KEARNY BOARD OF EDUCATION INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S MANAGEMENT REPORT ON ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS -FINANCIAL, COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE JUNE 30, 2020

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KEARNY BOARD OF EDUCATION TABLE OF CONTENTS

AUDITORS' MANAGEMENT REPORT ON ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS - FINANCIAL, COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE

Independent Auditor's Management Report	1
Scope of Audit	2
Administrative Practices and Procedures	2
Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting	2-4
School Purchasing Programs	4
School Food Service	5-6
Student Activity Funds/Athletic Association/Scholarship Accounts	6
Application for State School Aid	6
Pupil Transportation	6-7
Facilities and Capital Assets	7
Miscellaneous	7
Suggestions to Management	7
Schedule of Meal Count Activity – Not Applicable	8
Schedule of Net Cash Resources	9
Schedule of Audited Enrollments	10-12
Calculation of Excess Surplus	13
Recommendations	14

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S MANAGEMENT REPORT

Honorable President and Members of the Board of Trustees Kearny Board of Education Kearny, New Jersey

We have audited in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and <u>Government Auditing Standards</u> issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the basic financial statements of the Kearny Board of Education as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020, and have issued our report thereon dated December 22, 2020.

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

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management, the Board of Trustees, others within the District and the New Jersey State Department of Education. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.

LERCH, VINCI & HIGGINS, LLP Certified Public Accountants Public School Accountants

Public School Accountant PSA Number CS00829

Fair Lawn, New Jersey December 22, 2020

Scope of Audit

The audit covered the financial transactions of the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary and Treasurer of School Moneys, 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

Fire insurance coverage was carried in the amounts as detailed on the Insurance Schedule contained in the District's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (the "CAFR").

Official Bonds (N.J.S.A. 18A:17-26, 18A:17-32, 18A:13-13)

Name	Position	Amount
Edward F. Izbicki, Sr. Ed.D	School Business Administrator/ Board Secretary	\$450,000
Michael J. Lamprecht, Sr.	Treasurer of School Monies	450,000

There is a Public Employees' Faithful Performance Blanket Position Bond with Selective Insurance covering all other employees with multiple coverage of \$500,000.

Financial Planning Accounting and Reporting

Examination of Claims

An examination of claims paid during the period under review indicated that the required signatures, certifications and supporting documentation were obtained on the respective purchase orders and/or vouchers with isolated, immaterial instances noted.

Payroll Account

The net salaries of all employees of the Board were deposited in the Payroll Account. Employees' payroll deductions and employer's share of payroll taxes were deposited in the Payroll Agency Account.

All payrolls tested were certified by the President of the Board, the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary and Chief School Administrator.

Salary withholdings were promptly remitted to the proper agencies, including health benefits premium withholdings due to the General Fund.

Finding – A payroll agency ledger by deduction was not currently maintained and reconciled with the monthly bank reconciliations.

Recommendation – A payroll agency ledger by deduction be currently maintained and reconciled with the bank reconciliation on a monthly basis.

The Board has implemented and maintains a personnel tracking and accounting (position control) system.

Financial Planning Accounting and Reporting (Continued)

Reserve for Encumbrances and Accounts Payable

A review of outstanding issued purchase orders was made as of June 30, for goods not yet received or services not yet rendered and it was determined that no blanket purchase orders were included in the balance of the reserve for encumbrances. Also, unpaid purchase orders included in the balance of accounts payable were reviewed for propriety and to determine that goods were received and services were rendered, as of June 30.

Classification of Expenditures

The coding of expenditures was tested for proper classification in accordance with <u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:23-16.2(f) as part of our test of transactions of randomly selected expenditure items. We also reviewed the coding of all expenditures included in our compliance and single audit testing procedures. In addition to randomly selecting a test sample, our sample selection specifically targeted administrative coding classifications to determine overall reliability and compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-8.3. Our audit revealed the following:

Finding – Expenditures for travel reimbursement and lease payments for a school bus were charged to incorrect budget line items.

Recommendation – The District review the coding of expenditures to ensure that purchases are classified in accordance with the State budgetary chart of accounts.

Board Secretary's and Treasurer's Records

The financial records and books of account maintained by the School Business Administrator.

Acknowledgment of the Board's receipt of the monthly financial reports was included in the official minutes of the Board.

