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

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Honorable President and Members of the Board of Education Park Ridge Board of Education Park Ridge, 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 Park Ridge Board of Education as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020, and have issued our report thereon dated February 23, 2021.

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 Education, 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

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

Jeffrey C. Bliss

Public School Accountant PSA Number CS00932

Fair Lawn, New Jersey February 23, 2021

#### Scope of Audit

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

Fire insurance coverage was carried in the amounts as detailed on Exhibit J-20, as reported in the district's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (the "CAFR").

#### Official Bonds

Name Position Amount

Robert Wright Board Secretary/School Business Administrator \$225,000

There is a Public Employee Dishonesty Coverage with Selective Insurance Company of America covering all other employees with multiple coverage of \$100,000 per employee (primary) and \$500,000 per loss (excess).

#### **Tuition Charges**

The Board is a member of Region II and all members have agreed that tuition adjustments will not be made between member districts for the actual certified tuition charges.

#### Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting

#### **Examination of Claims**

An examination of claims paid during the period under review did not reveal any material discrepancies with respect to signatures, certification or proper itemization.

#### 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 Board Secretary/School Business Administrator and the Chief School Administrator.

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

The District maintains a personnel tracking and accounting (Position Control) system.

The School Business Administrator completed and filed the required certification of compliance with Federal and State Law respecting the reporting of compensation for certain employees.

#### 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 reserves 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 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 included administrative coding classifications to determine overall reliability and compliance with NJAC 6A:23A-8.3. As a result of the procedures performed, no additional procedures were deemed necessary to test the propriety of expenditure classifications.

#### Travel

The District had an approved board travel policy as required by N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-6.13 AND N.J.S.A. 18A:11-12.

#### Board Secretary's Records

The financial records, books of account and minutes maintained by the Board Secretary were in excellent condition.

Acknowledgment of the Board's receipt of the Board Secretary's monthly financial reports were included in the minutes.

The prescribed contractual order system was followed.

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

The Board has adopted the direct reimbursement method and has established an Unemployment Compensation Insurance Trust Fund. The financial transactions of this fund are reported in the Fiduciary Funds.

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

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

Our examination of the E.S.E.A. 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.

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

# Other Special Federal and/or State Projects

The district's Special Projects were approved as listed on Exhibits K-3 and K-4 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.

#### IDEA Part B and Preschool

Separate accounting records were maintained for each approved project. Grant applications, approvals and acceptance of grant funds were made by Board resolution.

#### Non-Public State Aid

Project completion reports were prepared and transmitted to the Department of Education by the due date.

#### 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.

#### T.P.A.F. Reimbursement to the State for Federal Salary Expenditures

The amount of expenditure charged to the current year's Final Report 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.

#### Before/After School Child Care Program (EXTRAS)

The District provides a before and after school child care program for district students. The financial activities of the program are accounted for in the Enterprise Fund.

Cash receipt records and bank accounts were reviewed for timely deposit and proper fee charges.

Cash disbursement records had supporting documentation and reflected program related expenses.

#### Owl House Program

The District provides a life skills program for students from ages 18 to 21 who still have an Individualized Education Program (IEP).

Cash receipts records and bank accounts were reviewed for timely deposit and proper fees.

Cash disbursement records had supporting documentation and reflected program related expenses.

# Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting (Continued)

#### Other Enterprise Funds

The District provided a SAT review program, various summer sports and music programs and a laptop insurance program for District students. The financial activities of these programs are accounted for as Non-Major Enterprise Funds.

## **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:39-3(A) are \$40,000 (with a Qualified Purchasing Agent) and \$29,000 (without a Qualified Purchasing Agent), respectively. The law regulates bidding for public school student transportation contracts under NJSA 18A:39-3 which is \$19,000 for 2019-2020.

If the purchasing agent is qualified pursuant to subsection b of section 9 of P.L. 1971, c. 198 (c.40A:11-9), the board of education may establish that the bid threshold may be up to \$40,000. 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. The Board has designated the School Business Administrator as the qualified purchasing agent and has approved by Board resolution a 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 fiscal 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.

