

Auditor's Management Report

for the

*City of Linden
School District*

in the

*County of Union
New Jersey*

for the

*Fiscal Year Ended
June 30, 2019*

**AUDITOR'S MANAGEMENT REPORT OF ADMINISTRATIVE
FINDINGS-FINANCIAL AND COMPLIANCE**

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Honorable President and Members
of the Board of Education
City of Linden School District
Linden, New Jersey 07036

We have audited, in accordance with U.S. generally accepted auditing standards and Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the basic financial statements of the City of Linden School District in the County of Union for the year ended June 30, 2019, and have issued our report dated October 31, 2019.

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

This report is intended solely for the information of the City of Linden School District, County of Union, New Jersey, the New Jersey Department of Education and federal and state audit awarding agencies and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.


CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS


PUBLIC SCHOOL ACCOUNTANT NO. 962

October 31, 2019

Independent Auditor’s Management Report of Administrative Findings – Financial and Compliance

Scope of Audit

The audit covered the financial transactions of the Board Secretary/School Business Administrator and the activities of the City of Linden - 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 (Exhibit J-20) contained in the District’s Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR).

Official Bonds (N.J.S.A. 18A:17-26, 17-32)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Amount of Bonds</u>
Kathleen A. Gaylord	Business Administrator/Board Secretary	\$500,000.00
Denise Cleary	Acting Superintendent	\$500,000.00
Danny A. Robertozzi	Treasurer of School Monies	\$500,000.00

Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting

Examination of Claims

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

Payroll Accounts

The net salaries of all employees of the Board were deposited in the Net Payroll Account. Employees’ payroll deductions and employer’s share of fringe benefits were deposited in the Payroll Agency Account.

All payrolls tested were approved by the Superintendent and 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 premium amounts withheld due to the general fund.

Payrolls were delivered to the secretary of the board with a warrant made to her order for the full amount of each payroll.

**Independent Auditor's Management Report of Administrative
Findings – Financial and Compliance**

Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting (Continued)

Position Control Roster

The Position Control Roster was reviewed and compared to payroll records, employee benefit records and charges made to the general ledger to ensure proper and consistent financial reporting and that employee benefits are only offered to current employees.

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.

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 errors were noted and no additional procedures were deemed necessary to the test the propriety of expenditure classification.

Board Secretary's Records

The financial records of the Board Secretary were maintained in satisfactory condition.

**Independent Auditor's Management Report of Administrative
Findings – Financial and Compliance**

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

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 the projects under Titles I and VI of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act as amended and reauthorized.

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 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.

T.P.A.F. Reimbursement

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

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. No Exceptions were noted.

**Independent Auditor's Management Report of Administrative
Findings – Financial and Compliance**

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 \$29,000.00, 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 therefor, 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. (pending before the Legislature as section 15 of this bill) 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 \$40,000.00. Such authorization may be granted for each contract for 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 \$1,000.00. 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 every year in which it is made. Any contract made pursuant to this section may be awarded for a period of 24 consecutive months, except that contracts for professional services pursuant to paragraph (1) of subsection a. of N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-5 may be awarded for a period not exceeding 12 consecutive months."

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 therefor, except as is provided otherwise in this chapter or specifically by any other law.

The Board of Education may, by resolution, approve by the majority of the board of education and subject to subsections b. and c. of this section, disqualify a bidder who would otherwise be determined to be the lowest responsible bidder, if the board of education finds that it has had negative prior experience with the bidder."

Effective July 1, 2015, the bid threshold in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-3(a) and (c) is \$29,000.00. In accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-9 (b) the bid threshold for all purchases made by the District's qualified purchasing agent is \$40,000.00. The law regulating bidding for public school student transportation contracts under N.J.S.A. 18:39-3 is currently \$19,000.00.

**Independent Auditor's Management Report of Administrative
Findings – Financial and Compliance**

School Purchasing Programs (Continued)

Contracts and Agreements Requiring Advertisement for Bids (Continued)

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 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 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 provisions 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 the district made purchases 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.

In addition, 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 charges in fund net position (CAFR exhibit B-5) does separate program and non-program revenue and program and non-program costs of goods sold.