The Treasurer and Board Secretary's records are reconciled to each other.

Finding – Our audit of the Adult School revealed that the revenue/receipts were not recorded in the District's financial records.

Recommendation – Monies collected by the Adult School be recorded in the District's General Fund financial records.

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

The E.S.E.A financial exhibits are contained within the Special Revenue section of the CAFR. This section of the CAFR documents the financial position pertaining to projects under Title 1, Title II and Title III of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act as amended and re-authorized.

Our examination indicated that obligations and expenditures were incurred during the fiscal year or project period for which the project was approved.

Other Special Federal and/or State Projects

The district's Special Projects were approved as listed on Exhibit K-3 and Exhibit K-4 located in the CAFR.

Our audit indicated that obligations and expenditures were incurred during the fiscal year or project period for which the project was approved.

Nonpublic project completion reports were finalized and transmitted to the State by the due date.

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.

Financial Planning Accounting and Reporting (Continued)

T.P.A.F. Reimbursements

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

The amount of the expenditures charged to the current year's final reports for all Federal awards for the District to reimburse the State for the TPAF/FICA payments made by the State on-behalf of the School District for those employees whose salaries are identified as being paid from Federal funds was made prior to the end of the sixty day grant liquidation period required by the Office of Grants Management. The expenditure was reviewed subsequent to the reimbursement and no exceptions were noted.

School Purchasing Programs

Contracts and Agreements Requiring Advertisement for Bids

The bid thresholds in accordance with N.J.S.A 18A:18A-2 (as amended) 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. The District has designated the School Business Administrator to be the Qualified Purchasing Agent and has approved by resolution the bid threshold of \$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 Board 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.

Based on the results of our examination, we did not note any individual payments, contracts, or agreements made for the performance of any work or goods or services, 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, amended.

Resolutions were adopted authorizing the awarding of contracts or agreements for "Professional Services" per N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-5.

The system of records did not provide for an accumulation of purchases for which the school board used contracts entered into by the State Department of Purchase and Property pursuant to Ch. 114, P.L. 1977, therefore, the extent of such purchases could not reasonably be ascertained. Our examination did reveal, however, that purchases were made through the use of State contracts.

Finding – Our audit of expenditures noted that in certain instances, purchase orders were issued subsequent to the goods or services being received/rendered.

Recommendation: Purchase orders be issued prior to the ordering of goods and/or services.

School Food Service

COVID – 19 Emergency

In accordance with the Governor's Declaration of Emergency pertaining to the COCID 19 Virus all Public, Charter, Non-Public schools were ordered to close effective as of March 18, 2020 for an undetermined period to limit the spread of the virus. As a result, School Food Authorities (SFA) were required to institute alternate procedures to provide meals to Free and Reduced Price eligible students during the period of school closures.

Therefore, SFA's were authorized to solicit and award emergency noncompetitive procurements and contracts with Food Service Management Companies in accordance with 2 CFR 200.320 and N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-7. The SFA's were also authorized to submit contract modifications to their existing Cost Reimbursable or Fixed Price contracts as necessary to ensure the feeding of Free and Reduced Price meal eligible students.

SFA's were notified of the requirement to maintain and report separate meal count records and financial records of all applicable costs incurred in providing meals to all free and reduced price meal eligible students during the emergency.

The school food service program was not selected as a major federal and/or State program. However, the program expenditures exceeded \$100,000 in federal and/or State support. Accordingly, we inquired of school management, or appropriate school food service personnel, as to whether the School Food Authority (SFA) had any Child Nutrition Program reimbursement overclaims or underclaims.

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.

The Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Fund Net Position (CAFR Schedule B-5) does separate program and non-program revenue and 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 cost applicable to the emergency operations.

The financial transactions and statistical records of the school food service fund were reviewed. The financial accounts, meal count records and eligibility applications were reviewed on a test-check basis.

Cash receipts and bank records were reviewed for timely deposit.

The district utilizes a food service management company (FSMC) and is depositing and expending program monies in accordance with NJSA 18A:17-34, and 19-1 through 19-4.1. Provisions of the FSMC cost reimbursable contract addendum were reviewed and audited. The FSMC contract includes an operating results provision which guarantees that the food service program will have a profit of at least \$50,000. The operating results provision has been met. All vendor discounts, rebates and credits from vendors and/or the FSMC were tracked and credited to the food service account and reconciled to supporting documentation.