In as much as the system of records did not provide for an accumulation of payments for categories for the performance of any work or the furnishing or hiring of any materials or supplies, the results of such an accumulation could not reasonably be ascertained. Disbursements were reviewed, however, to determine whether any clear-cut violations existed.

The results of our examination indicated that no individual payments, contracts, or agreements were made "for the performance of any work or the furnishing or hiring of any materials or supplies," in excess of the statutory thresholds where there had been no advertising for bids in accordance with the provision of N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-4, as 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 that purchases were made through the use of state contracts.

#### **Food Service Fund**

#### COVID – 19 Emergency

In accordance with the Governor's Declaration of Emergency pertaining to the COVID 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, SFAs 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 SFAs 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.

#### Food Service Fund (Continued)

SFAs 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 state program and the program expenses did not exceed \$100,000 in federal support. The District was not subject to a federal single audit.

The Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position (CAFR Schedule B-5) does separate program and non-program revenues and program and non-program costs 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 records of the school food services were maintained in good condition. The financial accounts and records 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 N.J.S.A. 18A:17-34, and 19-1 through 19.4.1. Provisions of the FSMC contract/ addendum were reviewed. The FSMC contract includes an operating results provision which guarantees that the food service program will have no loss greater than \$10,000 in its food service operations, including the management fee. The operating results provision has not been met for the current fiscal year; however due to the COVID-19 global pandemic, this guaranteed minimum loss was waived.

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.

Net cash resources did not exceed three months average expenses.

Applications for free and reduced price meals were reviewed for completeness and accuracy as part of our audit of the Application for State School Aid (ASSA).

USDA Food Distribution Program commodities were received and a single inventory was maintained on a first-in, first-out basis.

Exhibits reflecting Child Nutrition Program operations are included in the section entitled Enterprise Funds.

#### **Student Body Activities**

The Board has a policy which clearly establishes the regulations of the student activity fund.

All receipts tested were deposited in a timely manner with minor exceptions noted.

All cash disbursements tested had proper supporting documentation.

#### **Application for State School Aid**

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 related services and low-income. A review was performed of the district procedures related to its completion. The information on the A.S.S.A. was compared to the district workpapers with immaterial exceptions noted. The information that was included on the workpapers was verified with immaterial exceptions noted. The results of these 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.

# **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 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 had no active State School Development Authority (SDA) grant projects during the year.

# Testing for Lead of all Drinking Water in Educational Facilities

The school district did not adhere to all 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.

#### Management Suggestion

- The Board consider approving a policy for terminal leave payments to non-bargaining unit employees upon retirement.
- Payroll check distribution verification be completed when permissible.

#### Follow-up on Prior Year Findings

In accordance with government auditing standards, our procedures included a review of all prior year recommendations.

# PARK RIDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION FOOD SERVICE FUND NUMBER OF MILKS SERVED AND (OVER)/UNDERCLAIM ENTERPRISE FUNDS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2019

							Over
	Milk	Milks	Milks	Milks			(Under)
<u>Program</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>Claimed</u>	<u>Tested</u>	<b>Verified</b>	<b>Difference</b>	Rate	<u>Claim</u>

# NOT APPLICABLE

# PARK RIDGE BOARD OF EDCUATION SCHEDULE OF NET CASH RESOURCES FOOD SERVICE ENTERPRISE FUND FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

#### **NET CASH RESOURCE SCHEDULE**

Net Cash Resources:		 Food Service B - 4/5	
<b>CAFR</b> * B-4 B-4	Current Assets Cash & Cash Equiv. Due from Other Gov'ts	\$ 2,821 1,331	
CAFR B-4	Current Liabilities Less Accounts Payable	 (5,881)	
	Net Cash Resources	\$ (1,729)	(A)
Net Adj. Total Operati	_ <del></del>		
B-5 B-5	Tot. Operating Expenses Less Depreciation	\$  166,527 (2,020)	
	Adj. Tot. Oper. Exp.	 164,507	(B)
Average Monthly Ope	rating Expense:		
	B / 10	\$ 16,451	(C)
Three times monthly	<u>Average:</u>		
	3 X C	\$ 49,352	(D)
TOTAL IN BOX A LESS TOTAL IN BOX I NET	\$ (1,729) \$ 49,352 \$ (51,081)		

