HARDYSTON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT <u>COUNTY OF SUSSEX</u> <u>AUDITORS' MANAGEMENT REPORT ON</u> <u>ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS - FINANCIAL,</u> <u>COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE</u> <u>FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020</u>

# <u>HARDYSTON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT</u> <u>COUNTY OF SUSSEX</u> <u>AUDITORS' MANAGEMENT REPORT ON ADMINISTRATIVE</u> <u>FINDINGS - FINANCIAL,</u> <u>COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE</u> <u>FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020</u> <u>TABLE OF CONTENTS</u>

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December 15, 2020

The Honorable President and Members of the Board of Education Hardyston Township School District County of Sussex, 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 Hardyston Township School District in the County of Sussex for the year ended June 30, 2020, and have issued our report thereon dated December 15, 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 December 15, 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 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 recommendation.

This report is intended for the information of the Hardyston 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* NISIVOCCIA LLP

Heidi A. Wohlleb

Heidi A. Wohlleb Licensed Public School Accountant #2140 Certified Public Accountant

# HARDYSTON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT 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 Moneys, the activities of the Board of Education and 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	C	loverage
Grant W. Rome	Treasurer of School Monies	\$	200,000
Rich Rennie	Business Administrator/Board Secretary		200,000

## Tuition Charges

A comparison of tuition charges and actual receipts and receivables was made. It appears, from our testing, that tuition charges appear to be valid revenues of the District.

# 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 tested were approved by the Chief School Administrator 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 withholding due to the general fund.

The required certification (E-CERT1) of compliance with requirements for income tax on compensation of administrators (superintendents, assistant superintendents and business administrator) to the New Jersey Department of Treasury was filed by March 15<sup>th</sup> due date.

## 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. 6:23A-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 below.

### Finding:

During our review of the June 2020 Monthly Transfer Report we noted that transfers in excess of 10% were made to the Central Services/Administration Information Technology line items without the required County Superintendent approval.

### Recommendation:

It is recommended that County Superintendent approval be obtained for any transfers in excess of 10% to the Central Services/Administration Information Technology line items.

### Management's Response:

The District will ensure that County Superintendent approval is obtained for any transfers in excess of 10% to the Central Services/Administration Information Technology line items.

### 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 except as noted herein.

## 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 Title I and Title II 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 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, 2020. The 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

School Purchasing Programs (Cont'd)

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

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 currently \$19,000.

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

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 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. Accordingly, 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, Expenses and

### School Food Service (Cont'd)

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.

We also inquired of management about the emergency COVID-19 procedures/practices that the SFA instituted to provide meals to eligible students, maintenance of all applicable production records, meal counts, noncompetitive procurements, modification of existing contracts and applicable financial records to document the specific costs applicable to the emergency operations.

## Finding:

During our review of the School District's records it was noted that net cash resources exceeded three months average expenditures by approximately \$10,801. As the District already has plans in place to resolve the net cash resources excess, no formal recommendation is judged to be warranted.

## 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 disabled, 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 a few exceptions. The information that was included on the workpapers was verified on a test basis without exception.

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.

### 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 agreement for consistency with recording SDA revenue, transfer of local funds from the general fund or from the capital reserve account, and awarding of contracts for eligible facilities construction.

# **Finding**

The District has \$140,220 and \$63,967 in SDA receivables for the Retaining Wall Repairs and the Floor Tile and Stairway Replacement projects, respectively. These projects appear to be substantially complete. The District should submit the reimbursement requests for these projects as soon as possible to ensure collection of these funds and to allow for the close-out of the projects. As the District has made a continuing effort in pursuing the assistance needed to file the reimbursement requests for the projects, no formal recommendation is judged to be warranted.

## Travel Expenses and Travel 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 include requirements for the District to establish a maximum travel amount for the year and to ensure that the maximum amount is not exceeded. The regulations also require that all travel must be preapproved by the Board of Education and Superintendent and that a brief report detailing the key issues addressed at the travel event must be submitted after the travel event has occurred. No exceptions were noted in our review of travel expenses.

# 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.

Status of Prior Year's Findings/Recommendations

The prior year recommendation regarding investigating and resolving reconciling items on the various bank reconciliations has been resolved.

