LITTLE FERRY BOARD OF EDUCATION AUDITOR'S MANAGEMENT REPORT ON ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS -FINANCIAL, COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE JUNE 30, 2021

LITTLE FERRY BOARD OF EDUCATION TABLE OF CONTENTS

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AUDITOR'S MANAGEMENT REPORT

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

We have audited in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and <u>Government</u> <u>Auditing Standards</u> issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the basic financial statements of the Little Ferry Board of Education in the County of Bergen as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2021, and have issued our report thereon dated February 11, 2022.

As part of our audit, we performed procedures required by the 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 for the information and use of Little Ferry Board of Education's 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.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Dieter P. Lerch Public School Accountant PSA Number CS00756

Fair Lawn, New Jersey February 11, 2022

Scope of Audit

The audit covered the financial transactions of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary and Treasurer of School Monies, 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 Schedule of Insurance contained in the Statistical Section of the District's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (the "CAFR").

Official Bonds

Name	Position	Amount
Tina Trueba	Business Administrator/Board Secretary	\$100,000
Antoinette Kelly	Treasurer of School Monies	300,000

There is a Blanket Dishonesty Bond with the Selective Insurance Company of America 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 did not indicate any discrepancies with respect to signatures, certifications or supporting documentation.

Classification of Expenditures

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

Payroll/Personnel

The net salaries of all 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 Superintendent and were certified by the President of the Board, the Business Administrator/Board Secretary and the Chief School Administrator.

Salary withholdings were promptly remitted to the proper agencies, including health benefit deductions withheld and due to the General Fund.

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 to determine 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.

<u>Travel</u>

The Board of Trustees has adopted a travel policy that complies with 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 reviewed.

The Board Secretary's and Treasurer's monthly financial reports were presented to the Board on a timely basis and were submitted to the Executive County Superintendent as prescribed by N.J.S.A. 18A 17-9 and 18A 17-36.

The prescribed contractual order system was followed.

Bids received were summarized in the minutes (N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-21).

Acknowledgement of the Board's receipt of the Board Secretary and Treasurer's monthly financial reports was included in the minutes with exceptions noted. The monthly certification of the availability of line item appropriations and fund balances were also approved.

Treasurer's Records

The Treasurer did perform cash reconciliations for all accounts required.

All cash receipts were promptly deposited.

The Treasurer's records were in agreement with the records of the Board Secretary

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 the projects under Title I and III of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as amended.

The audit 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.

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)

I.D.E.A. Part B

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

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.

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 \$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 currently \$19,600. The Board has designated the School Business Administrator as the purchasing agent.

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.

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.

Resolutions were adopted authorizing the awarding of contracts or agreements for "Professional Services" per <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 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.

School Food Service

In accordance with the Governor's Declaration of Emergency pertaining to the COVID 19 Virus all 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.

During SY 2020-2021 the public health emergency was still applicable. As a result, School Food Authorities (SFA's) were required to provide meals in accordance with the regulations governing the National School Nutrition Seamless Summer Option (SSO) or the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) option.

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 all children throughout the age of 18, as well as persons over 18 with disabilities as defined in the regulations.

School Food Service (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 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. Exceptions were not noted.

We also inquired of school management, or appropriate school food service personnel, as to whether the SFA's expenditures of school food service revenues were limited to allowable direct and indirect costs. Exceptions were not noted.

The Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Fund Net Assets (CAFR Schedule B-5) does separate program and non-program revenue and program and non-program cost of goods sold.

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

Student Body Activity

The Board has a policy which clearly established the regulation of the student activity fund.

Cash receipts were promptly deposited.

Cash disbursements had proper supporting documentation.

Application for State School Aid

Our audit procedures included a test of information 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 District workpapers with exceptions noted. The information on the workpapers was verified with immaterial exceptions noted. 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 has adequate written procedures for the recording of student enrollment data.