Student Body Activities

The records for the Student Body Activities were maintained in satisfactory condition.

Independent Auditor's Management Report of Administrative Findings – Financial and Compliance

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 handicapped, 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 minor exceptions. The information that was included on the workpapers was verified with minor 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 had written procedures for the recording of student enrollment.

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 with an 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. The bid specifications for the purchase of buses were in compliance with applicable statutes. No exceptions were noted in our review of transportation related purchases of goods and services.

Capital Assets and Facilities

Our procedures included a review of the SDA grant agreements for consistency with recording of SDA revenue, transfer of local funds from the general or capital reserve account, and awarding of contracts for eligible facilities construction.

Testing for Lead of Drinking Water in Educational Facilities

We were advised that the school district adhered to the requirements of N.J.A.C. 26-1.2 and 12.4 related to the testing for lead of all drinking water in educational facilities.

The school district submitted the annual assurance to the Department of Education, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:26-12.4(g)

Follow-Up Prior Year's Findings

In accordance with governmental auditing standards, our procedures included a review of all prior year recommendations. Corrective action had been taken on all prior year findings.

Independent Auditor's Management Report of Administrative Findings – Financial and Compliance

Recommendations

Administrative Practices and Procedures

None

Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting

None

School Purchasing Program

None

School Food Service

None

Student Body Activities

None

Application for State School Aid

None

Pupil Transportation

None

Capital Assets and Facilities

None

Testing for Lead of Drinking Water in Educational Facilities

None

Prior Year Audit Findings

None

**CITY OF LINDEN SCHOOL DISTRICT
SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLMENTS
APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID SUMMARY
ENROLLMENT AS OF OCTOBER 15, 2018**

	2019-20 Application for State School Aid				Sample for Verification				Private School for Handicapped					
	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared
Half Day Pre-School														
Full Day Pre-School														
One	318		0		16		16		0		0		0	
Two	422		0		21		21		0		0		0	
Three	420		0		21		21		0		0		0	
Four	395		0		20		20		0		0		0	
Five	391		0		20		20		0		0		0	
Six	355		0		20		20		0		0		0	
Seven	420		0		19		19		0		0		0	
Eight	386		0		21		21		0		0		0	
Nine	364		0		19		19		0		0		0	
Ten	400		0		16		16		0		0		0	
Eleven	390		0		19		19		0		0		0	
Twelve	337		0		17		17		0		0		0	
Subtotal	377	8	0	0	19	0	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	328	5	0	0	20	0	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	5,303	13	0	0	268	0	268	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SpEd Elementary (PK-5)	423		0		21		21		0		18		15	
SpEd Middle School (6-8)	215		0		11		11		0		16		15	
SpEd High School	216		0		12		12		0		51.5		37	
Subtotal	854	33	0	0	44	0	44	0	0	0	85.5	0	67	0
Totals	6,157	46	0	0	312	0	312	0	0	0	86	0	67	0
Percentage			0.00%	0.00%					0.00%					0.00%

**CITY OF LINDEN SCHOOL DISTRICT
SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLMENTS
APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID SUMMARY
ENROLLMENT AS OF OCTOBER 15, 2018**

	Resident Low Income			Sample for Verification			Resident ELL 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 ELL Low Income	Reported on Workpapers as ELL Low Income	Errors	Sample Selected from Workpapers	Verified to Application and Register	Sample Errors
Full Day Kindergarten	231	231	0	20	20	0	31	31	0	17	17	0
One	240	240	0	20	20	0	32	32	0	17	17	0
Two	240	240	0	20	20	0	27	27	0	15	15	0
Three	237	237	0	20	20	0	22	22	0	15	15	0
Four	192	192	0	20	20	0	12	12	0	8	8	0
Five	256	256	0	20	20	0	15	15	0	7	7	0
Six	228	228	0	20	20	0	14	14	0	7	7	0
Seven	203	203	0	20	20	0	13	13	0	7	7	0
Eight	234	234	0	20	20	0	15	15	0	7	7	0
Nine	226	226	0	20	20	0	23	23	0	10	10	0
Ten	189	189	0	19	19	0	18	18	0	10	10	0
Eleven	212.5	212.5	0	15	15	0	19	19	0	10	10	0
Twelve	195	195	0	15	15	0	15	15	0	5	5	0
Subtotal	2883.5	2883.5	0	249	249	0	256	256	0	135	135	0
SpEd Elementary	285	285	0	20	20	0	18	18	0	8	8	0
SpEd Middle School	158	158	0	15	15	0	4	4	0	2	2	0
SpEd High School	166.5	166.5	0	15	15	0	5	5	0	2	2	0
Subtotal	609.5	610	0	50	50	0	27	27	0	12	12	0
Totals	3493	3493	0	299	299	0	283	283	0	147	147	0
			0.00%			0.00%			0.00%			0.00%

