 (with a Qualified Purchasing Agent) and \$29,000 (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 \$18,880.

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 \$40,000. Such authorizations 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 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 Solicitor'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 goods or service, 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 my examination indicated that no individual payments, contracts, or agreements were made for the performance of any work or goods or services, 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.

School Purchasing Programs (Continued)

Contracts and Agreements Requiring Advertisement for Bids (Continued)

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 the district purchased items through the use of State contracts.

Food Service Fund

The District did not participate in the National School Lunch Program.

The financial transactions and statistical records of the school food services were maintained in satisfactory condition.

Cash receipts and bank records were reviewed for timely deposit.

The district utilizes a food service management company (FSMC) and is depositing and expending program monies in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:17-34, and 19-1 through 19-4.1. Provisions of the FSMC contract/addendum were reviewed and audited. The FSMC contract includes an operating results provision which guarantees that the food service program will break even. The operating results provision has been met.

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 District's food service management company is depositing and expending program monies in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:17-34, and 19-1 through 19-4.1. The appropriate revenue and expenditure records were maintained in order to substantiate the non-profit status of the school food service.

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

Finding – Our audit of the Food Service Fund revealed certain amounts and composition (i.e. cash, check) on the point of sale reports were not in agreement with the actual bank deposits.

Recommendation – The point of sale reports be reviewed and reconciled with bank deposits on a daily basis.

Enterprise Funds

The District maintains ten enterprise funds, excluding the Food Service Enterprise Fund.

Finding – The Technical Services and Teen and Tots Enterprise Funds have a deficit in net position at June 30, 2017 of \$119,700 and \$59,389, respectively.

Recommendation – Corrective action be taken to eliminate the deficits at June 30, 2017 in the respective Enterprise Funds.

Enterprise Funds (Continued)

Finding (CAFR Finding 2017-002) – With respect to the financial activities of the various enterprise funds the following was revealed:

- 1. The District does not have formal Board policies pertaining to the operations of each enterprise fund.
- 2. User charges and fees charged to customers of the various enterprise funds are not presented to the Board of Trustees for approval.
- 3. Certain general ledger account balances were not in agreement with subsidiary ledgers including accounts receivable, unearned revenue and deposits payable.
- 4. Certain enterprise funds are utilized for similar types of services which could be consolidated for financial reporting purposes.
- 5. The SAT Classes Enterprise Fund is dormant and the operation of the Shared Services Enterprise Fund was discontinued; however, each fund's net position has not been liquidated.
- 6. Certain inter-enterprise fund financial transactions were not reconciled on a periodic basis.

Recommendation - The District implement policies and procedures pertaining to the financial operations of the enterprise funds, internal controls be reviewed and enhanced and consideration be given to consolidate and/or eliminate certain enterprise funds.

Student Activity Fund

The Board has a policy, which clearly established the regulation of student activity funds.

Cash receipts and cash disbursements records were maintained in good condition.

All cash disbursements did have proper supporting documentation.

Finding – Receipt transmittals are not pre-numbered, properly completed and certain deposits were not made timely.

Recommendation – Receipt transmittals be pre-numbered, properly completed and related deposits be made timely.

Finding – The audit of the Demarest student activity and athletic bank reconciliations indicated numerous old outstanding checks.

Recommendation – Old outstanding checks on the Demarest student activity and athletic bank reconciliations be reviewed and cleared of record.

Application for State School Aid

Our audit procedures included a test of information reported in the October 14, 2016 Application for State School Aid (A.S.S.A.) for on-roll, private schools for the handicapped, related services, low-income and bilingual. We also performed a review of the district procedures related to its completion. The information on the A.S.S.A. was compared to the district workpapers with immaterial exceptions. The results of our procedures are presented in the Schedule of Audited Enrollments.

The district maintained workpapers on the prescribed State forms or their equivalent.

The District has adequate written procedures for the recording of student enrollment data.

Pupil Transportation

Our audit procedures included a test of on roll status reported in the 2016-2017 District Report of Transported Resident Students (DRTRS). The information that was included on the DRTRS was verified to the DRTRS Eligibility Summary Report with no exceptions. The results of our procedures are presented in the Schedule of Audited Enrollments.

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

Facilities and Capital Assets

Our procedures included a review of the SDA grant agreements for consistency with recording DSA revenue, transfer local funds from the General Fund or from the Capital Reserve Account and awarding of contracts for eligible facilities constructions. No exceptions were noted.

Finding – Our audit of capital assets revealed certain current year additions were not added to the capital assets inventory report. The financial statements have been adjusted to reflect the unrecorded additions.