Finding 2021-1 (CAFR Finding 2021-001) – Our audit of the District's Application for State School Aid (ASSA) revealed differences between the ASSA enrollment counts and the supporting District workpapers for low income and LEP not low income students.

Recommendation - Internal control procedures be reviewed over the reporting of information on the Application for State School Aid (ASSA) to ensure District workpapers support student counts reported on the ASSA.

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.

Facilities and Capital Assets

The District had no SDA grant projects during the year. Our procedures also included a review of the transfer of local funds from the General Fund or from the Capital Reserve Account and awarding of contracts for eligible facilities constructions.

Testing for Lead of all Drinking Water in Educational Facilities

The school district adhered 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.

The school district did submit the annual Statement of Assurance to the Department of Education, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:26-12.4(g).

LITTLE FERRY BOARD OF EDUCATION FOOD SERVICE FUND NUMBER OF MEALS SERVED AND (OVER)/UNDERCLAIM ENTERPRISE FUNDS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021

NOT APPLICABLE

FOOD SERVICE FUND NET CASH RESOURCE SCHEDULE ENTERPRISE FUNDS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021

NOT APPLICABLE

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LITTLE FERRY BOARD OF EDUCATION APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID ENROLLMENT AS OF OCTOBER 15, 2020 SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLMENTS

		2021-2022	2 Applicatio	n for State Sc	hool Aid				Sample for	Verification			Pri	ivate Schoo	ls for Disabl	ed
-	Repor		Repor	ted on			San	ple	Verifi	ed per	Erro	rs per	Reported on	Sample		
	A.S.		-	papers			Selecte		Reg			isters	A.S.S.A. as	from		
	On			Roll	Еп		Workj	-	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	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Half Day Preschool 4 yrs	21.0		17.0	-	4.0	-	17.0		17.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Full Day Preschool 3 yrs	-	-		-	-	-				-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Full Day Preschool 4 yrs	-	-	-	-	-	-				-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Half Day Kindergarten	-	-	-	-	-	-				-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Full Day Kindergarten	76.0	-	76.0	-	-	-	76.0		76.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grade 1	81.0	-	81.0	-	-	-	81.0		81.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grade 2	70.0	-	71.0	•	(1.0)	-	71.0		71.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grade 3	85.0	-	84.0	-	1.0	-	84.0		84.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grade 4	58.0	-	59.0	-	(1.0)	-	59.0		59.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grade 5	77.0	-	79.0	-	(2.0)	-	79.0		79.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grade 6	79.0	-	79.0	-	-	-	79.0		79.0		-	-	-	-	-	-
Grade 7	86.0	-	87.0	-	(1.0)	-	87.0		87.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grade 8	86.0	-	85.0	•	1.0	-	85.0		85.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grade 9		-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grade 10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grade 11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grade 12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Adult School	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Subtotal	719.0	•	718.0	-	1.0	*	718.0	<u> </u>	718.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Special Ed - Elementary	62.0		64.0	-	(2.0)	-	32.0		32.0	-	-	-	1.0	1.0	1.0	-
Special Ed - Middle	29.0		29.0	-	-	-	17.0		17.0	-	-	-				-
Special Ed - High	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3.0	3.0	2.0	1.0
Subtotal	91.0	-	93.0	-	(2.0)	-	49.0	-	49.0	-	-	-	4.0	4.0	3.0	1.0
Totals	810.0		811.0		(1.0)		- 767.0	-	767.0	-	-	-	4.0	4.0	3.0	1.0
Percentage Error					-0.12%	N/A				_	0.00%	N/A				25.00%

LITTLE FERRY BOARD OF EDUCATION APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID ENROLLMENT AS OF OCTOBER 15, 2020 SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLMENTS

	Re	sident Low Income		Sample for Verification Resident LEP Low Income		Samp	Sample for Verification					
	Reported on A.S.S.A as Low	Reported on Workpapers as Low Income	Errors	Sample Selected from Workpapers	Verified to Application and Register	Sample Errors	Reported or A.S.S.A as LEP Low Income	Reported on Workpapers as LEP Low Income	Errors	Selected fror	Verified to Test Score and Register	Errors
Half Day Preschool 3 yrs	Income	ncome	Ellois	workpapers	alu Register	Ellois	Low Income	meome	Ellois	worpapers	and Register	Enois
Half Day Preschool 4 yrs		_	_			-					-	
Full Day Preschool 3 yrs	_	-		-		-	-			_	-	_
Full Day Preschool 4 yrs	_	-	-	_	_	-	_			_		
Half Day Kindergarten	-		-	-	-		-	-		-	-	
Full Day Kindergarten	11.0	11.0	-	2	2		3.0	1.0	2	1	1	
Grade 1	18.0	18.0	-	3	2	1	2.0	2.0	-	2	2	_
Grade 2	23.0	23.0	_	4	3	1	1.0	2.0	-	2	~	-
Grade 3	16.0	16.0	-	2	1	1	-		-			-
Grade 4	21.0	21.0	-	4	4	-	2.0	2,0	-	2	2	-
Grade 5	20.0	20,0	-	2	. 1	1	1.0	1.0	-	- 1	1	-
Grade 6	27.0	20.0	_	4	3	1	-	1.0	-	1	•	_
Grade 7	25.0	25.0		3	2	1	1.0	1.0		2	2	
Grade 8	29.0	29.0	-	3	3	-	2.0	2,0	-	2	2	-
Grade 9	29.0	29.0	-	2	2	-	2.0	2.0	-	-	-	-
Grade 10	35.0	35.0	-			-	3.0	3.0	-	-	-	-
Grade 11	28.0	28.0	-			-	5.0	5.0	-	-	-	-
Grade 12	25.0	25.0	-			-	1.0	3.0	(2)	-	-	-
Subtotal	307.0	307.0	•	27.0	21.0	6.0	23.0	22.0	1.0	10.0	10.0	-
Special Ed - Elementary	32.0	32.0	-	5.0	5.0		2.0	2.0	-	2.0	2.0	-
Special Ed - Middle	15.0	15.0	-	3.0	3.0	-			-	-	-	-
Special Ed - High	22.0	22.0	-	-	-	-	2.0	2.0	-	-	-	-
Subtotal	69	69	-	8	8	-	4	4	-	2	2	-
Sent Priv Sch Disabled			-									
Sent to RDS			-									
Sent To CSSD			-									
Totals	376.0	376.0		35.0	29.0	6.0	27.0	26.0	1.0	12.0	12.0	-
Percentage Err	or	-	0.00%		-	17.14%		=	3.70%		=	0.00%

			Transporta	ation		
	Reported on DRTRS by DOE/County	Reported on DRTRS by District	Errors	Tested	Verified	Errors
Reg Public Schools	260.0	260.0	-	49.0	49.0	-
Transported - Non - Public	15.0	15.0	-	3.0	3.0	-
Special Ed Public	8.5	8.5		2.0	2.0	-
Special Needs - Public	30.5	30.5	-	6.0	6.0	-
	314.0	314.0	-	60.0	60.0	-

LITTLE FERRY BOARD OF EDUCATION APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID ENROLLMENT AS OF OCTOBER 15, 2020 SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLMENTS

