

FAIRFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION
COUNTY OF ESSEX
AUDITORS' MANAGEMENT REPORT ON
ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS - FINANCIAL,
COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE
FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

FAIRFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION
COUNTY OF ESSEX
AUDITORS' MANAGEMENT REPORT ON ADMINISTRATIVE
FINDINGS - FINANCIAL,
COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE
FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020
TABLE OF CONTENTS

Cover Letter.....	1
Scope of Audit.....	2
Administrative Practices and Procedures	2
Insurance	2
Officials in Office and Surety Bonds	2
Tuition Charges	2
Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting	2
Examination of Claims	2
Payroll Account and Position Control Roster.....	2
Reserve for Encumbrances and Accounts Payable.....	3
Classification of Expenditures	3
General Classifications	3
Administrative Classifications	3
Board Secretary's Records	3
Treasurer's Records	3
Elementary and Secondary Education Act (E.S.E.A.) as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act.....	3
T.P.A.F. Reimbursement	3
T.P.A.F. Reimbursement to the State for Federal Salary Expenditures.	3
Other Special Federal and/or State Projects	4
School Purchasing Programs.....	4
Contracts and Agreements Requiring Advertisement for Bids	4
School Food Service.....	5
Student Body Activities	5
Application for State School Aid.....	5
Pupil Transportation	6
Travel Expense and Reimbursement Policy	6
Facilities and Capital Assets	6
Testing for Lead of all Drinking Water in Educational Facilities	6
Management Suggestions.	6
Status of Prior Year's Findings/Recommendations	7
Schedule of Meal Count Activity (Not Applicable)	
Schedule of Net Cash Resources (Not Applicable)	
Schedule of Audited Enrollments	8
Excess Surplus Calculation	13
Summary of Recommendations	15

November 20, 2020

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, 2020, and have issued our report thereon dated November 20, 2020.

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 20, 2020, 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, if any.

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
NISIVOCCLIA LLP

John J. Mooney

John J. Mooney
Licensed Public School Accountant #2602
Certified Public Accountant

FAIRFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION
ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS - FINANCIAL, COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE
FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

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

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Coverage</u>
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.

FAIRFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION
ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS - FINANCIAL, COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE
FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020
(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 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 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, 2020. The reimbursement form was reviewed, and no exceptions were noted.

FAIRFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION
ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS - FINANCIAL, COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE
FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020
(Continued)

Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting (Cont'd)

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.

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 2019-2020.

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.

FAIRFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION
ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS - FINANCIAL, COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE
FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020
(Continued)

School Purchasing Programs (Cont'd)

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 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.

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, 2019 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 exceptions. 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 has adequate written procedures for the recording of student enrollment data.

FAIRFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION
ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS - FINANCIAL, COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE
FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020
(Continued)

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.

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

There were no School Development Authority (SDA) projects for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020.

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

Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statements

Due to COVID-19, the GASB postponed the implementation of GASB Statement No. 84, *Fiduciary Activities*, until the fiscal year ended June 30, 2021. Based on guidance from the NJ Department of Education and GASB, the activity for student activities, payroll agency, unemployment compensation trust, flexible spending trust and private purpose scholarship trust funds will no longer be reported in the Fiduciary Fund financial statements. This activity will now be reported in the General (payroll agency, flexible spending and unemployment compensation) and Special Revenue (student activities and scholarship) Funds.

Effect on Internal Controls due to COVID-19

With the increase in employees working remotely due to COVID-19 especially those in the Business Office it is vital that the District routinely reviews the internal controls in place especially with respect to security of passwords as well as access rights to accounting software and bank information including bank wire transfers and the timely back-up of records.

FAIRFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION
ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS - FINANCIAL, COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE
FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020
(Continued)

Status of Prior Year's Findings/Recommendations

There were no prior year recommendations.

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

	2020-2021 Application for State School Aid				Sample for Verification					
	Reported on		Reported on		Sample		Verified per			
	On Roll	Shared	Workpapers	Errors	Workpapers	Shared	Registers	Errors		
Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	
Half Day Preschool 4 Years Old	22		22		22		22			
Full Day Kindergarten	95		95		95		95			
Grade One	83		83		83		83			
Grade Two	83		83		83		83			
Grade Three	68		68		68		68			
Grade Four	105		105		105		105			
Grade Five	83		83		83		83			
Grade Six	75		75		75		75			
Subtotal	614		614		614		614			
Special Education:										
Elementary	68		68		5		5			
Middle	5		5		3		3			
Subtotal	73		73		8		8			
Totals	687		687		622		622			
Percentage Error				0.00%				0.00%		0.00%

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

	Resident Low Income					
	Reported on ASSA as Low Income	Reported on Workpapers as Low Income	Errors	Sample Selected from Workpapers	Verified to Application and Register	Sample Errors
Grade One	4	4		1	1	
Grade Two	2	2				
Grade Three	2	2				
Grade Four	2	2				
Grade Five	2	2		1	1	
Grade Six	4	4		1	1	
Subtotal	<u>16</u>	<u>16</u>		<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	
Special Education:						
Elementary School	3	3		1	1	
Subtotal	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>		<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	
Totals	<u>19</u>	<u>19</u>		<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	
Percentage Error			<u>0.00%</u>			<u>0.00%</u>

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

	Resident LEP Low Income					
	Reported on ASSA as LEP Low Income	Reported on Workpapers as LEP Low Income	Errors	Sample Selected from Workpapers	Verified to Test Scores, Application and Register	Sample Errors
Grade Two	2	1	(1)	1	1	
Grade Four	1		(1)			
Subtotal	4	2	(2)	1	1	
Special Education:						
Elementary School	1	1		1	1	
Subtotal	1	1		1	1	
Totals	5	3	(2)	2	2	
Percentage Error			<u>-40.00%</u>			<u>0.00%</u>