		2020-2021	Applicatio	2020-2021 Application for State School Aid	chool Aid			S	Sample for Verification	/erification		
-	Repor	Reported on	Repor	Reported on			Sar	Sample	Verifi	Verified per	Errors per	t per
	A.S.	A.S.S.A.	Work	Workpapers			Select	Selected from	Regi	Registers	Registers	ters
	On	On Roll	On	On Roll	Err	Errors	Work	Workpapers	On	On Roll	On Roll	toll
	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared
Half Day Preschool 3 yrs.	ŝ		ŝ				ω		б			
Half Day Preschool 4 yrs.	11		11				11		11			
Full Day Kindergarten	61		61				61		61			
Grade One	62		62				62		62			
Grade Two	49		49				49		49			
Grade Three	09		60				60		60			
Grade Four	56		56				56		56			
Grade Five	52		52				52		52			
Grade Six	64		64				64		64			
Grade Seven	09		60				09		60			
Grade Eight	76		76				76		76			
Subtotal	554		554				554		554			
Special Ed - Elementary	70		70				8		8			
Special Ed - Middle School	38		38				3		ю			
Subtotal	108		108				11		11			
Totals	662		662		-0-		565		565		-0-	
Percentage Error					0.00%						0.00%	

HARDYSTON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLMENTS ENROLLMENT AS OF OCTOBER 15, 2019

		Private Schools for Disabled	for Disabled				Resident I	Resident Low Income		
	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 One					8	8		1	1	
Grade Two					5	5		1	1	
Grade Three					5	5		1	1	
Grade Four					8	8		1	1	
Grade Five					7	9	1	1	1	
Grade Six					4	4				
Grade Seven					9	9		1	1	
Grade Eight					4	ς	1			
Subtotal					47	45	2	9	9	
Special Ed - Elementary	1				11	11		1	1	
Special Ed - Middle School	1	1	1		6	8	1	1	1	
Subtotal	2	1	1		20	19	1	2	2	
Totals	2	1	1		67	64	3	8	8	

0.00%

4.48%

I

0.00%

Percentage Error

APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID SUMMARY HARDYSTON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLMENTS ENROLLMENT AS OF OCTOBER 15, 2019

<u>APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL DISTRICT</u>	SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENKOLLMENTS - KESIDENT LEF LOW INCOME
<u>APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID SUMMARY</u>	ENROLLMENT AS OF OCTOBER 15, 2019

		Sample	Errors				0.00%
	Verified to Test Scores	Application	and Register	1		-1	
Resident LEP Low Income	Sample Selected	from	Workpapers	1	1	-1	
Resident LEF			Errors				0.00%
	Reported on Worknapers	LEP Low	Income	1	1	1	
	Reported on A S S A as	LEP Low	Income				
							Percentage Error

Grade Four Subtotal

Totals

SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLMENTS - RESIDENT LEP NOT LOW INCOME APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID SUMMARY HARDYSTON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT ENROLLMENT AS OF OCTOBER 15, 2019

	Sample Errors			0.00%
	Verified to Test Scores and Register		2	
Resident LEP NOT Low Income	Sample Selected from Workpapers		2	
Resident LEP N	Errors			0.00%
	Reported on Workpapers LEP Not Low Income	1 2 3	3	
	Reported on A.S.S.A. as LEP Not Low Income	3 2 1	3	Jſ
				Percentage Error
		Grade One Grade Eight Subtotal	Totals	

			Transportation	rtation		
	Reported on DRTRS	Reported on DRTRS				
	by DOE	by District	Errors	Tested	Verified	Errors
Regular - Public Schools	463	463		15	15	
Regular - Special Education	87	87		S	S	
Transported - Non Public	28	28		2	2	
AIL - Non Public	8	8		1	1	
Special Needs - Public	20	20		1	1	
Special Needs - Private	2	2		1	1	
Totals	608	608		25	25	
Percentage Error			0.00%			0.00%
				Reported	Re- calculated	
Average Mileage - Regular Including Grade PK Students Average Mileage - Regular Excluding Grade PK Students Average Mileage - Special Education with Special Needs				5.1 5.1 7.3	5.1 5.1 7.3	

