

*Auditor's Management Report*

*for the*

*Borough of Alpine  
School District*

*in the*

*County of Bergen  
New Jersey*

*for the*

*Fiscal Year Ended  
June 30, 2020*



**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  
Borough of Alpine  
County of Bergen  
Alpine, New Jersey 07620

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 Borough of Alpine School District in the County of Bergen, New Jersey for the year ended June 30, 2020, and have issued our report dated January 5, 2021.

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 Alpine School District, County of Bergen, 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.

  
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CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
PUBLIC SCHOOL ACCOUNTANT NO. 948

January 5, 2021

**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 Borough of Alpine - Board of Education and the records of the various funds under the auspices of the Board of Education.

**Administrative Practices and Procedures**

**Insurance**

Insurance coverage was carried in the amounts as detailed in the District's CAFR.

**Official Bonds**

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>AMOUNT OF BONDS</u>
Marilyn Hayward	Treasurer of School Monies	\$200,000.00
Olga Yarmolina	Board Secretary/School Business Administrator	85,000.00

Adequacy of insurance coverage is the responsibility of the Board of Education.

**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 District 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 and the Board Secretary/Business Administrator.

Salary withholdings were promptly remitted to proper agencies, including health benefit premium amounts withheld due to the general fund.

## **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, 2020 for proper classification of orders as reserve for encumbrances and accounts payable.

### **Unemployment Compensation Insurance Trust Fund**

The District has adopted the direct reimbursement method and has established an Unemployment Compensation Insurance Trust Fund.

### **Classification of Expenditures**

The coding of expenditures was tested for proper classification in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.2(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 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:23-8.3. As a result of the procedures performed, no errors were noted and no additional procedures were deemed necessary to test the propriety of expenditure classification.

### **Board Secretary's Records**

The financial records, books of account, and minutes of the Board Secretary were maintained in satisfactory condition and the contractual order system was fully implemented.

### **Treasurer's Records**

Our audit included an examination of the Treasurer of School Monies' monthly reports and bank reconciliations which were maintained in satisfactory condition.

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

### **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 CAFR. This section of the CAFR documents the financial position pertaining to the projects under Title I and Title VI of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act as amended and reauthorized.

#### **T.P.A.F. Reimbursement**

Our audit procedures included a test of the bimonthly reimbursement filed with the Department of Education for district employees who are members of the Teachers Pension and Annuity Fund. 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 \$26,000.00, 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 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 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 \$1,000.00. 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.



## **School Purchasing Programs (Continued)**

### **Contracts and Agreements Requiring Advertisement for Bids (Continued)**

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. 40A:11-4 is \$29,000.00 or up to \$40,000.00 if the entity has a Qualified Purchasing Agent. The law regulating bidding for public school student transportation contracts under N.J.S.A. 18:39-3 is currently \$19,000.00.

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.

## **School Food Service**

Beginning July 1, 2018, the District has elected not to participate in the federally assisted child nutrition programs encompassing the National School Lunch, Breakfast, and Special Milk programs.

## **Student Body Activities**

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

### **Application For State School Aid**

Our audit procedures included a test of information reported in the October 15, 2019 Application for State School Aid (A.S.S.A.) for on-roll, private schools for the handicapped, 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 a minor exception. The information that was included on the workpapers was verified 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 written procedures for the recording of student enrollment data.

### **Pupil Transportation**

Our audit procedures included a test of on roll status reported in the 2019-2020 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.

### **Facilities and Capital Assets**

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.

### **Miscellaneous**

#### **Testing for Lead of All Drinking Water in Educational Facilities**

The school district adhered to all 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 Statement of Assurance to the Department of Education, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:26-12.4(g).

### **Follow-up on Prior Year's Findings**

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, our procedures included a review of status of prior year audit recommendations. All prior year findings have been corrected.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

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. Pupil Transportation

None

8. Facilities and Capital Assets

None

9. Miscellaneous

None

10. Status of Prior Year's Findings/Recommendations

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, our procedures included a review of status of prior year audit recommendations. All prior year findings have been corrected.

**ALPINE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLMENTS**  
**APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID SUMMARY**  
**ENROLLMENT AS OF OCTOBER 15, 2019**

	2020-2021 Application for State School Aid				Sample for Verification				Private Schools for Disabled						
	Reported on		Workpapers		Selected from		Verified per		Errors per		Reported on		Sample		
	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Private Schools	Sample Verification	Sample Verified	Sample Errors	
Half Day Preschool - 3 YR															
Half Day Preschool - 4 YR															
Half Day Kindergarten															
Full Day Kindergarten	11		11		7		7								
One	13		13		10		10								
Two	16		16		10		10								
Three	23		23		15		15								
Four	11		11		7		7								
Five	12		12		10		10								
Six	20		20		15		15								
Seven	17		17		13		13								
Eight	15		15		10		10								
Nine															
Ten															
Eleven															
Twelve															
Post-Graduate															
Adult H.S. (15+CR.)															
Adult H.S. (1-14 CR.)															
Subtotal	138	0	138	0	97	0	97	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Special Ed - Elementary	10		10		5		5								
Special Ed - Middle School	5		5		2		2				1	1	1	1	0
Special Ed - High School					0		0				2	2	2	2	0
Subtotal	15	0	15	0	7	0	7	0	0	0	3	3	3	3	0