Expenses were separately recorded as food, labor and other costs. Vendor invoices were reviewed and costs verified. Inventory records on food supply items were currently maintained and properly applied in determining the cost of food and supplies used. The cash disbursements records reflected expenses for program related goods and services. The appropriate revenue and expense records were maintained in order to substantiate the non-profit status of the school food service.

Finding – Net cash resources exceeded three months average expenses.

Recommendation – The District review the operations of its Food Service Enterprise Fund to ensure that the net cash resources do not exceed the three month average expenses.

School Food Service (Continued)

The number of meals claimed for reimbursement was verified against sales and meal count records. As part of the claims review process the edit check worksheet was completed. Reimbursement claims were submitted in a timely manner. Applications for free and reduced price meals were reviewed for completeness and accuracy. The number of free and reduced price meals claimed as served was compared to the number of valid applications and to the list of directly certified students on file, times the number of operating days. The free and reduced price meal policy was reviewed for uniform administration throughout the school system. The required verification procedures for free and reduced price and reduced price and available for review.

The Food Service management company did provide the USDA mandated Non-Program Food Revenue Tool.

Food Distribution Program commodities were received and a single inventory was maintained on first-in, first-out basis. Exhibits reflecting Child Nutrition Program operations are included in the CAFR on Exhibits B-4, B-5 and B-6.

Student Activity Funds/Athletic Association/Scholarship Accounts

The Board has a policy, which establishes the regulation of student activity funds.

Finding – Our audit of the student activity funds revealed the following:

- Pre-numbered receipts were not always utilized by Roosevelt School, Schulyer School, Franklin School, Lincoln Student Council and Garfield School.
- Certain payment approval forms for the athletic account die not contain the signature of the athletic director.
- Monthly bank reconciliations were not always prepared by Franklin School.
- Supporting documentation for certain disbursements was not provided for audit. Furthermore, payment approval forms are not always utilized.
- A receipt for \$451 was deposited into the Treasurer's personal bank account.
- Reimbursements were made to employees for purchases made with personal credit cards.

Recommendation – Uniform accounting procedures be implemented for all student activity accounts. In addition, student activity accounts be pre-audited to ensure that the procedures are being adhered to and all documentation is available for audit.

Application for State School Aid

Our audit procedures included a test of information reported in the October 15, 2019 Application for State School Aid (ASSA) 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 noted. The information that was included on the application was verified without exception. The results are presented in the Schedule of Audited Enrollments.

The district maintained workpapers on the prescribed State forms or their equivalent.

The district written procedures appear to be adequate 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 results of our procedures are presented in the Schedule of Audited Enrollments.

<u>Pupil Transportation</u> (Continued)

Finding – Our audit of the DRTRS noted the following:

- Two students graduated in June 2019.
- Four students did not have transportation in their IEP.
- A tuition contract was not available for one student.

Recommendation – The District review it's internal procedures relating to the reporting of students on the DRTRS.

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

The District maintains a Capital Assets ledger in its accounting software system.

Finding – Our audit noted unrecorded capital asset additions of \$529,000.

Recommendation – Internal control procedures relating to the recording of capital assets be reviewed and enhanced.

Miscellaneous

The School District complied with continuing disclosure agreements made in relation to the District's outstanding bond issuances.

The District adhered to all the requirements of N.J.A.C. 26-1.2 and 12.4 relating to the testing for lead of all drinking water in educational facilities. The annual Statement of Assurance was submitted to the Department of Education pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:26-12.4(g).

Suggestions to Management

- Consideration be given to consolidate the various scholarship bank accounts.
- Scholarship awards be acknowledged by Board resolution.
- Project balances for completed capital projects be reviewed and cancelled. Furthermore, uncollected receivables be funded by either a budget appropriation or from capital reserve.
- A formal policy for the use of store cards be developed and adopted by the Board.