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

	Resident LEP Not Low Income					
	Reported on ASSA as LEP Not Low Income	Reported on Workpapers as LEP Not Low Income	Errors	Sample Selected from Workpapers	Verified to Test Scores and Register	Sample Errors
Full Day Kindergarten	4	4				
Grade One	2	2		1	1	
Grade Two	4	4		1	1	
Grade Three	3	3		1	1	
Grade Four	1	1		1	1	
Subtotal	<u>14</u>	<u>14</u>		<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	
Special Education:						
Elementary School	1	1				
Subtotal	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>				
Totals	<u>15</u>	<u>15</u>		<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	
Percentage Error			<u>0.00%</u>			<u>0.00%</u>

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

	Transportation					
	Reported on DRTRS by DOE	Reported on DRTRS by District	Errors	Tested	Verified	Errors
Regular - Public Schools	161	161		16	16	
Regular - Special Education	20	20		5	5	
Special Needs - Public	12	12		4	4	
Totals	193	193		25	25	
Percentage Error			0.00%			0.00%

	Reported	Recalculated
Average Mileage - Regular Including Grade PK Students	2.8	2.8
Average Mileage - Regular Excluding Grade PK Students	2.8	2.8
Average Mileage - Special Education with Special Needs	2.4	2.4

FAIRFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION
EXCESS SURPLUS CALCULATION
FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

Regular District

Section 1

2% Calculation of Excess Surplus

2019-2020 Total General Fund Expenditures per the CAFR, Ex. C-1	<u>\$ 13,999,415</u> (B)	
Increased by:		
Transfer from Capital Outlay to Capital Projects Fund	<u>\$ -0-</u> (B1a)	
Transfer from Capital Reserve to Capital Projects Fund	<u>\$ -0-</u> (B1b)	
Transfer from General Fund to SRF for Prek-Regular	<u>\$ -0-</u> (B1c)	
Transfer from General Fund to SRF for Prek-Inclusion	<u>\$ -0-</u> (B1d)	
Decreased by:		
On-Behalf TPAF Pension and Social Security	<u>\$ 2,008,009</u> (B2a)	
Assets Acquired Under Capital Leases	<u>\$ -0-</u> (B2b)	
Adjusted 2019-2020 General Fund Expenditures [(B)+(B1's)-(B2's)]	<u>\$ 11,991,406</u> (B3)	
2% of Adjusted 2019-2020 General Fund Expenditures [(B5) times .02]	<u>\$ 239,828</u> (B4)	
Enter Greater of (B4) or \$250,000	<u>\$ 250,000</u> (B5)	
Increased by: Allowable Adjustment	<u>\$ 37,755</u> (K)	
Maximum Unassigned Fund Balance [(B5)+(K)]		<u>\$ 287,755</u> (M)

Section 2

Total General Fund - Fund Balances @ 6/30/2020 (Per CAFR Budgetary Comparison Schedule/Statement)	<u>\$ 2,388,192</u> (C)	
Decreased by:		
Year-end Encumbrances	<u>\$ 335</u> (C1)	
Legally Restricted - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures	<u>\$ -0-</u> (C2)	
Legally Restricted Excess Surplus - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures	<u>\$ 445,000</u> (C3)	
Other Restricted Fund Balances	<u>\$ 1,068,401</u> (C4)	
Assigned - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures	<u>\$ 51,116</u> (C5)	
Additional Assigned Fund Balance - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures July 1, 2020 - August 1, 2020	<u>\$ -0-</u> (C6)	
Total Unassigned Fund Balance [(C)-(C1)-(C2)-(C3)-(C4)-(C5)-(C6)]		<u>\$ 823,340</u> (U)

FAIRFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION
EXCESS SURPLUS CALCULATION
FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

Section 3

Restricted Fund Balance-Excess Surplus [(U)-(M)] IF NEGATIVE, ENTER -0- \$ 535,585 (E)

Recapitulation of Excess Surplus as of June 30, 2020

Restricted Excess Surplus - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures \$ 445,000 (C3)

Restricted Excess Surplus [(E)] \$ 535,585 (E)

Total [(C3)+(E)] \$ 980,585 (D)

Detail of Allowable Adjustments

Impact Aid \$ -0- (H)

Sale & Lease-back \$ -0- (I)

Extraordinary Aid \$ 37,755 (J1)

Additional Nonpublic School Transportation Aid \$ -0- (J2)

Current Year School Bus Advertising Revenue Recognized \$ -0- (J3)

Family Crisis Transportation Aid \$ -0- (J4)

Total Adjustments (H)+(I)+(J1)+(J2)+(J3) \$ 37,755 (K)

Detail of Other Restricted Fund Balances

Statutory Restrictions:

Approved Unspent Separate Proposal \$ -0-

Sale/Lease-back Reserve \$ -0-

Capital Reserve \$ 1,068,401

Maintenance Reserve \$ -0-

Tuition Reserve \$ -0-

Emergency Reserve \$ -0-

School Bus Advertising 50% Fuel Offset Reserve - current year \$ -0-

School Bus Advertising 50% Fuel Offset Reserve - prior year \$ -0-

Impact Aid General Fund Reserve (Sections 8002 and 8003) \$ -0-

Impact Aid Capital Fund Reserve (Sections 8007 and 8008) \$ -0-

Other Restricted Fund Balance not Noted Above \$ -0-

Total Other Restricted Fund Balance \$ 1,068,401 (C-4)

FAIRFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION
SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS
FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

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. Status of Prior Year's Findings/Recommendations
None