SOUTH HACKENSACK SCHOOL DISTRICT COUNTY OF BERGEN AUDITORS' MANAGEMENT REPORT ON ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS - FINANCIAL, COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2019

SOUTH HACKENSACK SCHOOL DISTRICT <u>COUNTY OF BERGEN</u> <u>AUDITORS' MANAGEMENT REPORT ON ADMINISTRATIVE</u> <u>FINDINGS - FINANCIAL,</u> <u>COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE</u> <u>FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2019</u> <u>TABLE OF CONTENTS</u>

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November 21, 2019

The Honorable President and Members of the Board of Education South Hackensack School District County of Bergen, 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 financial statements of the Board of Education of the South Hackensack School District in the County of Bergen for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2019, and have issued our report thereon dated November 21, 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 21, 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 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, if any.

This report is intended for the information of the South Hackensack 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

Raymond Sarinélli Licensed Public School Accountant #864 Certified Public Accountant

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	Position	Coverage
Gregorio Maceri	Chief School Administrator	\$ 225,000
Dina Messery	Business Administrator	225,000
Deborah Carpino	Treasurer of School Monies	225,000

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 approved by the Chief School Administrator and were certified by the President of the Board, the Chief School Administrator and the School Business Administrator.

The required certification (ECERT1) of compliance with requirements for income tax on compensation of administrators (superintendent, assistant superintendents and business administrators) to the NJ Department of Treasury was filed by the required due date.

Reserve for Encumbrances and Accounts Payable

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

Classification of General and Administrative 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. In addition to randomly selecting a test sample, we reviewed administrative coding classifications to determine overall reliability and compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-8.2. We also reviewed the coding of all expenditures included in our compliance and single audit testing procedures. As a result of the procedures performed, no significant transaction errors were noted and no additional procedures were deemed necessary to test the propriety of expenditure classification.

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.

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 III of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act..

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.

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, 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.

School Purchasing Programs

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

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 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. We inquired of school management, or the appropriate school food service personnel, as to whether the School Food Authority (SFA) had 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 Statement of Revenue, Expense and Changes in Net Position in the CAFR Schedule B-5 does separate program and non-program revenue and program and non-program cost of goods sold.

After School Program

Our audit procedures included a review of the financial transactions of the After School Program. Based on these procedures, we have no comments except as noted herein.

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.

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 without exception. The information that was included on the workpapers was verified on a test basis 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's written procedures appear to be adequate for the recording of student enrollment data.

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).

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 on a test basis 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.

Facilities and Capital Assets

There were no active SDA Grants.

Travel Expense and Reimbursement Policy

Travel regulations require each District to adopt a formal policy and procedures pertaining to travel and expense reimbursements for its employee and board members. The regulations require the District to establish a maximum travel amount 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 the Superintendent and that the approval must be itemized by event, event total cost, and individuals attending.

A review of the District's travel expenses was made on a test basis for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2019 and overall compliance was noted.

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.

Status of Prior Year's Findings/Recommendations

The prior year recommendations regarding the deficit in the food service account and the submission of reimbursement vouchers for federal and state food subsidies were corrected during the fiscal year and are not included as recommendations in the current year audit.

		2019-2020 Application for State School Aid	Applicatio	n for State	School Ai	đ		S	ample for	Sample for Verification	L	
	Repor	Reported on Revised ASSA	Repor Work	Reported on Worknaners			Selecte	Sample Selected from	Verifi Regi	Verified per Registers		
	On	On Roll	On	On Roll	En	Errors	Work	Workpapers	On Roll	Roll	En	Errors
	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared
Full Day Preschool 4 Years Old	25		25				25		25			
Full Day Kindergarten	23		23				23		23			
Grade One	24		24				24		24			
Grade Two	29		29				29		29			
Grade Three	27		27				27		27			
Grade Four	21		21				21		21			
Grade Five	33		33				33		33			
Grade Six	25		25				25		25			
Grade Seven	21		21				21		21			
Grade Eight	25		25				25		25			
Subtotal	253		253				253		253			
Special Education:												
Elementary	15		15				15		15			
Middle	7		7				7		٢			
Subtotal	22		22				22		22			
Totals	275	-0-	275	-0-	-0-	-0-	275	-0-	275	0-	-0-	-0-
Percentage Error					0.00%	0.00%					0.00%	0.00%

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	Pri	Private Schools for	or Disabled		:		Resident	Resident Low Income		
	Reported				Reported	Reported on		Sample	Verified to	
	on ASSA	Sample			on ASSA	Workpapers		Selected	Application	
	as Private	for	Sample	Sample	as Low	as Low		from	and	Sample
	Schools	Verficiation	Verified	Errors	Income	Income	Errors	Workpapers	Register	Errors
Full Day Kindergarten					7	7		1	1	
Grade One					6	6		2	2	
Grade Two					14	14		ς	ę	
Grade Three					11	11		2	2	
Grade Four					7	7		1	1	
Grade Five					13	13		2	2	
Grade Six					14	14		ю	С	
Grade Seven					5	5		1	1	
Grade Eight					8	8		2	2	
Subtotal					88	88		17	17	
Special Education:										
Elementary School					11	11		2	2	
Middle School					С	С		1	1	
High School	1	1	1							
Subtotal	1	1	1		14	14		3	ю	
Totals	1	1	1	-0-	102	102	-0-	20	20	-0-
Percentage Error				0.00%			0.00%			0.00%