Co. Voc. - Regular																
Co. Voc. Ft. Post Sec.																
Totals	153	0	153	0	104	0	104	0	0	0	3	3	3	3	0	
Percentage Error					0.00%		0		0.00%						0.00%	

**ALPINE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLMENTS  
APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID SUMMARY  
ENROLLMENT AS OF OCTOBER 15, 2019**

	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 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 Kindergarten												
Full Day Kindergarten												
One			0			0						0
Two			0			0						0
Three			0			0						0
Four			0			0						0
Five			0			0						0
Six			0			0						0
Seven			0			0						0
Eight			0			0						0
Nine			0			0						0
Ten			0			0						0
Eleven			0			0						0
Twelve			0			0						0
Post-Graduate												
Adult H.S. (15+CR.)												
Adult H.S. (1-14 CR.)												
Subtotal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Special Ed - Elementary			0			0						0
Special Ed - Middle			0			0						0
Special Ed - High			0			0						0
Subtotal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Co. Voc. - Regular												
Co. Voc. Ft. Post Sec.												
Totals	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Percentage Error						0.00%						0.00%

  

	Transportation	
	Reported on DRTRS by DOE/county	Reported on DRTRS by District
Reg. - Public Schools, col. 1	43	43
Reg-SpEd, col. 4	3	3
Transported - Non-Public, col. 3	0	0
Special Ed Spec, col. 6	6	6
All	45	45
Totals	97	97

  

	Transportation	
	Tested	Verified
Reg. - Public Schools, col. 1	33	33
Reg-SpEd, col. 4	3	3
Transported - Non-Public, col. 3	0	0
Special Ed Spec, col. 6	4	4
All	33	33
Totals	73	73

  

	Reported	Recalculated
Reg Avg. (Mileage) - Regular Including Grade PK students (Part A)	6.5	6.5
Reg Avg. (Mileage) - Regular Excluding Grade PK students (Part B)	6.5	6.5
Spec Avg. - Special Ed with Special Needs	5.4	5.4

**ALPINE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLMENTS**  
**APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID SUMMARY**  
**ENROLLMENT AS OF OCTOBER 15, 2019**

	Resident ELL NOT Low Income		Sample for Verification		
	Reported on A.S.A. as NOT Low Income	Reported on Workpapers as NOT Low Income	Sample Selected from Workpapers	Verified to Application and Register	Sample Errors
Half Day Preschool	-	-	-	-	-
Full Day Preschool	-	-	-	-	-
Half Day Kindergarten	-	-	-	-	-
Full Day Kindergarten	-	-	-	-	-
One	-	-	-	-	-
Two	-	-	-	-	-
Three	1	1	1	1	-
Four	1	1	1	1	-
Five	-	-	-	-	-
Six	-	-	-	-	-
Seven	-	-	-	-	-
Eight	-	-	-	-	-
Nine	-	-	-	-	-
Ten	-	-	-	-	-
Eleven	-	-	-	-	-
Twelve	-	-	-	-	-
Post-Graduate	-	-	-	-	-
Adult H.S. (15+CR.)	-	-	-	-	-
Adult H.S. (1-14 CR.)	-	-	-	-	-
Subtotal	2	2	2	2	0
Special Ed - Elementary	-	-	-	-	-
Special Ed - Middle	-	-	-	-	-
Special Ed - High	-	-	-	-	-
Subtotal	0	0	0	0	0
Co. Voc. - Regular	-	-	-	-	-
Co. Voc. Ft. Post Sec.	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	2	2	2	2	0
Percentage Error		0.00%			0.00%

**BOROUGH OF ALPINE SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**SCHEDULE OF CALCULATION OF EXCESS SURPLUS**  
**FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020**

**Section 1- 2% Calculation of Excess Surplus**

2019-20 General Fund Expenditures per the CAFR (Exhibit C-1)		\$	6,649,500.71
Increased by:			
Decreased by:			
On-Behalf TPAF Pension and Social Security	\$	<u>785,512.59</u>	785,512.59
Adjusted 2019-20 General Fund Expenditures		\$	<u><u>5,863,988.12</u></u>
2% of Adjusted 2019-20 General Fund Expenditures		\$	<u><u>117,279.76</u></u>
Greater of 2% or \$250,000	\$	250,000.00	
Increased by: Allowable Adjustment		<u>29,374.00</u>	
Maximum Unreserved/Undesignated Fund Balance		\$	<u><u>279,374.00</u></u>

**Section 2**

Total General Fund Balances at June 30, 2020 (Exhibit C-1)		\$	3,417,440.68
Decreased by:			
Reserved for Encumbrances	\$	111,392.41	
Excess Surplus- Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures		579,619.48	
Other Restricted Fund Balances		<u>2,447,054.79</u>	
			3,138,066.68
Total Unassigned Fund Balance		\$	<u><u>279,374.00</u></u>

**Section 3**

Restricted Fund Balance- Excess Surplus		\$	<u>0.00</u>
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**Recapitulation of Excess Surplus at June 30, 2020**

Reserved Excess Surplus - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures		\$	<u>579,619.48</u>
Total		\$	<u><u>579,619.48</u></u>

**Detail of Allowable Adjustments:**

Extraordinary Aid (Unbudgeted)		\$	<u>29,374.00</u>
		\$	<u><u>29,374.00</u></u>

**Detail of Other Restricted Fund Balances:**

Capital Reserve		\$	2,397,054.79
Emergency Reserve			50,000.00
		\$	<u><u>2,447,054.79</u></u>