Percentage Error

	Transportation		
	Reported on DRTS by DOE	Reported on DRTS by District	Errors
Reg Public Schools, col.1	725	725	0
Transported - Non-Public, col.2	57	57	0
Nonpublic - All, col.3	133	133	0
Reg. - SpEd, col.4	127	127	0
Special Ed Spec, col.6	223	223	0
Totals	1265	1265	0
			0.00%

Percentage Error

**CITY OF LINDEN SCHOOL DISTRICT
 SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLMENTS
 APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID SUMMARY
 ENROLLMENT AS OF OCTOBER 15, 2018**

	Resident ELL NOT Low Income			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 Pre-School						
Full Day Pre-School						
Full Day Kindergarten	22	22	0	16	16	0
One	15	15	0	12	12	0
Two	18	18	0	16	16	0
Three	15	15	0	7	7	0
Four	10	10	0	2	2	0
Five	0	0	0	0	0	0
Six	4	4	0	3	3	0
Seven	6	6	0	4	4	0
Eight	5	5	0	3	3	0
Nine	6	6	0	5	5	0
Ten	4	4	0	4	4	0
Eleven	7	7	0	6	6	0
Twelve	4	4	0	3	3	0
Subtotal	116	116	0	81	81	0
SpEd Elementary	10	10	0	0	0	0
SpEd Middle School	0	0	0	0	0	0
SpEd High School	1	1	0	0	0	0
Subtotal	11	11	0	0	0	0
Totals	127	127	0	81	81	0
Percentage Error			0.00%			0.00%

LINDEN SCHOOL DISTRICT

SCHEDULE OF CALCULATION OF EXCESS SURPLUS

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2019

SECTION 1

2% Calculation of Excess Surplus

2018 - 2019 Total General Fund Expenditures per the CAFR, Ex. C-1	\$ 138,178,736.34	
Increased by:		
Transfer from General Fund to SRF for PreK	150,000.00	
Decreased by:		
On-Behalf TPAF Pension & Social Security	\$ 17,383,993.25	
Adjusted 2018 - 2019 General Fund Expenditures		\$ 120,944,743.09
2% of Adjusted 2018 - 2019 General Fund Expenditures		\$ 2,418,894.86
Greater of line above or \$250,000.00		\$ 2,418,894.86
Increased by: Allowable Adjustment		\$ 554,687.00
Maximum Unreserved/Undesignated Fund Balance		\$ 2,973,581.86

SECTION 2

Total General Fund - Fund Balances @ 6-30-19	\$ 28,277,868.03	
Decreased by:		
Year-end Encumbrances	\$ 2,088,798.89	
Legally Restricted-Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures	\$	
Legally Restricted-Excess Surplus-Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures	\$ 2,227,506.00	
Other Restricted Fund Balances:		
Emergency Reserve	\$ 934,801.77	
Capital Reserve	\$ 17,552,904.71	
Assigned Fund Balance - Unreserved-Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures	\$	
Total Unassigned Fund Balance		\$ 5,473,856.66

SECTION 3

Restricted Fund Balance-Excess Surplus	\$ 2,500,274.80
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Recapitulation of excess surplus as of June 30, 2019

Reserved Excess Surplus - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures	\$ 2,227,506.00
Reserved Excess Surplus	\$ 2,500,274.80
Total Excess Surplus	\$ 4,727,780.80

Detail of Allowable Adjustments

Extraordinary Aid	\$ 501,965.00
Additional Non-Public School Transportation Aid	52,722.00
	\$ 554,687.00