]	Resident LEP	Low Income		
	Reported on ASSA as	Reported on Workpapers		Sample Selected	Verified to Test Scores,	
	LEP Low Income	as LEP Low Income	Errors	from Workpapers	Application and Register	Sample Errors
				workpapers		
Grade One	1	1	-			
Grade Two	2	2		1	1	
Grade Three	2	2		1	1	
Grade Four	3	3		1	1	
Grade Five	1	1		1	1	
Grade Six	1	1				
Subtotal	10	10		4	4	
Special Education:						
Elementary School	3	3		1	1	
Subtotal	3	3		1	1	
Totals	13	13	-0-	5	5	-0-
Percentage Error			0.00%			0.00%

		Re	sident LEP N	ot Low Income		
	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
Full Day Kindergarten	8	8		1	1	
Grade One	6	6		1	1	
		-		1	1	
Grade Two	2	2		1	1	
Grade Three	6	6		1	1	
Grade Four	7	7		1	1	
Grade Six	2	2		1	1	
Grade Seven	2	2		1	1	
Grade Eight	2	2		1	1	
Subtotal	35	35		8	8	
Special Education:						
Elementary School	3	3		1	1	
Subtotal	3	3		1	1	
Totals	38	38	-0-	9	9	-0-
Percentage Error			0.00%			0.00%

			Tran	sportation		
	Reported on DRTRS by DOE	Reported on DRTRS by District	Errors	Tested	Verified	Errors
Regular - Public Schools	16	16		5	5	
Regular - Special Education	4	4		1	1	
Transported - Non Public	1	1		1	1	
AIL - Non Public	6	6		2	2	
Special Needs - Public	13	13		2	2	
Special Needs - Private	4	4		1	1	
Totals	44	44	-0-	12	12	-0-
Percentage Error			0.00%			0.00%

	Reported	Recalculated
Average Mileage - Regular Including Grade PK Students	6.5	6.5
Average Mileage - Regular Excluding Grade PK Students	6.5	6.5
Average Mileage - Special Education with Special Needs	6.5	6.5

SOUTH HACKENSACK SCHOOL DISTRICT EXCESS SURPLUS CALCULATION FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2019

REGULAR DISTRICT

SECTION 1

2% Calculation of Excess Surplus

2018-19 Total General Fund Expenditures per the CAFR, Ex. C-1 Increased by: Transfer from Capital Outlay to Capital Projects Fund Transfer from Capital Reserve to Capital Projects Fund	\$ 8,914,732 (B) \$ -0- (B1a) \$ -0- (B1b)
Decreased by: On-Behalf TPAF Pension and Social Security Assets Acquired Under Capital Leases	\$ 708,263 (B2a) \$ -0- (B2b)
Adjusted 2018-19 General Fund Expenditures [(B)+(B1's)-(B2's)]	<u>\$ 8,206,469</u> (B3)
2% of Adjusted 2018-19 General Fund Expenditures [(B3) times .02] Enter Greater of (B4) or \$250,000 Increased by: Allowable Adjustments	\$ 164,129 (B4) \$ 250,000 (B5) \$ 69,790 (K)
Maximum Unassigned Fund Balance [(B5)+(K)]	\$ 319,790 (M)
Maximum Onassigned I and Dalance [(D5)+(R)]	
SECTION 2	
	$\frac{\$ 3,396,761}{\$ 30,400} (C1)$ $\frac{\$ 0.00}{\$ 30,400} (C1)$ $\frac{\$ 0.00}{\$ 284,551} (C3)$ $\frac{\$ 0.00}{\$ 642,324} (C4)$ $\frac{\$ 3,404}{\$ (C5)} (C5)$

SOUTH HACKENSACK 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-		116,292 (E)
<u>Recapitulation of Excess Surplus as of June 30, 2019</u>		
Restricted Excess Surplus - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures Restricted Excess Surplus [(E)]	\$ \$	284,551 (C3) 116,292 (E)
Total [(C3)+(E)]		400,843 (D)
Detail of Allowable Adjustments		
Impact Aid Sale & Lease-back Extraordinary Aid Additional Nonpublic School Transportation Aid	\$ \$ \$	-0- (H) -0- (I) 68,050 (J1) 1,740 (J2)
Total Adjustments [(H)+(I)+(J1)+(J2)+(J3)]		69,790 (K)
Detail of Other Restricted Fund Balance		
Statutory Restrictions:		
Approved Unspent Separate Proposal	\$	-0-
Sale/Lease-back Reserve	_\$	-0-
Capital Reserve	_\$	300,000
Maintenance Reserve	_\$	342,324
Emergency Reserve	\$	-0-
Tuition Reserve	\$	-0-
Other State/Government Mandated Reserve	\$	-0-
Other Restricted Fund Balance Not Noted Above	\$	-0-
Total Other Restricted Fund Balance	\$	<u>642,324</u> (C4)

SOUTH HACKENSACK SCHOOL DISTRICT SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2019

It is recommended that:

1. Administrative Practices and Procedures

None

2. <u>Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting</u>

None

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

None

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

None

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

None.

6. <u>Application for State School Aid</u>

None

7. <u>Pupil Transportation</u>

None

8. Facilities and Capital Assets

None

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

The prior year recommendations regarding the deficit in the food service account and the submission of reimbursement vouchers for federal and state food subsidies were corrected during the fiscal year and are not included as recommendations in the current year audit.