FAIRFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION
COUNTY OF ESSEX
AUDITORS' MANAGEMENT REPORT ON
ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS - FINANCIAL,
COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE
FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2019

FAIRFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION COUNTY OF ESSEX

AUDITORS' MANAGEMENT REPORT ON ADMINISTRATIVE

FINDINGS - FINANCIAL,

COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE

FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2019

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November 8, 2019

The Honorable President and Members of the Board of Education Fairfield Board of Education County of Essex, 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 financial statements of the Board of Education of the Fairfield Township School District in the County of Essex for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2019, and have issued our report thereon dated November 8, 2019.

As part of our audit, we performed procedures required by the New Jersey Department of Education, and the findings and results thereof are disclosed on the following pages, as listed in the accompanying table of contents. This letter does not affect our report dated November 8, 2019, on the financial statements of the Board.

We will review the status of the comments during our next audit engagement. We have already discussed these comments, recommendations and suggestions with various management personnel, and we will be pleased to discuss them in further detail at your convenience, to perform any additional study of these matters, or to assist you in implementing the recommendations.

This report is intended for the information of the Fairfield Township School District's management and the New Jersey Department of Education. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.

NISIVOCCIA LLP

NIS, VOCELA LI

John J Mooney
Licensed Public School Accountant #2602

Certified Public Accountant

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Scope of Audit

The audit covered the financial transactions of the Board Secretary/School Business Administrator and Treasurer of School Monies, 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

Multi-peril insurance coverage was carried in the amounts as detailed on Exhibit J-20, Insurance Schedule contained in the District's CAFR.

Officials in Office and Surety Bonds

Name	<u>Position</u>	Coverage
Lyanna Rios	Business Administrator/Board Secretary	\$ 200,000
Michael Halik	Treasurer of School Monies	\$ 200,000

Tuition Charges

A comparison of tentative tuition charges and actual certified tuition charges was made. The actual costs were less than estimated costs. The Board made a proper adjustment to the billings to sending districts for the decrease in per pupil costs in accordance with N.J.A.C.6A:23A-3.1(f)3.

Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting

Examination of Claims

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

Payroll Account and Position Control Roster

The net salaries of 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 were approved by the Superintendent and certified by the President of the Board and the School Business Administrator, and the Chief School Administrator.

Salary withholdings were promptly remitted to the proper agencies, including health benefits due to the General Fund.

The required certification (E-CERT1) of compliance with requirements for income tax on compensation of administrators (superintendent, assistant superintendent, and business administrator) to the NJ Department of Treasury was filed in a timely manner.

(Continued)

Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting (Cont'd)

Reserve for Encumbrances and Accounts Payable

A review of outstanding issued purchase orders was made on a test basis as of June 30, for proper classification of orders as reserve for encumbrances and accounts payable.

Classification of Expenditures

The coding of expenditures was tested for proper classification in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A: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 testing procedures. In addition to randomly selecting as a test sample, our sample selection specifically targeted administrative coding classifications to determine overall reliability and compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-8.2. Overall compliance was noted.

Board Secretary's Records

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of the Board, we considered the condition of the Board Secretary's records for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide specific assurance on the condition of the records. Based on these procedures, we have a finding as noted below.

Finding:

As of year-end, there was a large receivable balance in the Special Revenue Fund. The receivables exist due to late expenditures of grants by department heads which resulted in a reduction of the District's cash flow. Since year end there have been changes put into place by the District which will ensure that reimbursement of expenditures in the Special Revenue Fund take place on a semi-annual basis. Requesting reimbursement more frequently will lessen the amount of the receivable on an ongoing basis, therefore no formal recommendation is deemed necessary at this time.

Treasurer's Records

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of the Board, we considered the condition of the Treasurer's records for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide specific assurance on the condition of the records. Based on these procedures, we have no comments.