	Resident	LEP NOT Low Ir	come	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	Verified to Application and Register	Errors			
Half Day Preschool 3 yrs	-	-	-	-	-	-			
Full Day Preschool 3 yrs	-	-	-	-	-	-			
Half Day Preschool 4 yrs	-	-	-	-	-	-			
Full Day Preschool 4 yrs	-	-	-	-	-	-			
Half Day Kindergarten	-	-	-	-	-	-			
Full Day Kindergarten	11.0	1.0	10.0	1.0	1.0	-			
Grade 1	7.0	6.0	1.0	4.0	4.0	-			
Grade 2	4.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	-			
Grade 3	2.0	2.0	-	1.0	1.0	-			
Grade 4	3.0	2.0	1.0	2.0	2.0	-			
Grade 5	3.0	2.0	1.0	2.0	2.0	-			
Grade 6	3.0	2.0	1.0	2.0	2.0	-			
Grade 7	3.0	3.0	-	3.0	3.0	-			
Grade 8	4.0	4.0	-	4.0	4.0	-			
Grade 9	2.0	2.0	-	2.0	2.0	-			
Grade 10	2.0	2.0	-	2.0	2.0	-			
Grade 11	2.0	2.0	-	2.0	2.0	-			
Grade 12	3.0	1.0	2.0	1.0	1.0	-			
Adult School									
Subtotal	49.0	31.0	18.0	28.0	28.0	-			
Special Ed - Elementary	5.0	3.0	2.0	3.0	3.0	-			
Special Ed - Middle	-	-	-	-	-	-			
Special Ed - High	-	-	-	-	-	-			
Subtotal	5.0	3.0	2.0	3.0	3.0	-			
Totals	54.0	34.0	20.0	31.0	31.0	-			
Percentage Error		=	37.04%		_	0.00%			

LITTLE FERRY BOARD OF EDUCATION CALCULATION OF EXCESS SUPLUS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021

SECTION 1A - Four Percent (4%) - Calculation of Excess Surplus

2020-2021 Total General Fund Expenditures per the CAFR		\$	26,445,899
Decreased by: On-Behalf TPAF Pension & Social Security Lease Purchase	\$ 2,854,615 293,919		3,148,534
Adjusted 2020-2021 General Fund Expenditures		<u>\$</u>	23,297,365
4% of Adjusted 2020-2021 General Fund Expenditures		<u>\$</u>	931,895
Enter Greater of 4% of Adjusted 2020-2021 General Fund Expenditures or \$250,000 Increased by: Allowable Adjustments-Extraordinary Aid /NP Transportation		\$	931,895 342,177
Maximum Unassigned Fund Balance		<u>\$</u>	1,274,072
SECTION 2			
Total General Fund - Fund Balance at June 30, 2021 (Per CAFR Budgetary Comparison Schedule/Statement)		\$	3,895,050
Decreased by: Year End Encumbrances Restricted Fund Balance- Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures Restricted Fund Balance - Excess Surplus-Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures Restricted Fund Balance - Capital Reserve Restricted Fund Balance - Maintenance Reserve Restricted Fund Balance - Tuition Reserve	\$ 79,207 118,700 212,326 1,000,000 600,000 275,000		
Total Unassigned Fund Balance		<u>\$</u>	1,609,817
SECTION 3			
Restricted Fund Balance - Excess Surplus		<u>\$</u>	335,745
Recapitulation of Excess Surplus as of June 30, 2021 Excess Surplus-Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures Excess Surplus		\$	212,326 335,745
Total Excess Surplus		<u>\$</u>	548,071
Total Excess Surplus <u>Detail of Allowable Adjustments</u> Extraordinary Aid - Unbudgeted Additional Non Public Transportation Aide		\$\$	<u>548,071</u> 337,827 <u>4,350</u> 342,177

LITTLE FERRY BOARD OF EDUCATION RECOMMENDATIONS

I. Administrative Practices and Procedures

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

1. It is recommended that internal control procedures be reviewed over the reporting of information on the Application for State School Aid (ASSA) to ensure District workpapers support student counts reported on the ASSA.

VII. Pupil 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

In accordance with government auditing standards, we have reviewed the status of all prior year findings. Corrective action was taken on all prior year findings with the exception of those denoted with an asterisk.

LITTLE FERRY BOARD OF EDUCATION RECOMMENDATIONS (CONTINUED)

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

Dieter P. Lerch 4 Public School Accountant PSA Number CS00756