PARAMUS BOARD OF EDUCATION AUDITORS' MANAGEMENT REPORT ON ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS -FINANCIAL, COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE JUNE 30, 2017

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Honorable President and Members of the Board of Education Paramus Board of Education Paramus, 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 Paramus Board of Education in the County of Bergen for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2017, and have issued our report thereon dated October 6, 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.

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LERCH, VINCI & HIGGINS, LLP Certified Public Accountants **Public School Accountants** 

any Gary W. Higgins

Public School Accountant PSA Number CS00814

Fair Lawn, New Jersey October 6, 2017

## Scope of Audit

The audit covered the financial transactions of the Board Secretary/School Business Administrator and Assistant Business Administrator, the activities of the Board of Education, 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 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (the "CAFR").

Official Bonds

<u>Name</u>

**Position** 

Amount

Steven Cea

Business Administrator/ Board Secretary

\$250,000

There is a public employee dishonesty coverage for all other employees with coverage of \$100,000 per employee and \$400,000 per loss.

## Tuition Charges

A comparison of tentative tuition charges and actual certified tuition charges was made. The Board made a proper adjustment to the billings to sending districts for the adjustment in per pupil costs in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A23-3.1(f)3.

# Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting

#### Examination of Claims

An examination of claims paid during the period under review did not reveal any material discrepancies with respect to signatures, certifications and proper itemization.

# 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, the Board Secretary/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.

## Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting (Continued)

### Payroll Account (Continued)

Payrolls were delivered to the Secretary of the Board who then deposited with warrants in separate bank accounts for the net payroll and withholdings.

#### 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.

#### Classification of Expenditures

The coding of expenditures was tested for proper classification in accordance with <u>N.J.A.C.</u> 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 errors were noted.

#### Board Secretary's Records

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

The prescribed contractual order system was followed.

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

#### 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 School Act (I.A.S.A.) as reauthorized by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001

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

Our examination of the E.S.E.A. 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.

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

#### Other Special Federal and/or State Projects

The district's Special Projects were approved as listed on Exhibits 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.

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

The amount of the expenditure charged to the current year's Final Report 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

Effective July 1, 2015 and thereafter the bid thresholds in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-2 and 18A:18A-3(a) are \$40,000 (with a Qualified Purchasing Agent - "QPA") and \$29,000 (without a Qualified Purchasing Agent), respectively. The law regulating bidding for public school student transportation contracts under N.J.S.A. 18A:39-3 is currently \$18,800.

The District's Board Secretary/Business Administrator is a Qualified Purchasing Agent and the Board has designated him as the QPA with a bid threshold of \$40,000.

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 individual 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.

#### School Food Service

The school food service program was not selected as a major federal and/or State program. However, the program expenditures exceeded \$100,000 in federal and/or State support. Accordingly, we inquired of school management, or appropriate school food service personnel, as to whether the SFA had any Child Nutrition Program reimbursement overclaims or underclaims. No exceptions were noted.

The school food service program was not selected as a major federal and/or State program. However, the program expenditures exceeded \$100,000 in federal and/or State support. Accordingly, we inquired of school management, or appropriate school food service personnel, as to whether the SFA's expenditures of school food service revenues were limited to allowable direct and indirect costs. No exceptions were noted.

The Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Fund Net Assets (CAFR Schedule B-5) does separate program and non-program revenue and program and non-program cost of goods sold.

The financial transactions and statistical records of the school food services were maintained in satisfactory condition. The financial accounts, meal and milk count records and eligibility applications were reviewed on a test-check basis. The number of meals claimed for reimbursement was verified against sales and meal count records. As part of the claims review process the edit check worksheet was completed. Reimbursement claims were submitted/certified in a timely manner.

Cash receipts and bank records were reviewed for timely deposit.