(Continued)

Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting (Cont'd)

Elementary and Secondary Education Act (E.S.E.A.) as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)

The E.S.E.A. financial exhibits are contained within the Special Revenue Section of the District's CAFR. This section of the CAFR documents the financial position pertaining to projects under Titles I, II and IV of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act as amended and reauthorized.

The study of compliance for the E.S.E.A. did not indicate any area of noncompliance.

T.P.A.F. Reimbursement

Our audit procedures included a test of the biweekly reimbursements 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 T.P.A.F. Reimbursement to the State for Federal Salary Expenditures was remitted to the State of New Jersey prior to the required deadline of October 1, 2019. The reimbursement form was reviewed, and no exceptions were noted.

Other Special Federal and/or State Projects

The District's Special Projects were approved as listed on Schedule A and Schedule B located in the CAFR.

Our audit 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 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.

School Purchasing Programs

Contracts and Agreements Requiring Advertisement for Bids

N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-3 states:

a. "When the cost or price of any contract awarded by the purchasing agent in the aggregate, does not exceed in a contract year the total sum of \$17,500, the contract may be awarded by a purchasing agent when so authorized by resolution of the Board of Education without public advertising for bids and bidding therefore, except that the Board of Education may adopt a resolution to set a lower threshold for the receipt of public bids or the solicitation of competitive quotations. If the purchasing agent is qualified pursuant to subsection b. of section 9 of P.L.1971, c. 198 the Board of Education may establish that the bid threshold may be up to \$25,000. 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.

(Continued)

School Purchasing Programs (Cont'd)

Contracts and Agreements Requiring Advertisement for Bids (Cont'd)

b. Commencing in the fifth year after the year in which P.L.1999, c. 440 takes effect and every five years thereafter, the Governor, in consultation with the Department of Treasury, shall adjust the threshold amount and the higher threshold amount which the Board of Education is permitted to establish as set forth in subsection a. of this section or the threshold amount resulting from any adjustment under this subsection, in direct proportion to the rise or fall of the index rate as that term is defined in N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-2, and shall round the adjustment to the nearest \$1,000. The Governor shall notify all local school Districts of the adjustment no later than June 1 of every fifth year. The adjustment shall become effective on July 1 of the year in which it is made"

N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-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 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) 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 \$19,000 for 2018-19.

The Board of Education has the responsibility of determining whether the expenditures in any category will exceed the statutory thresholds within the contract year. Where question arises as to whether any contract or agreement might result in violation of the statute, the 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. General compliance was noted.

The results of our examination indicated that 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.

School Food Service

The District does not operate a school food service program and does not participate in the Child Nutrition Program or receive any related federal or state awards.

(Continued)

Student Body Activities

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of the Board, we considered the condition of the records of the Student Activities Fund for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide specific assurance on the condition of the records. Based on these procedures, we have no comments.

Application for State School Aid

Our audit procedures included a test of enrollments and related services reported in the October 15, 2018 Application for State School Aid (A.S.S.A.) for on-roll, private schools for the handicapped, bilingual and low income. 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 on a test basis with no 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 2018-2019 District Report of Transported Resident Students (DRTRS). The information that was included on the DRTRS was verified to the DRTRS Eligibility Summary Report without exception. 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.

Travel Expense and Reimbursement Policy

Travel regulations require each District to adopt a formal policy and procedure pertaining to travel and expense reimbursement for its employees and board members. The regulations require the District to establish a maximum travel for the year and to ensure that the maximum is not exceeded. The regulations also require that all travel be preapproved by the Board of Education and that the approval must be itemized by event, event total cost, and individuals attending. General compliance was noted.

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 and awarding of contracts for eligible facilities construction. No exceptions were noted.

(Continued)

Testing for Lead of All Drinking Water in Educational Facilities

The District did submit the annual Statement of Assurance to the NJ Department of Education, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:26-12.4(g).

Management Suggestions

New Jersey Earned Sick Leave Law

The New Jersey Earned Sick Leave Law was effective October 29, 2018. This law allows employees to accrue 1 hour of earned sick leave for every 30 hours worked, up to 40 hours each calendar year. We suggest that Districts perform a review each year to determine if there are any employees not previously eligible to receive earned sick leave who are now entitled to under this law and that adequate records are maintained for the accrual of the earned sick leave.

Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statements

The next GASB Statement which will have an impact on the District's financial statements is GASB Statement No. 84, *Fiduciary Activities*, which is effective for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020. This Statement establishes criteria for identifying fiduciary activities. The focus of the criteria generally is on (1) whether a government is controlling the assets of the fiduciary activity and (2) the beneficiaries with whom a fiduciary relationship exists. The Statement will likely have an impact on the financial statement presentation of the Payroll Agency Fund and may have an impact on the presentation of the Student Activities Agency Fund and Trust Funds such as the Private Purpose Scholarship Trust and Unemployment Trust Fund.

Status of Prior Year's Findings/Recommendations

The prior year recommendations relating to employee travel, Treasurer's reconciliations, T.P.A.F reimbursements, Student Activity deposits, and grants receivable balances have been corrected and are not included in this audit.

EAIRFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLMENT APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID SUMMARY ENROLLMENT AS OF OCTOBER 15, 2018

ification	ber	S	1 Errors	Shared Full Shared															0.00% 0.00%
Sample for Verification	Verified per	Registers	On Roll	Full SI	40	42	71	96	9/	64	88	88	602		5	3	$\left \begin{array}{c} 0 \\ \infty \end{array} \right $	610	
San	ple	d from	oapers	Shared															
	Sample	Selected from	Workpapers	Full	40	79	71	96	92	64	88	88	602		5	33	8	610	
p			ors	Shared															0.00%
school Aid Errors		Full															0.00%		
n for State	Reported on	Workpapers	Roll	Shared															
Applicatio	Repor	Work	On Roll	Full	17	85	83	74	103	81	70	86	602		59	8	29	699	
2019-2020 Application for State School Aid	Reported on	ASSA	On Roll	Shared															
2	Repor	AS	On	Full	17	85	83	74	103	81	70	68	602		59	8	29	699	
					Half Day Preschool 4 Years Old	Full Day Kindergarten	Grade One	Grade Two	Grade Three	Grade Four	Grade Five	Grade Six	Subtotal	Special Education:	Elementary	Middle	Subtotal	Totals	Percentage Error

EARRIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLMENT APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID SUMMARY ENROLLMENT AS OF OCTOBER 15, 2018

		Sample	Errors												%00.0
	Verified to Application	and	Register	1	2	2		1	1		7			7	
Resident Low Income	Sample Selected	from	Workpapers	_	2	2			1		7			7	
Resident I			Errors												%00.0
I	Reported on Workpapers	as Low	Income	9	4	3	2	2	4	2	23			23	
	Reported on ASSA	as Low	Income	9	4	33	2	2	4	2	23			23	
	·	Sample	Errors												0.00%
		Sample	Verified									•	- -	-	
Private Schools for Disabled	Sample	for	Verification									-			
e Schools			Errors												0.00%
Privat	Reported on Workpapers	as Private	Schools									-			
	Reported on ASSA	as Private	Schools									-			
				Full Day Kindergarten	Grade One	Grade Two	Grade Three	Grade Four	Grade Five	Grade Six	Subtotal	Special Education:	Middle School Subtotal	Totals	Percentage Error

FAIRFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLMENT APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID SUMMARY ENROLLMENT AS OF OCTOBER 15, 2018

	Reported on	Reported on		Sample		
	ASSA as	Workpapers		Selected	Verified to	
	LEP Not	as LEP Not		from	Test Scores	Sample
	Low Income	Low Income	Errors	Workpapers	and Register	Errors
Con 1. Torre	2	2		1	1	
Grade Two	2	2		1	1	
Grade Three	5	5		2	2	
Grade Four	5	5		1	1	
Grade Five	4	4		1	1	
Subtotal	16	16		5	5	
Special Education:						
Elementary School	2	2		1	1	
Subtotal	2	2		1	1	
Totals	18	18		6	6	
Percentage Error			0.00%			0.00%

FAIRFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLMENT APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID SUMMARY ENROLLMENT AS OF OCTOBER 15, 2018

	Transportation								
	Reported on DRTRS by DOE	Reported on DRTRS by District	Errors	Tested	Verified	Errors			
Regular - Public Schools	162	162		16	16				
Regular - Special Education	13	13		4	4				
Special Needs - Public	16	16		5	5				
Totals	191	191		25	25				
Percentage Error			0.00%			0.00%			

	Reported	Recalculated
Average Mileage - Regular Including Grade PK Students	2.9	2.9
Average Mileage - Regular Excluding Grade PK Students	2.9	2.9
Average Mileage - Special Education with Special Needs	2.2	2.2

FAIRFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION EXCESS SURPLUS CALCULATION FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2019

Regular District

Section 1

\$13,469,479 (B)
\$ -0- (B1a)
\$ -0- (B1b)
\$ -0- (B1c)
\$ -0- (B1d)
/
\$ 1,832,906 (B2a)
\$ -0- (B2b)
\$11,636,573 (B3)
\$ 232,731 (B4)
\$ 250,000 (B5)
\$ 61,019 (K)
\$ 311,019 (M)
\$ 1,917,244 (C)
(1)
\$ -0- (C1)
()
\$ -0- (C2)
\$ 624,883 (C3)
\$ 523,401 (C4)
\$ 12,941 (C5)
` '
\$ -0- (C6)

Total Unassigned Fund Balance [(C)-(C1)-(C2)-(C3)-(C4)-(C5)-(C6)]

\$ 756,019 (U)

FAIRFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION EXCESS SURPLUS CALCULATION FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2019

Restricted Fund Balance-Excess Surplus [(U)-(M)] IF NEGATIVE, ENTER -0-	\$ 445,000 (E)
Recapitulation of Excess Surplus as of June 30, 2019	
Restricted Excess Surplus - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures Restricted Excess Surplus [(E)]	\$ 624,883 (C3) \$ 445,000 (E)
Total [(C3)+(E)]	\$1,069,883 (D)
Detail of Allowable Adjustments	
Impact Aid Sale & Lease-back Extraordinary Aid Additional Nonpublic School Transportation Aid Current Year School Bus Advertising Revenue Recognized Family Crisis Transportation Aid	\$ -0- (H) \$ -0- (I) \$ 61,019 (J1) \$ -0- (J2) \$ -0- (J3) \$ -0- (J4)
Total Adjustments (H)+(I)+(J1)+(J2)+(J3)	\$ 61,019 (K)
Detail of Other Restricted Fund Balances	
Statutory Restrictions:	
Approved Unspent Separate Proposal Sale/Lease-back Reserve Capital Reserve Maintenance Reserve Tuition Reserve Emergency Reserve School Bus Advertising 50% Fuel Offset Reserve - current year School Bus Advertising 50% Fuel Offset Reserve - prior year Impact Aid General Fund Reserve (Sections 8002 and 8003) Impact Aid Capital Fund Reserve (Sections 8007 and 8008) Other Restricted Fund Balance not Noted Above	\$ -0- \$ -0- \$ 523,401 \$ -0- \$ -0- \$ -0- \$ -0- \$ -0- \$ -0- \$ -0-
Total Other Restricted Fund Balance	\$ 523,401 (C-4)

FAIRFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2019

It is recommended that:

1. Administrative Practices and Procedures

None

2. Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting

None

3. School Purchasing Program

None

4. School Food Service

None

5. Student Body Activities

None

6. Application for State School Aid

None

7. <u>Pupil Transportation</u>

None

8. Facilities and Capital Assets

None

9. Status of Prior Year's Findings/Recommendations

The prior year recommendations relating to employee travel, Treasurer's reconciliations, T.P.A.F reimbursements, Student Activity deposits, and grants receivable balances have been corrected and are not included in this audit.