Recommendation – All current year additions be properly reflected in the District's capital assets inventory.

Suggestions to Management

• Old outstanding checks on the District's general account reconciliation and adjustments on the net pay, payroll agency and enterprise bank reconciliations be reviewed and cleared of record.

NORTHERN VALLEY REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHEDULE OF MEAL COUNT ACTIVITY FOOD SERVICE FUND NUMBER OF MEALS SERVED AND (OVER)/UNDERCLAIM FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017

NOT APPLICABLE

FOOD SERVICE FUND SCHEDULE OF NET CASH RESOURCES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017

NOT APPLICABLE

NORTHERN VALLEY REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLMENTS

APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID SUMMARY ENROLLMENT AS OF OCTOBER 14, 2016

	2016-17 A	pplication for	State Schoo	l Aid			Sample for Verification					Private Schools for Disabled								
	A.S	rted on .S.A. Roll	Reported on Workpapers On Roll		Errors		Errors				San Selecte Work		Verifi Regi On l		Reg	rs per isters Roll	Reported on A.S.S.A. as Private	Sample for Verifi-	Sample	Sample
	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Schools	cation	Verified	Errors				
Half Day Preschool Full Day Preschool Half Day Kindegarten Full Day Kindergarten One Two Three Four Five Six Seven Eight Nine Ten Eleven Twelve Post-Graduate Adult H.S. (15+CR.) Adult H.S. (1-14 CR.)	474 477 493 472		474 477 493 472	- - - -			221 248 217 265		221 248 217 265			-								
Subtotal	- 1,916		1,916		-		951		951		-	-		-						
Special Ed - Elementary Special Ed - Middle School Special Ed - High School Subtotal	143 53 350 546		143 53 350 546			·····	17 6 41 - 64		17 6 41 64		- - -	- - - -	24 24	24 24	24 24					
Co. Voc Regular Co. Voc. Ft. Post Sec. Totals Percentage Error	2,462		2,462		0.00%	0.00%	1,015		1,015		0.00%	0.00%	24	<u>24</u>	24	0.00%				
						***************************************										-				

NORTHERN VALLEY REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLMENTS

<u>APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID SUMMARY</u> <u>ENROLLMENT AS OF OCTOBER 14, 2016</u>

	Res	ident Low Income		Sample for Verification			Resid	ient LEP Low Income	2	Sample for Verification			
	Reported on A.S.S.A. as Low Income	Reported on Workpapers as Low Income	Errors	Sample Selected from Workpapers	Verified to Application and Register	Sample Errors	Reported on A.S.S.A. as LEP low Income	Reported on Workpapers as LEP low Income	Errors	Sample Selected from Workpapers	Verified to Test Score and Register	Sample Errors	
Half Day Preschool Full Day Preschool Half Day Kindegarten													
Full Day Kindergarten			-			-			+			-	
One			-			-			-			-	
Two Three			-			-			=			-	
Four			-			-			-			_	
Five			_			_			-			-	
Six			_			-			-			-	
Seven			-			-			-			*	
Eight			-			-			~			-	
Nine	1	1_	-	1	i	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Ten Eleven	7 9	7 7	2	7 7	7 6	1	-	1 1	(1) (1)	i 1	1 1	-	
Twelve	5	5	-	5	5			1	(1)	i	1	-	
Post-Graduate	•	•			-			•	(.)		•	_	
Adult H.S. (15+CR.)													
Adult H.S. (1-14 CR.)													
Subtotal	22	20	2	20	19	1	-	3	(3)	3	3	-	
Special Ed - Elementary	_	_	_	_	-	_	_			_	_	-	
Special Ed - Middle	-	- `	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	_	-	
Special Ed - High		2	(2)	2	2_	<u></u>						-	
Subtotal	-	2	(2)	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Co. Voc Regular													
Co. Voc. Ft. Post Sec. Totals	22	22		22	21	1		3	(3)	3	3		
Totals		<u></u>	-	<u> </u>					(3)		3		
Percentage Error			0.00%			4.55%			 			0.00%	
3			***************************************										
			Transpor	tation									
	Reported on DRTRS by DOE/county	Reported on DRTRS by District	Errors	Tested	Verified	Errors							
		سدي		,									
Reg Public Schools, col. I	327 28	327 28	-	40	40 3	~							
Reg -SpEd, col. 4 Transported - Non-Public, col. 3	28 130	28 130	_	16	16	-							
Special Ed Spec, col. 6	42_	42	-	5	5	-							
Totals	527	527		64	64								
						0.000/							
Percentage Error						0.00%							