Applications for free and reduced price meals and free milks were reviewed for completeness and accuracy. The number of free and reduced price meals and free milks claimed as served did not exceed the number of valid applications on file, times the number of operating days, on a school by school basis. The free and reduced price meal and free milk policy is uniformly administered throughout the school system. The required verification procedures for free and reduced price applications were completed and available for review.

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 return a profit of at least \$50,000. 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. Net cash resources did not exceed three months average expenditures.

U.S.D.A. commodities were received and a separate inventory was maintained on a first-in, first-out basis.

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

#### **Student Body Activities**

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

All receipts were promptly deposited.

All cash disbursements tested had proper supporting documentation.

#### **Application for State School Aid**

Our audit procedures included a test of information reported in the October 14, 2016 Application for State School Aid (ASSA) for on-roll, private schools for the disabled, 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 no exceptions. The information that was included on the workpapers was verified with no exceptions. The results of our procedures are presented in the Schedule of Audited Enrollments.

The District did maintain 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 2016-17 District Report of Transported Resident Students (DRTRS). The information that was included on the DRTRS was verified to the DRTRS Eligibility Summary Report with exceptions. The results of our procedures are presented in the Schedule of Audited Enrollments.

Our procedures also 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.

**Finding** – Our audit of the DRTRS revealed seven special education students residing below the remote mileage threshold received transportation services, however, the respective Individualized Education Program (IEP) did not indicate transportation as a related service.

**Recommendation** – Students residing below the remote mileage threshold only be included on the DRTRS if they have an IEP which includes a related service for transportation.

#### **Facilities and Capital Assets**

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

#### Suggestions to Management

• The prior year unexpended local grant and other liabilities in the Special Revenue Fund be reviewed and cleared of record.

# PARAMUS BOARD OF EDUCATION FOOD SERVICE FUND SCHEDULE OF MEAL COUNT ACTIVITY NUMBER OF MEALS SERVED AND (OVER)/UNDERCLAIM ENTERPRISE FUNDS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017

# NOT APPLICABLE

# FOOD SERVICE FUND NET CASH RESOURCE SCHEDULE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017

#### NOT APPLICABLE

#### PARAMUS BOARD OF EDUCATION

#### SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLMENTS

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

	2016-17 Application for State School Aid				Sample for Verification					Private Schools for Disabled						
	Repor	rted on	Repor	ted on			San	nple	Verifi	ed per	Erro	rs per	Reported on	Sample		
	A.S	.S.A.	Work	papers				ed from		sters		isters	A.S.S.A. as	for		
	On	Roll	On	Roll	En	rors	Work	papers	On	Roll	On	Roll	Private	Verifi-	Sample	Sample
-	Full	Shared	Fuil	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Schools	cation	Verified	Errors
Half Day Preschool	55	-	55	-	-	-	55	-	55	-						
Full Day Preschool - 3yr	3	-	3	-	-	-	3	-	3	-						
Full Day Preschool - 4yr	23	-	23	-	-	-	23	-	23	~						
Half Day Kindegarten	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-						
Full Day Kindergarten	205	-	205	-	-		47	-	47	-	-	-				
One	237	-	237	-	-	*	39	-	39	-	-	-				
Two	205	-	205	-	-	-	35	•	35	-	-	-				
Three	239	-	239	-	-	-	61	-	61	-	-	-				
Four	218	-	218	-	-	-	37	-	37	-	-	-				
Five	220	-	220	-	-	-	119	-	119	-	-	-				
Six	228	-	228	-	-	-	109	*	109	-	-	-				
Seven	275	-	275	-	-	-	150	-	150	*	-	-				
Eight	243		243	-	-	-	114	-	114	-	-	-				
Nine	242	2	242	2	-	-	242	2	242	2	-	-				
Ten	250	-	250	-	-	-	250	-	250	-	•	-				
Eleven	240	1	240	1	-	-	240	1	240	1	-	-				
Twelve	253	3	253	3	-	-	253	3	253	3	-	-				
Post-Graduate																
Adult H.S. (15+CR.)																
Adult H.S. (1-14 CR.)																
Subtotal	- 3,136	- 6 -	3,136	- 6			- 1,777	- 6 -	1,777	- 6		~	-	-		
Special Ed - Elementary	261	-	261	-	-	-	26	-	26	-	-	-	7	7	7	-
Special Ed - Middle School	182	-	182	-	-	-	18	-	18	-	-	-	6	6	6	-
Special Ed - High School	214	9	214	9	-		20	2	20	2	-	-	13	13	13	-
Subtotal	657	9 -	657	9			- 64	- 2 -	64	- 2	-	-	26	26	26	
Co. Voc Regular																
Co. Voc. Ft. Post Sec.																
Totals	3,793	15	3,793	15	-	-	1,841	8	1,841	8		-	26	26	26	*
<b>-</b>							<u> </u>		<u> </u>			<del></del>				
Percentage Error					0.00%	0.00%					0.00%	0.00%				0.00%

#### SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLMENTS

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

	Resident Low Income			Sample for Verification			Resid	ent LEP Low Income	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	3.0	3.0	-	1.0	1.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
One	15.0	15.0	-	3.0	3.0	-	2.0	2.0	-	2.0	2.0	-
Two	9.0	9.0	-	2.0	2.0 4.0	-	2.0	2.0	-	2.0	2.0	-
Three	17.0 11.0	17.0	-	4.0 2.0	4.0 2.0	-		-	-	· -	-	-
Four Five	13.0	11,0 13.0	-	3.0	3.0	-	- 1.0	1.0	-	-	-	-
Six	10.0	13.0	-	2.0	2.0	-	1.0	1.0	-	1.0	1.0	-
Seven	10.0	10.0	-	3.0	3.0	-	-	-	-	-		-
Eight	14.0	14.0	-	2.0	2.0	-	1.0	1.0	-	1.0	1.0	-
Nine	11.0	11.0	-	3.0	3.0	-	1.0	1.0	-	-	1.0	-
Ten	13.0	13.0	-	3.0	3.0	-	-	-		-	-	
Eleven	25.0	25.0	-	6.0	6.0	-	1.0	1.0	_	1.0	1.0	_
Twelve	11.0	11.0	-	3.0	3.0	_	1.0		_	1.0	1.0	
Post-Graduate	11.0	11.0		2.0	0.0							
Adult H.S. (15+CR.)												
Adult H.S. (1-14 CR.)												
Subtotal	165.0	165.0	<u> </u>	37.0	37.0	_	7,0	7.0	-	7.0	7.0	
Special Ed - Elementary	32.0	32.0	-	7.0	7.0	-	1.0	1.0	-	1.0	1.0	-
Special Ed - Middle	21.0	21.0	-	5.0	5.0	~	-	-	-	-	-	-
Special Ed - High	31.0	31.0	<u> </u>	7,0	7.0	<u> </u>	1.0	1.0		1.0	1.0	
Subtotal	84.0	84.0	-	19.0	19.0	-	2.0	2.0	-	2.0	2.0	-
Co. Voc Regular												
Co. Voc. Ft. Post Sec.												
Totals	249.0	249.0		56.0	56.0		9.0	9.0		9.0	9.0	
- oaub			<u></u>									
Percentage Error			0.00%			0.00%			0.00%			0.00%
			Transp	ortation								
	Reported on DRTRS by	Reported on DRTRS by										
	DOE/county	District	Errors	Tested	Verified	Errors						
Reg Public Schools, col. 1	902.0	902.0		52,0	52.0	_						
Reg Public Schools, col. 1 Reg -SpEd, col. 4	902.0 89.5	902.0 89.5	-	5.0	2.0	- 3						
Keg-oped, col. 4	07.J	69.3	-	5,0	2.0	3						

Totals	1,196	1,196		69
Special Ed Spec, col. 6	129.5	129.5		8.0
Transported - Non-Public, col. 3	75.0	75,0	-	4.0
Reg -SpEd, col. 4	89.5	89.5	-	5,0
Reg Public Schools, col. 1	902.0	902.0	-	52,0

