



**AREA VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL SCHOOLS  
OF MERCER COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

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

**JUNE 30, 2020**

**AREA VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL SCHOOLS  
OF MERCER COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

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

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## INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

Honorable President and Members  
of the Board of Education  
Area Vocational-Technical Schools  
of Mercer County School District  
County of Mercer  
Hamilton, New Jersey 08690

We have audited, in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the basic financial statements of the Area Vocational-Technical Schools of Mercer County School District in the County of Mercer for the year ended June 30, 2020, and have issued our report thereon dated January 28, 2021.

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 report is intended solely for the information of the Area Vocational-Technical Schools of Mercer County 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.

Scott A. Clelland  
Licensed Public School Accountant  
No. 1049

WISS & COMPANY, LLP

January 28, 2021  
Florham Park, New Jersey

**Area Vocational-Technical Schools  
of Mercer County School District**

**Administrative Findings – Financial, Compliance and Performance**

**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**

Insurance coverage was carried in the amounts as detailed on J-20, Insurance Schedule contained in the school district CAFR.

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

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Deborah Donnelly	School Business Administrator/Board Secretary	\$ 190,000
Thomas Venanzi	Treasurer	\$ 215,000

**Tuition Charges**

A comparison of tentative tuition charges and actual certified tuition charges was made. The actual costs were greater than or 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-17.1(f)3*.

**Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting**

**Examination of Claims**

An examination of claims paid 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 all employees of the District 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 were certified by the President of the Board and the Board Secretary/Business Administrator.

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

**Area Vocational-Technical Schools  
of Mercer County School District**

**Administrative Findings – Financial, Compliance and Performance**

**June 30, 2020**

Payrolls were delivered to the treasurer of school moneys with a warrant made to his order for the full amount of each payroll.

An inquiry and subsequent review of the Position Control Roster did not identify any inconsistencies between the payroll records, employee benefit records (e.g. pension reports and health benefit coverage reports), the general ledger accounts to where wages are posted (administrative versus instruction), and the Position Control Roster.

Reserve for Encumbrances and Accounts Payable

A review of outstanding issued purchase orders was made as of June 30 for proper classification of orders as reserve for encumbrances and accounts payable and no exceptions were identified.

Classification of Expenditures

The coding of expenditures was tested for proper classification in accordance with *N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.2(f)* as part of our test of transactions of randomly selected expenditure items. 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*. As a result of the procedures performed, a transaction error rate of 0% overall was noted and no additional procedures were deemed necessary to test the propriety of expenditure classification.

Board Secretary's Records

Our review of the financial and accounting records maintained by the Board Secretary did not disclose any exceptions.

Treasurer's Records

No exceptions were noted during our review of the records maintained by the Treasurer.

Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)

The ESEA 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 Titles I and VI of the Elementary and Secondary School Education Act as amended and reauthorized.

**Area Vocational-Technical Schools  
of Mercer County School District**

**Administrative Findings – Financial, Compliance and Performance**

**June 30, 2020**

A federal Single Audit under the Uniform Guidance was not applicable during the 2020 fiscal year as federal expenditures did not exceed \$750,000.

Other Special Federal and/or State Projects

The District's special projects were approved as listed on Schedules A (K-3) and Schedule B (K-4) located in the CAFR.

Our audit of the 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.

The study of compliance for the special projects indicated no instances of noncompliance that are required to be reported in accordance with the State of New Jersey OMB Circular 15-08.

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 amount of the expenditure charged to the current year's Final Report(s) for all federal awards for the school 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 90-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* 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 2019-20.

**Area Vocational-Technical Schools  
of Mercer County School District**

**Administrative Findings – Financial, Compliance and Performance**

**June 30, 2020**

The District 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 solicitor’s opinion should be sought before a commitment is made.

Based on the results of our audit, 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 have 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*.

**Student Body Activities**

During our review of the student activity funds, no exceptions were noted.

**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, low-income and bilingual. 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 no exceptions as presented in the Schedule of Audited Enrollments. The information that was included on the workpapers was verified without exceptions as presented in the Schedule of Audited Enrollments. The results of our procedures are presented in the Schedule of Audited Enrollments.

The District maintained workpapers on the prescribed state forms or their equivalent.

The District’s written procedures appear to be adequate for the recording of student enrollment data.

**Facilities and Capital Assets**

Our procedures included a review of the New Jersey Schools Development Authority (“NJSDA”) grant agreements for consistency with recording NJSDA revenue, transfer of local funds from the general fund or from the capital reserve account, and awarding of contracts for eligible facilities construction. No exceptions were noted in our review of NJSDA expenditures.

**Area Vocational-Technical Schools  
of Mercer County School District**

**Administrative Findings – Financial, Compliance and Performance**

**June 30, 2020**

**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 all prior year recommendations including findings, where applicable. There were no prior year findings.

There were no Office of Fiscal Accountability and Compliance (“OFAC”) audit reports issued during the 2019-20 fiscal year.

**Acknowledgment**

We received the complete cooperation of all the officials of the School District and we greatly appreciate the courtesies extended to the members of the audit team.



**SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLMENTS**  
**AREA VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL SCHOOLS OF MERCER COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**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 A.S.S.A. On Roll			Workpapers			Sample Selected from Workpapers			Verified per Registers On Roll			Errors per Registers On Roll			Reported on A.S.S.A. as Private Schools			
	Full	Shared		Full	Shared		Full	Shared		Full	Shared		Full	Shared		Sample for Verification	Sample Verified	Sample Errors	
Half Day Preschool	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Full Day Preschool	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Half Day Kindergarten	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Full Day Kindergarten	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
One	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Two	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Three	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Four	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Five	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Six	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Seven	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eight	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nine	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ten	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eleven	26	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Twelve	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Post-Graduate	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Adult H.S. (15+CR)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Adult H.S. (1-14 CR.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Subtotal	48	-	-	-	-	48	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Special Ed - Elementary	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Special Ed - Middle School	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Special Ed - High School	24	292	24	292	292	100	-	-	-	-	100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Special Ed - Alt Voc High	33	-	33	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Subtotal	57	292	57	292	292	100	-	-	-	-	100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Co. Voc. - Regular	234	403	234	403	403	90	-	-	-	-	90	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Co. Voc. Ft. Post Sec.	-	237	-	237	237	225	-	-	-	-	225	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	339	932	339	932	932	90	325	90	325	325	90	325	325	325	325	325	325	325	325
Percentage Error						0.00%					0.00%					0.00%			0.00%

**SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLMENTS**  
**AREA VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL SCHOOLS OF MERCER COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID SUMMARY**  
**ENROLLMENT AS OF OCTOBER 15, 2019**

	Resident Low Income			Sample for Verification			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 Workpapers	Verified to Test Score and Register	Sample Errors
Half Day Preschool	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Full Day Preschool	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Half Day Kindergarten	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Full Day Kindergarten	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
One	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Two	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Three	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Four	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Five	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Six	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Seven	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eight	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nine	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ten	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eleven	20	20	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Twelve	6	6	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Post-Graduate	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Adult H.S. (15+CR.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Adult H.S. (1-14 CR.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Subtotal	32	32	-	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Special Ed - Elementary	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Special Ed - Middle	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Special Ed - High	60.0	60.0	-	57.0	57.0	-	1.0	1.0	-	1.0	1.0	-
Special Ed - Alt Voc High	22.0	22.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Subtotal	82.0	82.0	-	57.0	57.0	-	1.0	1.0	-	1.0	1.0	-
Co. Voc. - Regular	140.5	140.5	-	72.0	72.0	-	4.0	4.0	-	4.0	4.0	-
Co. Voc. Ft. Post Sec.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	254.5	254.5	-	133.0	133.0	-	5.0	5.0	-	5.0	5.0	-
Percentage Error			0.00%						0.00%			0.00%

	Transportation			Reported	Recalculated
	Reported on DRTS by DOE/county	Reported on DRTS by District	Errors		
Reg. - Public Schools, col. 1	-	-	-	-	-
Reg -SpEd, col. 4	-	-	-	-	-
Transported - Non-Public, col. 3	-	-	-	-	-
Special Ed Spec, col. 6	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage Error			0.00%		

Reg Avg.(Mileage) = Regular Including Grade PK students (Part A)  
 Reg Avg.(Mileage) = Regular Excluding Grade PK students (Part B)  
 Spec Avg. = Special Ed with Special Needs

NOT APPLICABLE

**AREA VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL SCHOOLS OF MERCER COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID SUMMARY**  
**ENROLLMENT AS OF OCTOBER 15, 2019**

**SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLMENTS**

	Resident LEP 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
Half Day Preschool	-	-	-	-
Full Day Preschool	-	-	-	-
Half Day Kindergarten	-	-	-	-
Full Day Kindergarten	-	-	-	-
One	-	-	-	-
Two	-	-	-	-
Three	-	-	-	-
Four	-	-	-	-
Five	-	-	-	-
Six	-	-	-	-
Seven	-	-	-	-
Eight	-	-	-	-
Nine	-	-	-	-
Ten	-	-	-	-
Eleven	-	-	-	-
Twelve	-	-	-	-
Post-Graduate	-	-	-	-
Adult H.S. (15+CR.)	-	-	-	-
Adult H.S. (1-14 CR.)	-	-	-	-
Subtotal	-	-	-	-
Special Ed - Elementary	-	-	-	-
Special Ed - Middle	-	-	-	-
Special Ed - High	-	-	-	-
Subtotal	-	-	-	-
Co. Voc. - Regular	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0
Co. Voc. Ft. Post Sec.	-	-	-	-
Totals	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0
Percentage Error		0.00%		0.00%

**AREA VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL SCHOOLS OF MERCER COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**EXCESS SURPLUS CALCULATION**