KEARNY BOARD OF EDUCATION FOOD SERVICE FUND NUMBER OF MEALS FOOD SERVICE ENTERPRISE FUND FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

NOT APPLICABLE

KEARNY BOARD OF EDUCATION FOOD SERVICE ENTERPRISE FUND CALCULATION OF NET CASH RESOURCES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

Current Assets Cash & Cash Equiv. Due from Other Gov'ts Accounts Receivable	\$ \$	652,679 84,783
Current Liabilities Less Accounts Payable	\$	(67,012)
Net Cash Resources	\$	670,450
Net Adjusted Total Operating Expenses:		
Total Operating Expenses Less Depreciation	\$ \$	1,872,524 (34,974)
Adjusted Total Operating Expenses	\$	1,837,550
Average Monthly Operating Expense:	\$	183,755
Three Times Monthly Average:	\$	551,265
Net Cash Resources Three Times Monthly Average Excess Cash Resources	\$ \$ \$	670,450 551,265 119,185

KEARNY BOARD OF EDUCATION APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLMENTS OCTOBER 15, 2019

	2019-2020 Application for State School Aid					Sample for Verification					Private Schools for Disabled					
-	Repor	ted on	Report	ed on			San	nple	Verifie	ed per	Error	s per	Reported on	Sample		
	A.S.	S.A.	Workp	apers			Selecte	d from	Regi	ster	Regi	sters	A.S.S.A. as	from		
	On	Roll	On I	Roll	Er	TOTS	Work	oapers	On I	Roll	On	Roll	Private	Work-	Sample	Sample
-	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Schools	papers	Verfiied	Errors
Half Day Preschool 3 yrs	19		19				19		19							
Full Day Preschool 4 yrs	204		204				105		105							
Full Day Kindergarten	288		288				50		50							
Grade 1	233		233				44		44							
Grade 2	275		275				46		46							
Grade 3	290		290				46		40							
Grade 4	293		293				104		104							
Grade 5	289		289				82		82							
Grade 6	332		332				36		36							
Grade 7	336		336				336		336							
Grade 8	335		335				335		335							
Grade 9	333		387				335		333							
Grade 10	344						344		344							
			344													
Grade 11	351		351				351		351							
Grade 12	358		358				358		358				-	-	-	-
Subtotal -	4,402	-	4,402	-	<u> </u>		2,643	-	2,643	-				•	-	-
Special Ed - Elementary	391		391				55		55				10	9	9	
Special Ed - Middle	234		234				159		159				10	9	9	
Special Ed - High	290		290		-	-	290		290				23	19	19	
Subtotal	915	-	915	-	-	-	504	-	504	-	-	-	43	37	37	-
Totals	5,317	-	5,317	-	-	-	3,147	-	3,147	-	-	_	43	37	37	-
Percentage Error					0.00%	0.00%				_	0.00%	0.00%			=	0.00%

KEARNY BOARD OF EDUCATION APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLMENTS OCTOBER 15, 2019

	Resi	dent Low Income	•	Sample	e for Verificatio	n	Resident LEP 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 Worpapers	Verified to Application and Register	Errors
Full Day Kindergarten	194	194		5	5		31	31		5	5	
Grade 1	177	177		4	4		31	31		7	7	-
Grade 2	181	181		4	4		34	34		6	6	
Grade 3	183	183		4	4		23	23		5	5	
Grade 4	170	170		4	4		17	17		4	4	
Grade 5	156	156		4	4		11	11		3	3	
Grade 6	181	181		5	5		15	15		4	4	
Grade 7	198	198		5	5		16	16		4	4	
Grade 8	192	192		5	5		16	16		4	4	
Grade 9	163	163		5	5		14	14		4	4	
Grade 10	136	136		4	4		9	9		2	2	
Grade 11	155	155		5	5		16	16		4	4	
Grade 12	128	128		4	4		6	6		1	1	
Subtotal	2,214	2,214	-	58	58	-	239	239	-	53	53	-
Special Ed - Elementary	264	267	(3)	7	7		12	12		2	2	
Special Ed - Middle	127	127	(3)	3	7		12	3		2	2	
Special Ed - High	127	127		3	3		5	5		1	1	
Subtotal	512	515	(3)	13	13	<u> </u>	20	20		3	3	
Subtotal	512	515	(97	15	15		20	2.0			5	
Totals	2,726	2,729	(3)	71	71	-	259	259	_	56	56	-
Percentage Error		=	-0.11%			0.00%		-	0.00%		=	0.00%

