HARDYSTON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT

COUNTY OF SUSSEX

AUDITORS' MANAGEMENT REPORT ON

ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS - FINANCIAL,

COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE

FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021

$\frac{\text{HARDYSTON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT}}{\text{COUNTY OF SUSSEX}}$

AUDITORS' MANAGEMENT REPORT ON ADMINISTRATIVE

FINDINGS - FINANCIAL,

COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE

FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021

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October 28, 2021

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, 2021, and have issued our report thereon dated October 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 letter does not affect our report dated October 28, 2021, 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 suggestions.

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.

Heidi A. Wohlleb

Licensed Public School Accountant #2140

Certified Public Accountant

Heidi A. Wohlleb

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	overage
Grant W. Rome Rich Rennie	Treasurer of School Monies 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 15th due date.

(Continued)

Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting (Cont'd)

Reserve for Encumbrances and Accounts Payable

A review of outstanding issued purchase orders was made on a test basis as of June 30, for proper classification of orders as reserve for encumbrances and accounts payable.

Classification of Expenditures

The coding of expenditures was tested for proper classification in accordance with N.J.A.C. 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 below.

Finding 2021-001:

There is a deficit in Debt Service Fund fund balance at June 30, 2021 of \$30,080. As the District has already resolved the deficit in the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022 with a transfer from capital reserve, no formal recommendation is judged to be warranted.

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.

(Continued)

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, 2021. 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 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"

The bid thresholds in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-2 and 18A:18A-3(a) are \$44,000 (with a Qualified Purchasing Agent) and \$32,000 (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 \$19,600 for 2020-21.

(Continued)

School Purchasing Programs (Cont'd)

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

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. (modify as needed)

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 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.

(Continued)

School Food Service (Cont'd)

We inquired of management about the public health emergency procedures/practices that the SFA instituted to provide meals to all 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. We also inquired if the FSMC received a loan in accordance with the Payroll Protection Plan and whether the funds were used to pay for costs applicable to the Food Service Programs. We also inquired if the PPP Loan was subsequently forgiven and the FSMC refunded or credited the applicable amounts to the SFA if the FSMC received a PPP loan.

Finding 2021-002:

During our review of the School District's records it was noted that net cash resources exceeded three months average expenditures by \$18,766. 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 Student Activities 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.

Application for State School Aid

Our audit procedures included a test of enrollments and related services reported in the October 15, 2020 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 without exception. 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 2020-2021 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.

(Continued)

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 2021-003:

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

GASB Statement No. 87, *Leases*, is effective for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022. Under this statement, the District will be required to recognize a lease liability and an intangible right-to-use asset for each lease agreement with a lease term in excess of 12 months. This statement will enhance the comparability of financial statements among governments by requiring the reporting of leases under a single model. Additionally, certain leases that are currently not reported will be under this statement.

COVID-19 Federal Funding

It is likely that the District will undergo some review of its COVID-19 federal funding if only at a desk review level by state and/or federal agencies. We strongly suggest that the District ensures that these funds are utilized in accordance with the applicable federal requirements especially with respect to procurement. Additionally, we strongly suggest that the District ensures that these funds are accounted for in the state account numbers designated by the NJ Department of Education and that any applicable Board policies are current with respect to federal grant requirements.

Management Suggestions:

Sick and Vacation Leave

It is suggested that the District consult with its attorney to ensure that its negotiated labor contracts, individual employee agreements and employee policies, as applicable, are in accordance with New Jersey statutes regarding unused sick and vacation leave.

Status of Prior Year's Findings/Recommendations

The prior year recommendation regarding County Superintendent approval being obtained for any transfers in excess of 10% to the Central Services/Administrative Information Technology line items has been resolved.

APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL DISTRICT APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLMENTS ENROLLMENT AS OF OCTOBER 15, 2020

		2021-2022	Application	2021-2022 Application for State School Aid	hool Aid			0,1	Sample for	Sample for Verification		
	Repor	Reported on	Reported on Workpapers	ted on			San	Sample Selected from	Verifi Regi	Verified per	Errors per Registers	per
	On	On Roll	On Roll	Apers Roll	Errors	ors	Work	Workpapers	On	On Roll	On Roll	oll
·	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared
Half Day Preschool 3 yrs.	С		ю				С		С			
Half Day Preschool 4 yrs.	9		9				9		9			
Full Day Kindergarten	45		45				45		45			
Grade One	54		54				54		54			
Grade Two	54		54				54		54			
Grade Three	46		46				46		46			
Grade Four	58		58				58		58			
Grade Five	58		58				58		58			
Grade Six	50		50				50		50			
Grade Seven	58		58				58		58			
Grade Eight	57		57				57		57			
Subtotal	489		489				489		489			
Special Ed - Elementary	99		99				9		9			
Special Ed - Middle School	41		41				4		4			
Subtotal	107		107				10		10			
Totals	969	0-	596	-0-	-0-	-0-	499	-0-	499	-0-	-0-	-0-
Percentage Error				"	%00.0						0.00%	

APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID SUMMARY
SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLMENTS
ENROLLMENT AS OF OCTOBER 15, 2020

Private Schools for Disabled
Sample for
Verification
1 1

APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL DISTRICT APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLMENTS - RESIDENT LEP LOW INCOME