NET CASH RESOURCES DO NOT EXCEED THREE MONTH AVERAGE EXPENSES

#### PARK RIDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLMENTS OCTOBER 15, 2019

	2020-21 Application for State School Aid				Sample for Verification				Private Schools for Disabled								
-		ted on	Repor					Sample Reported on				Reported on					
		.S.A.	Workp					ed from	Workp					Workpapers	for		
		Roll	On			rors		papers	On			rors	Private	Private	Verifi-	Sample	
-	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	<u>Full</u>	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Schools	Schools	cation	Verified	Errors
Half Day Preschool - 3 years	11		11		_		11		11		_						
Half Day Preschool - 4 years	15		15		_		15		15		_						
Full Day Kindergarten	88		88		_		43		43		_						
1st Grade	86		86		-		39		39		_						
2nd Grade	62		62		_		32		32		_						
3rd Grade	84		84		_		42		42		_						
4th Grade	66		66		_		32		32		_						
5th Grade	87		87		_		47		47		_						
6th Grade	84		84		-		49		49		-						
7th Grade	81		81		-		81		81		-						
8th Grade	76		76		-		76		76		-						
9th Grade	62		62		-	-	62		62		-						
10th Grade	78	1	78	1	-	_	78		78		-						
11th Grade	67	1	67	1	-	-	67		67		-						
12th Grade	71		71		-	-	71		71		-						
Subtotal	1,018	2	1,018	2	_	_	745	-	745	_	_			-	-	-	
Spec Ed - Elementary	81		81		_		38		38		_		4	4	3	2	1
Spec Ed - Middle School	49		49		_		8		8		_		3				-
Spec Ed - High School	80	9	80	9	_		80		80		-		9	10	9	7	2
Subtotal	210	9	210	9	-	-	126	-	126	-			16	14	12	9	3
Totals <sub>_</sub>	1,228	11	1,228	11	-		871	-	871	_	_		16	14	12	9	3
Percentage Error				=	0.00%	0.00%				=	0.00%	0.00%					25.00%

#### PARK RIDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLMENTS OCTOBER 15, 2019

	Resident Low Income			Sample for Verification			Resid	lent LEP Low Inco	me	Sample for Verification			
	Reported on A.S.S.A as Low Income	Reported on Workpapers as Low Income	Errors		Verified to Application and Register	Sample Errors	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	
Half Day Pre-School (3 Yrs) Half Day Pre-School (4 Yrs)													
Full Day Kindergarten	3	3	-	2	2	-	1	1	-	1	1	-	
1st Grade	5	5	-	4	4	-	2	2	-	1	1	-	
2nd Grade			-			-			-			-	
3rd Grade	4	4	-	4	4	-	2	2	-	2	2	-	
4th Grade	4	4	-	3	3	-			-			-	
5th Grade	3	3	-	2	2	-			-			-	
6th Grade	2	2	-	2	2	-			-			-	
7th Grade	3	3	-	2	2	-			-			-	
8th Grade	3	3	-	2	2	-			-			-	
9th Grade	3	4	(1)	3	3	-	1	1	-	1	1	-	
10th Grade	3	3	-	2	2	-			-			-	
11th Grade	3	3	-	3	3	-			-			-	
12th Grade	4	4		3	3								
Subtotal	40	41	(1.0)	32	32		6	6	<del></del>	5	5	<del></del>	
Spec Ed - Elementary	11	11		0	8		2	2		2	2		
Spec Ed - Middle School	8	9	(1)	6	6	-	2	2	-	2	2	_	
Spec Ed - High School	9	9	(1)	7	7	-			-				
Subtotal	28	29	(1)	. 21	21	<u>-</u>	2	2	<del></del>	2	2		
Subtotal			\17	21	21								
Totals	68	70	(2)	53	53	-	8	8	-	7	7	_	
Percentage Error		=	-2.94%		:	0.00%		=	0.00%			0.00%	