Percentage Error

10.14%

-

4

4.0

4.0

62

## PARAMUS SCHOOL DISTRICT

# SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLMENTS

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

	Resident	LEP NOT Low Inc	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	20	20	-	10	10	-	
One	15	15	-	8	8	-	
Two	10	10	-	5	5	-	
Three	9	9	-	4	4	-	
Four	7	7	-	4	4	-	
Five	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Six	6	6	-	3	3	-	
Seven	8	8	-	4	4	-	
Eight	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Nine	6	6	-	3	3	-	
Ten	2	2	-	1	1	-	
Eleven	3	3	•	2	2	-	
Twelve	4	4	-	2	2	-	
Post-Graduate							
Adult H.S. (15+CR.)							
Adult H.S. (1-14 CR.)							
Subtotal	90	90	-	46	46	-	
Special Ed - Elementary	2	2	-	1	1	-	
Special Ed - Middle	1	1	-	1	1	-	
Special Ed - High	1	1		1	1		
Subtotal	4	4	-	3	3	-	
Co. Voc Regular				·			
Co. Voc. Ft. Post Sec.							
Totals	94	94		49	49	-	
Percentage Error			0.00%			0.00%	

# PARAMUS BOARD OF EDUCATION CALCULATION OF EXCESS SURPLUS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017

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

2016-2017 Total General Fund Expenditures per the CAFR	\$ 86,464,953
Increased by: Transfer from Capital Reserve to Capital Projects Fund	387,998
Decreased by: On-Behalf TPAF Pension & Social Security	(8,247,605)
Adjusted 2016-2017 General Fund Expenditures	<u> </u>
2% of Adjusted 2016-2017 General Fund Expenditures	<u>\$ 1,572,107</u>
Enter Greater of 2% of Adjusted 2016-2017 General Fund Expenditures or \$250,000	\$ 1,572,107
Allowable Adjustments	580,564
Maximum Unassigned Fund Balance	<u>\$ 2,152,671</u>
SECTION 2	
Total General Fund - Fund Balance at June 30, 2017	\$ 23,819,661
Decreased by:	
Year End Encumbrances	681,114 17.001.876
Capital Reserve Maintenance Reserve	17,091,876 1,900,000
Emergency Reserve	794,000
Excess Surplus - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures	600,000
Total Unassigned Fund Balance	<u>\$ 2,752,671</u>
SECTION 3	
Reserved Fund Balance - Excess Surplus	<u>\$ 600,000</u>
<u>Recapitulation of Excess Surplus as of June 30, 2017</u>	
Reserved Excess Surplus - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures	\$ 600,000
Reserved Excess Surplus	600,000
Total Excess Surplus	<u>\$1,200,000</u>
Detail of Allowable Adjustments	
Extraordinary Aid (Unbudgeted)	\$ 537,993
Nonpublic Transportation Aid (Unbudgeted)	42,571
	<u>\$ 580,564</u>

# PARAMUS BOARD OF EDUCATION RECOMMENDATIONS

## I. Administrative Practice and Procedures

There are none.

# II. Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting

There are none.

#### III. School Purchasing Program

There are none.

## IV. School Food Service Program

There are none.

## V. Student Body Activities

There are none.

## VI. Application for State School

There are none.

#### VII. **Pupil Transportation**

It is recommended that students residing below the remote mileage threshold only be included on the DRTRS if they have an IEP which includes a related service for transportation.

# VIII. Facilities and Capital Assets

There are none.

## IX. Miscellaneous

There are none.

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

A review was performed on the prior year recommendation and corrective action was taken.

# PARAMUS BOARD OF EDUCATION RECOMMENDATIONS

# 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 the audit team.

Respectfully submitted,

LERCH, VINCI & HIGGINS, LLP

C n)

Gary W. Higgins Public School Accountant Certified Public Accountant