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SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLMENTS

NORTHERN VALLEY REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID SUMMARY ENROLLMENT AS OF OCTOBER 14, 2016

	Resident	LEP NOT Low Inco	ome	Sample for Verification					
	Reported on A.S.S.A. as NOT Low Income	Reported on Workpapers as NOT Low Income	Errors	Sample Selected from Workpapers	Verified to Application and Register	Sample Errors			
Half Day Preschool Full Day Preschool Half Day Kindegarten Full Day Kindergarten One Two Three Four Five Six Seven Eight Nine Ten Eleven Twelve Post-Graduate Adult H.S. (15+CR.) Adult H.S. (1-14 CR.)	8 4 1 2	8 3 - 1	- - - - - - 1 1	8 3 - 2	8 3 - 1	- - - - - - - - 1			
Subtotal	15	12	3	13	12	1			
Special Ed - Elementary Special Ed - Middle Special Ed - High Subtotal			- -			-			
Co. Voc Regular Co. Voc. Ft. Post Sec. Totals	15	12	3	13	12	1			
Percentage Error			20.00%			7.69%			

NORTHERN VALLEY REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT CALCULATION OF EXCESS SURPLUS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017

SECTION 1A - Two Percent (2%) - Calculation of Excess surplus

2016-17 Total General Fund Expenditures per the CAFR		\$ 60,257,156
Increased by: Transfer from Capital Reserve to Capital Projects		459,084
Decreased by: Assets Acquired Under Capital Leases On-Behalf TPAF Pension & Social Security	\$ 412,490 6,664,250	
Adjusted 2016-17 General Fund Expenditures		7,076,746 \$ 53,639,494
2% of Adjusted 2016-17 General Fund Expenditures Allowable Adjustments		\$ 1,072,790 148,552
Maximum Unassigned Fund Balance		\$ 1,221,342
SECTION 2		
Total General Fund - Fund Balance at June 30, 2017		\$ 5,200,197
Decreased by: Restricted Capital Reserve Capital Reserve - Designated in Subsequent Year's Budget Committed		1,235,819 760,000
Year End Encumbrances Assigned		54,537
Year End Encumbrances Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures		266,784 835,000
Total Unassigned Fund Balance		\$ 2,048,057
SECTION 3		
Reserved Fund Balance - Excess Surplus		\$ 826,715
Detail of Allowable Adjustments Extraordinary Aid Nonpublic Transportation Aid		\$ 131,792 16,760 \$ 148,552
		Ψ 170,002

RECOMMENDATIONS

I. Administrative Practices and Procedures

There are none.

II. Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting

It is recommended that:

- 1. Procedures be reviewed and revised to ensure open purchase orders are reviewed at year end for proper classification as accounts payable or encumbrances and all Board approved change orders be encumbered when awarded by the Board of Trustees.
 - 2. All interfund balances be cleared of record.
 - 3. The District review with its financial accounting software vendor the T.P.A.F. FICA calculation to ensure T.P.A.F. FICA reimbursements are based only on pensionable wages subject to FICA.

III. School Purchasing Program

There are none.

IV. School Food Services

It is recommended that the point of sale reports be reviewed and reconciled with bank deposits on a daily basis.

V. Enterprise Funds

It is recommended that:

- 1. Corrective action be taken to eliminate the deficits at June 30, 2017 in the respective Enterprise Funds.
- * 2. The District implement policies and procedures pertaining to the financial operation of the enterprise funds, internal controls be reviewed and enhanced and consideration be given to consolidate and/or eliminate certain enterprise funds.

VI. Student Body Activities

It is recommended that:

- 1. Receipt transmittals for student program activities be pre-numbered, properly completed and related deposits be made timely.
- 2. Old outstanding checks on the Demarest student activity and athletic bank reconciliations be reviewed and cleared of record.

VII. Application for State School Aid

There are none.

RECOMMENDATIONS (Continued)

VIII. Pupil Transportation

There are none.

IX. Facilities and Capital Assets

It is recommended that all current year additions be properly reflected in the District's capital assets inventory.

X. Status of Prior Years' Audit Findings/Recommendations

A review was performed on all prior year's recommendations. Corrective action was taken on all prior year recommendations, except those denoted with an asterisk (*).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We received the complete cooperation of all the officials of the school district and we greatly appreciate the courtesies extended to us.

Respectfully submitted,

LERCH, VINCI & HIGGINS, LLP

Gary W. Higgins

Public School Accountant PSA Number CS00814