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

# HARDYSTON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT <u>EXCESS SURPLUS CALCULATION</u> FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

## EXCESS SURPLUS CALCULATION

## Section 1 - REGULAR DISTRICT

2019-2020 Total General Fund Expenditures per the CAFR Increased by:	\$	13,079,354 (B)	
Transfer from Capital Outlay to Capital Projects Fund	\$ \$ \$	<u>-0-</u> (B1a)	
Transfer from Capital Reserve to Debt Service 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 Decreased by:	\$	<u>-0-</u> (B1d)	
On-Behalf TPAF Pension and Social Security	\$	1,772,857 (B2a)	
Assets Acquired Under Capital Leases	\$	-0- (B2b)	
Adjusted 19-20 General Fund Expenditures [(B)+(B1's)-(B2's)]	\$	11,306,497 (B3)	
2% of Adjusted 2019-20 General Fund Expenditures [(B5) times .02]	\$	226,130 (B4)	
Enter Greater of (B4) or \$250,000	\$	250,000 (B5)	
Increased by: Allowable Adjustment	\$	128,885 (K)	
Maximum Unassigned Fund Balance [(B5)+(K)]			\$ 378,885 (M)
Section 2			
Total General Fund - Fund Balances @ 6/30/20	\$	5,203,115 (C)	
(Per CAFR Budgetary Comparison Schedule C-1)			
Decreased by:			
Assigned for Year End Encumbrances	\$	<u>-0-</u> (C1)	
Legally Restricted - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures		-0- (C2)	
Excess Surplus - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures	\$	-0- (C3)	
Other Restricted Fund Balances	\$	4,100,659 (C4)	
Assigned - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures	\$	110,000 (C5)	
Additional Assigned Fund Balance - Unreserved - Designated			
for Subsequent Year's Expenditures 7/1/20-8/1/20	\$	<u>-0-</u> (C6)	
Total Unassigned Fund Balance [(C )-(C1)-(C2)-(C3)-(C4)-(C5)-(C6)]			\$ 992,456 (U1)
Section 3			
Restricted Fund Balance-Excess Surplus [(U1)-(M)] IF NEGATIVE, EN	NTER -	)-	\$ 613,571 (E)
<u>Recapitulation of Excess Surplus as of June 30, 2020</u>			
Restricted Excess Surplus - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expend	litures		\$ -0- (C3)
Restricted Excess Surplus [(E)]			\$ 613,571 (E)
Total [(C3)+(E)+(F)]			\$ <u>613,571</u> (D)

# HARDYSTON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT EXCESS SURPLUS CALCULATION FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020 (Continued)

## Detail of Allowable Adjustments

Impact Aid	\$ -0-	(H)
Sale and Lease Back	\$ -0-	(I)
Extraordinary Aid	\$ 124,337	(J1)
Additional Nonpublic School Transportation Aid	\$ 4,548	(J2)
Current Year School Bus Advertising Revenue Recognized	\$ -0-	(J3)
Family Crisis Transportation Aid	\$ -0-	(J4)
Total Adjustments [(H)+(I)+(J1)+(J2)+(J3)+(J4)]	\$ 128,885	(K)

# **Detail of Other Restricted Fund Balance**

Statutory Restrictions	\$ -0-
Approved Unspent Separate Proposal	\$ -0-
Sale/Lease-Back Reserve	\$ -0-
Capital Reserve	\$ 3,270,401
Maintenance Reserve	\$ 830,258
Emergency Reserve	\$ -0-
Tuition Reserve	\$ -0-
Other State/Governmental Mandated Reserve	\$ -0-
Other Reserved Fund Balance not Noted Above	\$ -0-
Total Other Restricted Fund Balance	\$ 4,100,659

# HARDYSTON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

It is recommended that:

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

None

- 2. Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting
  - a) County Superintendent approval be obtained for any transfers in excess of 10% to the Central Services/Administration Information Technology line items.
- 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

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7. <u>Pupil Transportation</u>

None

8. Facilities and Capital Assets

None

9. <u>Miscellaneous</u>

None

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

The prior year recommendation regarding investigating and resolving reconciling items on the various bank reconciliations has been resolved.