**JUNE 30, 2020**

**SECTION 1**

**A. 6% Calculation of Excess Surplus (2019-20 expenditures of \$100 million or less)**

2019-20 Total General Fund Expenditures per CAFR, Ex. C-1	\$ 14,440,371	(B)
Increased by:		
Transfer from Capital Outlay to Capital Projects Fund	\$ -	(B1a)
Transfer from Capital Reserve to Capital Projects Fund	\$ -	(B1b)
Decreased by:		
On-Behalf TPAF Pension & Social Security	\$ 1,335,013	(B2a)
Assets Acquired Under Capital Leases	\$ -	(B2b)
Adjusted 2019-20 General Fund Expenditures [(B)+(B1s)-(B2s)]	\$ 13,105,358	(B3)
6% of Adjusted 2019-20 General Fund Expenditures [(B3) times .06]	\$ 786,321	(B4)
Enter Greater of (B4) or \$250,000	\$ 786,321	(B5)
Increased by: Allowable Adjustment*	\$ -	(K)
Maximum Unassigned/Unreserved-Undesignated Fund Balance [(B5)+(K)]	\$ 786,321	(M)

\* This adjustment line (as detailed below) is to be utilized when applicable for: Impact Aid, Sale and Lease-back (Refer to the Audit Program Section II, Chapter 10), Extraordinary Aid, Additional Nonpublic School Aid and Transportation Aid; and School Bus Advertising Revenue Recognized during the current year. Refer to the Audit Program Section II, Chapter 10 for restrictions on the inclusion of Extraordinary Aid and Additional Nonpublic School Transportation Aid.

**SECTION 2**

Total General Fund - Fund Balances @ 6-30-20 (Per CAFR Budgetary Comparison Schedule C-1)	\$ 6,536,914	(C)
Decreased by:		
Assigned - Year End Encumbrances	\$ 428,742	(C1)
Legally Restricted - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures	\$ -	(C2)
Legally Restricted - Excess Surplus - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures**	\$ 1,263,777	(C3)
Other Restricted Fund Balances****	\$ 2,712,567	(C4)
Assigned Fund Balance - Unreserved - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures	\$ -	(C5)
Total Unassigned Fund Balance [(C)-(C1)-(C2)-(C3)-(C4)-(C5)]	\$ 2,131,828	(U1)

**SECTION 3**

Restricted Fund Balance - Excess Surplus ***[(U1)-(M)] IF NEGATIVE ENTER-0-	\$ 1,345,507	(E)
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**AREA VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL SCHOOLS OF MERCER COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**EXCESS SURPLUS CALCULATION**

**JUNE 30, 2020**

**Recapitulation of Excess Surplus as of June 30, 2020**

Reserved Excess Surplus - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures **	\$ 1,263,777	(C3)
Reserve Excess Surplus *** [(E)]	\$ 1,345,507	(E)
 Total Excess Surplus [(C3) + (E)]	 \$ 2,609,284	 (D)

**\* Detail of Allowable Adjustments**

Impact Aid	\$ -	(H)
Sale & Lease-back	\$ -	(I)
Extraordinary Aid	\$ -	(J1)
Additional Nonpublic School Transportation Aid	\$ -	(J2)
Current Year School Bus Advertising Revenue Recognized	\$ -	(J3)
Family Crisis Transportation Aid	\$ -	(J4)
Total Adjustments [(H)+(I)+(J1)+(J2)+(J3)+(J4)]	\$ -	(K)

\*\* This amount represents the June 30, 2019 Excess Surplus (C3 above) and must be included in the Audit Summary Worksheet Line 90031.

\*\*\* Amount must agree to the June 30, 2020 CAFR and Audit Summary Worksheet Line 90030.

**Detail of Other Restricted Fund Balances**

Statutory restrictions:		
Approved unspent separate proposal	\$ -	
Sale/lease-back reserve	\$ -	
Capital reserve	\$ 2,712,567	
Maintenance reserve	\$ -	
Emergency reserve	\$ -	
Tuition reserve	\$ -	
School Bus Advertising 50% Fuel Offset reserve- current year	\$ -	
School Bus Advertising 50% Fuel Offset reserve- prior year	\$ -	
Impact Aid General Fund Reserve (Sections 8002 and 8003)	\$ -	
Impact Aid Capital Fund Reserve (Sections 8007 and 8008)	\$ -	
Other state/government mandated reserves	\$ -	
Other Restricted Fund Balance not noted above ****	\$ -	
Total Other Restricted Fund Balance	\$ 2,712,567	(C4)

\*\*\*\* Amount for Other Reserved Fund Balances must be detailed for each source. Use in the excess surplus calculation of any legal reserve that is not state mandated or that is not legally imposed by an other type of government, such as the judicial branch of government, must have departmental approval. District requests should be submitted to the Division of Finance prior to September 30.

**Area Vocational-Technical Schools  
of Mercer County School District**

**Administrative Findings – Financial, Compliance and Performance**

**June 30, 2020**

**Audit Recommendations Summary**

We suggest the following:

**1. Administrative Practices and Procedures**

None

**2. Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting**

None

**3. School Purchasing Programs**

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 Audit Findings/Recommendations**

Not applicable as there were no prior year findings.