	Transportation								
	Reported on DRTRS by DOE	Reported on DRTRS by District	Errors	Tested	Verified	Errors			
Regular - Public Schools	23	23	-	20	20	-			
Transported - Non-Public			-			-			
Regular - Spec.	7	7	-	6	6	-			
Special Needs - Public	19	19		16	16	-			
Totals	49	49		42	42	_			
		_	0.00%		_	0.00%			

#### PARK RIDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLMENTS OCTOBER 15, 2019

		it LEP Not Low Inc	come	Sample for Verification					
	Reported on	Reported on							
	A.S.S.A as	Workpapers as		Sample					
	Low	Low		Selected from	Verified to	Sample			
	Income	Income	Errors	Workpapers	Register	Errors			
Half Day Pre-School (3 Yrs) Half Day Pre-School (4 Yrs) Full Day Kindergarten 1st Grade 2nd Grade 3rd Grade 4th Grade 5th Grade 6th Grade 7th Grade 9th Grade 10th Grade 11th Grade 12th Grade Subtotal	2 6 2 2 2	2 6 2 2 2		2 5 2 2 2	2 5 2 2 2				
Spec Ed - Elementary Spec Ed - Middle School Spec Ed - High School Subtotal	3	3	- - -	2	2	- - -			
<b>Totals</b> Percentage Error		16	0.00%	14	14	0.00%			

# PARK RIDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION CALCULATION OF EXCESS SURPLUS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

# **SECTION 1 - Regular District**

Two Percent (2%) - Calculation of Excess Surplus				
2019-2020 Total General Fund Expenditures per the CAFR			\$	34,445,747
Increase by: Transfer from Capital Reserve to Capital Projects Fund				-
Decreased by: On-Behalf TPAF Pension & Social Security			<del></del>	(4,671,154)
Adjusted 2019-2020 General Fund Expenditures			\$	29,774,593
2% of Adjusted 2019-2020 General Fund Expenditures			\$	595,492
Allowable Adjustment				223,848
Maximum Unassigned Fund Balance			\$	819,340
SECTION 2 - All Districts				
Total General Fund - Fund Balance at June 30, 2020		\$ 11,673,998		
Decreased by: Capital Reserve Capital Reserve - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures Maintenance Reserve Emergency Reserve Excess Surplus - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures Assigned - Year End Encumbrances Assigned - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures  Total Unassigned Fund Balance	\$ 2,070,073 4,427,963 700,000 241,040 438,470 2,345,551 149,510		\$	1,301,391
SECTION 3 - All Districts				
Reserved Fund Balance - Excess Surplus			\$	482,051
Recapitulation of Excess Surplus as of June 30, 2020				
Reserved Excess Surplus Reserved Excess Surplus - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures			\$	482,051 438,470
Total			<u>\$</u>	920,521
Detail of Allowable Adjustments				
Extraordinary Aid - Unbudgeted			\$	223,848
			<u>\$</u>	223,848

# PARK RIDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION RECOMMENDATIONS

# I. <u>Administrative Practices and Procedures</u>

There are none.

#### II. Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting

There are none.

## III. School Purchasing Program

There are none.

#### IV. School Food Services

There are none.

#### V. Student Body Activities

There are none.

#### VI. Application for State School Aid

There are none.

#### VII. Transportation

There are none.

#### VIII. Facilities and Capital Assets

There are none.

#### IX. Miscellaneous

There are none.

#### X. Status of Prior Years' Audit Findings/Recommendations

A review was performed on all prior year recommendations and corrective action was taken on all items.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

We received the complete cooperation of all the officials of the school district and we greatly appreciate the courtesies extended to us.

Respectfully submitted,

LERCH, VINCI & HIGGINS, LLP

Jeffrey C. Bliss

Certified Public Accountant
Public School Accountant