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November 11, 2019

The Honorable President and Members of the Board of Education High Point Regional High School District County of Sussex, NJ

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 Board of Education of the High Point Regional High School District in the County of Sussex for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2019, and have issued our report thereon dated November 11, 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 11, 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 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 High Point Regional High 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

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Valerie A. Dolan Licensed Public School Accountant #2526 Certified Public Accountant

www.nisivoccia.com Independent Member of BKR International

HIGH POINT REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS – FINANCIAL, COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2019

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 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	Position	Coverage
Michelle LaStarza	Treasurer of School Monies	\$290,000
Jim Minkewicz	Business Administrator/Board Secretary	290,000

Tuition Charges

A comparison of tentative tuition charges and actual certified tuition charges was made. The actual costs were different than estimated costs. The Board made a proper adjustment to the billings to sending districts for the change 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. Salary withholdings were promptly remitted to the proper agencies, including health benefits withholding due to the General Fund.

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

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.

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.

HIGH POINT REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS – FINANCIAL, COMPLIANCE <u>AND PERFORMANCE</u> <u>FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2019</u> (Continued)

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-8.2. As a result of the procedures performed, no errors were noted and no additional procedures were deemed necessary to test the propriety of expenditure classifications.

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 no comments except as noted herein.

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.

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 herein within the Special Revenue Section of the District's CAFR. This section of the CAFR documents the financial position pertaining to projects under Title I, Title II and Title 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.

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.

<u>HIGH POINT REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT</u> <u>ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS – FINANCIAL, COMPLIANCE</u> <u>AND PERFORMANCE</u> <u>FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2019</u> (Continued)

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.

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.

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 currently \$19,000.

As per N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-3, the Board passed a resolution, recognizing the Business Administrator as a qualified purchasing agent and increasing the bid threshold to \$40,000.

HIGH POINT REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS – FINANCIAL, COMPLIANCE <u>AND PERFORMANCE</u> FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2019 (Continued)

School Purchasing Programs (Cont'd)

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

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 not noted, see finding below.

The results of our examination indicated that one 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 not 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 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 the appropriate school food service personnel, as to whether the SFA has any Child Nutrition Program reimbursement overclaims or underclaims. No exceptions were noted.

We also 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.

Non-program foods were purchased, prepared or offered for sale. The State of Revenue, Expenses and Changes in Net Position in the CAFR Schedule B-5 does separate program and non-program revenue and program and non-program cos of good sold.

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. We have no comments except as noted herein.

HIGH POINT REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS – FINANCIAL, COMPLIANCE <u>AND PERFORMANCE</u> FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2019 (Continued)

Application for State School Aid

Our audit procedures included a test of information reported in the October 15, 2018 Application for State School Aid (A.S.S.A.) for on-roll, private schools for the disabled, low income and bilingual students. 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 exceptions. The information that was included on the workpapers was verified without exception. 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 had adequate written procedures for the recording of student enrollment data.

Finding:

During our review it was noted that there were discrepancies between the DOE reported A.S.S.A and the District generated workpapers for on-roll, resident low-income and resident LEP low-income.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the District take better care with reporting students to the DOE for the Application for State School Aid.

Management's Response

The District review the District generated on-roll to the number of students reported to the DOE, to ensure reporting accuracy.

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 travel policy and procedure pertaining to travel expenses and reimbursements for its employees and board members. The regulations require the District to establish a maximum travel amount for the year and to account for these expenses within a separate account in the budget to ensure that the maximum is not exceeded. The regulations also require that all travel be approved by the Board prior to the event and that the approval list the event, total event cost and the individuals attending. Employees and board members attending an event are then required to complete a post event report to be submitted to a designated person within the District. No exceptions were noted in our review of travel expenditures.

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).

HIGH POINT REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS – FINANCIAL, COMPLIANCE <u>AND PERFORMANCE</u> FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2019 (Continued)

Facilities and Capital Assets

The District did not have any active SDA projects.

Management Suggestion:

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 recommendation regarding an analysis of student account balances being maintained and reconciled to the monthly cash balance has been resolved.

APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLMENTS ENROLLMENT AS OF OCTOBER 15, 2018 HIGH POINT REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

		2019-2020) Application	2019-2020 Application for State School Aid	shool Aid				Sample for	Sample for Verification		
	Repo	Reported on	Reported on	ted on			Sar	Sample	Verifi	Verified per	Errors per	s per
	A.S	A.S.S.A.	Workpapers	apers			Select	Selected from	Regi	Registers	Registers	sters
	On	On Roll	On Roll	Soll	Errors	STC	Work	Workpapers	On Roll	Roll	On Roll	Roll
	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared
Grade Nine	174	1	172		2	1	172		172			
Grade Ten	184		183		1		183		183			
Grade Eleven	169		169				169		169			
Grade Twelve	193	-	194	2	(1)	(1)	194	2	194	2		
Subtotal	720	2	718	2	2		718	2	718	2		
Special Ed - High School	169	1	171	1	(2)		17		17			
Subtotal	169		171		(2)		17		17			
Totals	889	3	889	с.	-0-	- -	735	2	735	2	-0-	-0-
Percentage Error					0.00%	0.00%					0.00%	0.00%

	, –	Private Schools for Disabled	for Disabled				Resid	Resident Low Income	e	
	Reported on A.S.S.A. as	Sample			Reported on A.S.S.A.	Reported on Workpapers		Sample Selected	Verified to	
	Private	for	Sample	Sample	as Low	as Low		from	Application	Sample
	Schools	Verification	Verified	Errors	Income	Income	Errors	Workpapers	and Register	Errors
Grade Nine					18	18		2	2	
Grade Ten					14	14		2	2	
Grade Eleven					22	21	1	2	2	
Grade Twelve					18	17	1	2	2	
Subtotal					72	70	2	8	8	
Special Ed - High School	11	7	7		43	40	n	ŝ	3	
Subtotal	11	2	2		43	40	3	3	3	
Totals	11	2	2	-0-	115	110	Ś	11	11	-0-
Percentage Error				0.00%			4.35%			0.00%

HIGH POINT REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLMENTS ENROLLMENT AS OF OCTOBER 15, 2018

		Resident LEP N	lot Low Income		
Reported on	Reported on		Sample		
A.S.S.A. as	Workpapers		Selected	Verified to	
LEP Not Low	LEP Not Low		from	Test Scores	Sample
Income	Income	Errors	Workpapers	and Register	Errors

Not Applicable

			Resident LEP	Low Income		
	Reported on	Reported on		Sample		
	A.S.S.A. as	Workpapers		Selected	Verified to	
	LEP Not Low	LEP Not Low		from	Test Scores	Sample
	Income	Income	Errors	Workpapers	and Register	Errors
Grade Ten	1	1		1	1	
Grade Twelve	1		1			
Totals	2	1	1	1	1	-0-
				<u></u>		
Percentage Error			50.00%			0.00%

HIGH POINT REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLMENTS ENROLLMENT AS OF OCTOBER 15, 2018

			Transpo	rtation		
	Reported on DRTRS	Reported on DRTRS				
	by DOE	by District	Errors	Tested	Verified	Errors
Regular - Public Schools	681	681		15	15	
Regular - Special Education	160	160		2	2	
Transported - Non Public	61	61		2	2	
AIL - Non Public	5	5		2	2	
Special Needs - Public	22	22		2	2	
Special Needs - Private	10	10		2	2	
Totals	939	939	-0-	25	25	-0-
Percentage Error			0.00%			0.00%

		Re-
	Reported	calculated
Average Mileage - Regular Including Grade PK Students	6.9	6.9
Average Mileage - Regular Excluding Grade PK Students	6.9	6.9
Average Mileage - Special Education with Special Needs	11.6	11.6

HIGH POINT REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT EXCESS SURPLUS CALCULATION FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2019