ENROLLMENT AS OF OCTOBER 15, 2020

	Verified to	Test Scores,	Application Sample	and Register Errors	1	1	1 -0-	0.00%
Resident LEP Low Income	Sample	Selected	from	Workpapers	1	1	1	
Resident LEI				Errors			-0-	%00.0
	Reported on	Workpapers	LEP Low	Income	1	1	-	
	Reported on	A.S.S.A. as	LEP Low	Income	1	1		
								Percentage Error

Grade Five 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, 2020

HARDYSTON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT
SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLLMENTS
APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID SUMMARY
ENROLLMENT AS OF OCTOBER 15, 2020

			Transp	Transportation		
	Reported on DRTRS by DOE	Reported on DRTRS by District	H STOTI	Tested	Verified	HTOTS
I	1026	and to				
Regular - Public Schools	410	410		16	16	
Regular - Special Education	70	70		4	4	
Transported - Non Public	30	30		7	2	
AIL - Non Public	7	7		1	1	
Special Needs - Public	17	17		1	1	
Special Needs - Private	1					
Totals =	535	535	-0-	25	25	0-
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	70			5.4 5.4 6.2	5.4 5.4 6.2	

HARDYSTON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT EXCESS SURPLUS CALCULATION FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021

EXCESS SURPLUS CALCULATION

Section 1 - REGULAR DISTRICT

2020-2021 Total General Fund Expenditures per the CAFR Increased by:	\$ 13,035,839 (B)	
Transfer from Capital Outlay to Capital Projects Fund	\$ -0- (B1a)	
Transfer from Capital Reserve to Debt Service Fund		
Transfer from General Fund to SRF for PreK-Regular	\$ -0- (B1b) \$ -0- (B1c)	
Transfer from General Fund to SRF for PreK-Inclusion	\$ -0- (B1d)	
Decreased by:	ψ (Β1α)	
On-Behalf TPAF Pension and Social Security	\$ 2,046,521 (B2a)	
Assets Acquired Under Capital Leases	\$ -0- (B2b)	
	- ()	
Adjusted 20-21 General Fund Expenditures [(B)+(B1's)-(B2's)]	\$ 10,989,318 (B3)	
4% of Adjusted 2020-21 General Fund Expenditures [(B5) times .04]	\$ 439,573 (B4)	
Enter Greater of (B4) or \$250,000	\$ 439,573 (B5) \$ 226,746 (K)	
Increased by: Allowable Adjustment	\$ 226,746 (K)	
Maximum Unassigned Fund Balance [(B5)+(K)]		\$ 666,319 (M)
Section 2		
Total General Fund - Fund Balances @ 6/30/21	\$ 6,862,157 (C)	
(Per CAFR Budgetary Comparison Schedule C-1)	()	
Decreased by:		
Assigned for Year End Encumbrances	\$ 61,449 (C1)	
Legally Restricted - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures	\$ -0- (C2)	
Excess Surplus - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures	\$ 613,571 (C3)	
Other Restricted Fund Balances	\$ 4,971,251 (C4)	
Assigned - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures	\$ -0- (C5)	
Total Unassigned Fund Balance [(C)-(C1)-(C2)-(C3)-(C4)-(C5)-(C6)]		\$ 1,215,886 (U1)
Section 3		
Restricted Fund Balance-Excess Surplus [(U1)-(M)] IF NEGATIVE, EN	TER -0-	\$ 549,567 (E)
Recapitulation of Excess Surplus as of June 30, 2021		
Restricted Excess Surplus - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expendi	tures	\$ 613,571 (C3)
Restricted Excess Surplus [(E)]	::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::	\$ 549,567 (E)
Testifica Ziloso surpus [(L)]		<u> </u>
Total [(C3)+(E)+(F)]		\$ 1,163,138 (D)

HARDYSTON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT EXCESS SURPLUS CALCULATION FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021 (Continued)

Detail of Allowable Adjustments

Impact Aid	\$ -0-	(H)
Sale and Lease Back	\$ -0-	(I)
Extraordinary Aid	\$ 221,691	(J1)
Additional Nonpublic School Transportation Aid	\$ 5,055	(J2)
Current Year School Bus Advertising Revenue Recognized	\$ -0-	(J3)
Family Crisis Transportation Aid	\$ -0-	(J4)
Total Adjustments [(H)+(I)+(J1)+(J2)+(J3)+(J4)]	\$ 226,746	- (K)
Detail of Other Restricted Fund Balance		
Statutory Restrictions	\$ -0-	_
Approved Unspent Separate Proposal	\$ -0-	_
Sale/Lease-Back Reserve	\$ -0-	_
Capital Reserve	\$ 3,948,952	_
Maintenance Reserve	\$ 830,257	_
Emergency Reserve	\$ -0-	_
Tuition Reserve	\$ -0-	_
Unemployment Compensation	\$ 192,042	_
Other State/Governmental Mandated Reserve	\$ -0-	_
Other Reserved Fund Balance not Noted Above	 -0-	-
Total Other Restricted Fund Balance	\$ 4,971,251	

HARDYSTON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021

It is recommended that:

1.	Administrative Practices and Procedures
	None
2.	Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting
	None
3.	School Purchasing Program
	None
4.	School Food Service
	None
5.	Student Body Activities
	None
6.	Application for State School Aid
	None
7.	Pupil Transportation
	None
8.	Facilities and Capital Assets
	None
9.	<u>Miscellaneous</u>
	None
10.	Status of Prior Year's Findings/Recommendations
	The prior year recommendation regarding County Superintendent approval being obtained for any transfers in excess of 10% to the Central Services/Administrative Information Technology line items has been resolved.