	Transportation							
	Reported on DRTRS by DOE/County	Reported on DRTRS by District	Errors	Tested	Verified	Errors		
•								
Special Ed Without Special Need	99.0	99.0		29.0	26.0	(3.0)		
Special Ed With Special Need	91.0	91.0		24.0	19.0	(5.0)		
	190.0	190.0	-	53.0	45.0	(8.0)		
Percentage Error			0.00%			-15.09%		

KEARNY BOARD OF EDUCATION APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLMENTS OCTOBER 15, 2019

	Resident L	EP NOT Low Inco	Sample for Verification			
-	Reported on A.S.S.A as NOT Low Income	Reported on Workpapers as NOT Low Income	Errors	Sample Selected from Worpapers	Sample Verified to Register	Errors
Full Day Kindergarten	25	25		4	4	
Grade 1	16	16		3	3	
Grade 2	27	27		5	5	
Grade 3	25	25		5	5	
Grade 4	22	22		5	5	
Grade 5	10	10		2	2	
Grade 6	15	15		3	3	
Grade 7	13	13		3	3	
Grade 8	14	14		3	3	
Grade 9	25	25		6	6	
Grade 10	28	28		6	6	
Grade 11	23	23		5	5	
Grade 12	13	13		3	3	
Subtotal	256	256	-	53	53	-
Special Ed - Elementary	8	8		1	1	
Special Ed - Middle	2	2		1	1	
Special Ed - High	2	2		1	1	
Subtotal	12	12	-	3	3	
Total	268	268	-	56	56	
Percentage Error			0.00%			0.00%

Percentage Error

0.00%

0.00%

KEARNY BOARD OF EDUCATION CALCULATION OF EXCESS SURPLUS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

2019-2020 Total General Fund Expenditures per the CAFR		\$ 108,106,158
Increased by: Transfer to Food Service Fund		196,350
		108,302,508
Decreased by: On-Behalf TPAF Pension & Social Security Assets Acquired Under Capital Leases	\$ 14,439,369 890,134	
		15,329,503
Adjusted 2019-2020 General Fund Expenditures		\$ 92,973,005
2% of Adjusted 2019-2020 General Fund Expenditures		\$ 1,859,460
Allowable Adjustments - Extraordinary Aid		292,432
Maximum Unassigned Fund Balance		<u>\$ 2,151,892</u>
Total General Fund - Fund Balance at June 30, 2020		\$ 8,690,905
Decreased by: Year End Encumbrances Other Restricted Fund Balances - Capital Reserve Other Restricted Fund Balances - Maintenance Reserve Other Restricted Fund Balances - Adult Education Programs Designated for Subsequent Year's Budget		63,516 2,097,024 3,040,687 80,493 673,882
Total Unassigned Fund Balance		\$ 2,735,303
Restricted Fund Balance - Excess Surplus		\$ 583,411
Recapitulation of Restricted Excess Surplus as of June 30, 2020		
Excess Surplus - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures Excess Surplus		\$ - 583,411
		<u>\$ 583,411</u>

KEARNY BOARD OF EDUCATION RECOMMENDATIONS

I. Administrative Practices and Procedures

There are none.

II. Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting

It is recommended that:

- * 1. A payroll agency ledger by deduction be currently maintained and reconciled with the bank reconciliation on a monthly basis.
- * 2. The District review the coding of expenditures to ensure that purchases are classified in accordance with the State budgetary chart of accounts.
- * 3. Monies collected by the Adult School be recorded in the District's General Fund financial records.

III. School Purchasing Program

* It is recommended that purchase orders be issued prior to the ordering of goods and/or services.

IV. School Food Service

It is recommended that the District review the operations of its Food Service Enterprise Fund to ensure that the net cash resources do not exceed the three month average expenses.

V. Student Body Activities/Athletics/Scholarships

* It is recommended that uniform accounting procedures be implemented for all student activity accounts. In addition, student activity accounts be pre-audited to ensure that the procedures are being adhered to and all documentation is available for audit.

VI. Application for State School Aid

There are none.

VII. Pupil Transportation

It is recommended that the District review it's internal procedures relating to the reporting of students on the DRTRS.

VIII. Facilities and Capital Assets

It is recommended that internal control procedures relating to the recoding of capital assets be reviewed and enhanced.

IX. Status of Prior Years' Audit Findings/Recommendations

A review was performed on all prior years' recommendations and corrective action was taken on all, except for the above recommendation denoted with an asterisk (*).