Section 1 - REGULAR DISTRICT

2018-2019 Total General Fund Expenditures per the CAFR Increased by: Transfer from Capital Outlay to Capital Projects Fund Transfer from Capital Reserve to Capital Projects Fund Decreased by: On-Behalf TPAF Pension and Social Security	$\begin{array}{c c} $ 26,720,980 (B) \\ \hline \hline $ -0- (B1a) \\ \hline $ -0- (B1b) \\ \hline $ 3,463,503 (B2a) \\ \end{array}$
Assets Acquired Under Capital Leases	\$ -0- (B2b)
Adjusted 2018-2019 General Fund Expenditures [(B)+(B1's)-(B2's)]	\$ 23,257,477 (B3)
2% of Adjusted 2018-2019 General Fund Expenditures [(B5) times .02] Enter Greater of (B4) or \$250,000 Increased by: Allowable Adjustment	\$ 465,150 (B4) \$ 465,150 (B5) \$ 16,001 (K)
Maximum Unassigned Fund Balance [(B5)+(K)]	\$ 481,151 (M)
Section 2	
Total General Fund - Fund Balances @ 6/30/2019	<u>\$ 921,293 (C)</u>
	\$ 921,293 (C)
Total General Fund - Fund Balances @ 6/30/2019 (Per CAFR Budgetary Comparison Schedule C-1) Decreased by: Assigned - Year End Encumbrances	\$ 96,287 (C1)
Total General Fund - Fund Balances @ 6/30/2019 (Per CAFR Budgetary Comparison Schedule C-1) Decreased by: Assigned - Year End Encumbrances Legally Restricted - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures	\$ 96,287 (C1)
Total General Fund - Fund Balances @ 6/30/2019 (Per CAFR Budgetary Comparison Schedule C-1) Decreased by: Assigned - Year End Encumbrances Legally Restricted - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures Excess Surplus - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures	\$ 96,287 (C1)
Total General Fund - Fund Balances @ 6/30/2019 (Per CAFR Budgetary Comparison Schedule C-1) Decreased by: Assigned - Year End Encumbrances Legally Restricted - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures Excess Surplus - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures Other Restricted Fund Balances	\$ 96,287 (C1) \$ -0- (C2) \$ -0- (C3) \$ 328,854 (C4)
Total General Fund - Fund Balances @ 6/30/2019 (Per CAFR Budgetary Comparison Schedule C-1) Decreased by: Assigned - Year End Encumbrances Legally Restricted - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures Excess Surplus - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures Other Restricted Fund Balances Assigned - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures	\$ 96,287 (C1)
Total General Fund - Fund Balances @ 6/30/2019 (Per CAFR Budgetary Comparison Schedule C-1) Decreased by: Assigned - Year End Encumbrances Legally Restricted - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures Excess Surplus - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures Other Restricted Fund Balances	\$ 96,287 (C1) \$ -0- (C2) \$ -0- (C3) \$ 328,854 (C4)

HIGH POINT REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT EXCESS SURPLUS CALCULATION FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2019 (continued)

Section 3

Restricted Fund Balance - Excess Surplus [(U1)-(M)] IF NEGATIVE, ENTER -0-	\$ -0- (E)
Section 3	
Recapitulation of Excess Surplus as of June 30, 2019	
Restricted Excess Surplus - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures Restricted Excess Surplus [(E)]	\$ -0- (C3) \$ -0- (E)
Total [(C3)+(E)+(F)]	<u>\$ -0-</u> (D)
Detail of Allowable Adjustments	
Impact Aid Sale and Lease Back Extraordinary Aid Additional Nonpublic School Transportation Aid	\$ -0- (H) \$ -0- (I) \$ -0- (J1) \$ 16,001 (J2)
Total Adjustments [(H)+(I)+(J1)+(J2)]	<u>\$ 16,001</u> (K)
Detail of Other Restricted Fund Balances	
Statutory Restrictions Approved Unspent Separate Proposal Sale/Lease-Back Reserve Capital Reserve Maintenance Reserve Emergency Reserve Tuition Reserve Other State/Governmental Mandated Reserve Other Restricted Fund Balance not Noted Above	$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$

Total Other Restricted Fund Balances\$ 328,854

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2019

It is recommended that:

1. <u>Administrative Practices and Procedures</u>

None

2. Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting

None

3. <u>School Purchasing Program</u>

None

4. <u>School Food Service</u>

None

5. <u>Student Body Activities</u>

None

6. Application for State School Aid

The District take better care with reporting students to the DOE for the Application for State School Aid.

7. <u>Pupil Transportation</u>

None

8. <u>Travel Expense and Reimbursement Policy</u>

None

9. Facilities and Capital Assets

None

10. <u>Status of Prior Year's Findings/Recommendations</u>

The prior year recommendation regarding an analysis of student account balances being maintained and reconciled to the monthly cash balance has been resolved.