NORTHVALE BOARD OF EDUCATION AUDITORS' MANAGEMENT REPORT ON ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS -FINANCIAL, COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE JUNE 30, 2021

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# LERCH, VINCI & HIGGINS, LLP CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS REGISTERED MUNICIPAL ACCOUNTANTS

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Honorable President and Members of the Board of Trustees Northyale Board of Education Northvale, 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 basic financial statements of the Northvale Board of Education as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2021, and have issued our report thereon dated January 31, 2022

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

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

Respectfully submitted,

LERCH, VINCI & HIGGINS, LLP

Certified Public Accountants

**Public School Accountants** 

Gary W. Higgins

Public School Accountant

PSA Number CS00814

Fair Lawn, New Jersey January 31, 2022

#### GENERAL COMMENTS

#### **Scope of Audit**

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

#### Official Bonds

Name	<u>Position</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Louis B. Turco	Business Administrator/Board Secretary	\$100,000

There is public employee dishonesty coverage covering all other employees with coverage of \$100,000 per employee and \$500,000 per loss.

#### **Tuition Charges**

A comparison of tentative tuition charges and actual certified tuition charges was made. The actual costs were less than estimated costs. The Board made the proper adjustment to the billings for the regular students where the actual costs were less than the estimated costs in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23-3.1(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

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 certified by the President of the Board and the Board Secretary/Business Administrator and the Chief School Administrator.

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

Payrolls were delivered to the Secretary of the Board for the full amount of each payroll.

The required certification (E-CERT1) of compliance with requirements for income tax on compensation of administrators to the New Jersey Department of Treasury was filed by the March 15 due date.

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

#### **Employee Position Control Roster**

The Board has implemented and maintains a personnel tracking and accounting (Position Control) system.

#### 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. 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.

#### **Travel**

The District has an approved Board travel policy as required by N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-6.13 and N.J.S.A. 18A:11-12. No exceptions were noted pertaining to travel expense payment tested.

#### 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 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, no errors were noted.

#### Board Secretary's Records

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

The Board Secretary's and cash reports were presented monthly 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).

#### Board Designee - Bank Reconciliations

The Board has appointed the superintendent as the designee to perform cash reconciliations.

The monthly bank reconciliations were in agreement with the records of the Board Secretary and designee that were in the official minutes.

#### Other Special Federal and/or State Projects

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

Our examination 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 contained herein represent a true statement of the financial position pertaining to the aforementioned special projects.

Finding – 2021-001 – The General Fund modified budget in the appropriation report was not in agreement with the original budget and approved modifications.

**Recommendation** – It is recommended that the General Fund modified budget appropriations be reconciled to the original budget and approved modifications on a monthly basis.

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

#### T.P.A.F. Reimbursements

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

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

None.

#### **School Purchasing Programs**

#### Contracts and Agreements Requiring Advertisement for Bids

The bid thresholds in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-3(a) (as amended) and 18A:39-3 are \$44,000 (with a Qualified Purchasing Agent) and \$32,000 (without a Qualified Purchasing Agent), respectively. The Business Administrator has been designated as the Purchasing Agent of the District and the Board of Education has adopted a resolution establishing the bid threshold at \$44,000. The law regulating bidding for public school student transportation contracts under N.J.S.A. 18A:39.3 is \$19,600 for 2020/21.

The Board of Education has the responsibility of determining whether the expenditures in any category will exceed the statutory thresholds within the contract year. Where question arises as to whether any contract or agreement might result in violation of the statute, the Board Attorney's opinion should be sought before a commitment is made.

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

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

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

#### **School Food Service**

The District did not operate a milk program during the 20/21 school year. The District did not receive any federal or state support.

#### **Student Body Activities**

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

Cash receipts were promptly deposited.

Cash disbursements were supported by proper 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, related services, 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 without exception. The information that was included on the workpapers was verified with immaterial exceptions. 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 had 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 were to review the 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 SDA grant projects during the year. The capital assets records were properly maintained for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2021.

#### 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).

## NORTHVALE BOARD OF EDUCATION ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS - FINANCIAL, COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE REPORTING FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021 SCHEDULE OF MEAL COUNT ACTIVITY

NOT APPLICABLE

#### SCHEDULE OF NET CASH RESOURCES - FOOD SERVICE

NOT APPLICABLE

## NORTHVALE BOARD OF EDUCATION APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID SUMMARY ENROLLMENT AS OF OCTOBER 15, 2020

	2021-22 Application for State School Aid			Sample for Verification					Private Schools for Disabled							
	Reported on Reported on					Sample		Verifie	d per		rs per	Reported on	Sample			
	A.S.		Workp				Selected		Regis			isters	A.S.S.A. as	for		
	On		On R		Erro		Workp		On F		On		Private	Verifi-	Sample	Sample
	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Schools	cation	Verified	Errors
Half Day Preschool	_	_	_	_			-	_	_	_	_	_				
Full Day Preschool	-	~	-	-			-	-	-	-	_	_				
Half Day Kindegarten	-	-	-	-			-	_	_	-	-	-				
Full Day Kindergarten	36	-	36	-		-	36	-	36	-	-	-				
One	57	-	54	-	3	_	54	-	54	-	-	-				
Two	48	~	48	-	-	-	48	-	48	-	-	-				
Three	47	-	47	-	-	-	47	-	47	-	-	-				
Four	56	-	56	-	-	-	56	-	56	-	-	-				
Five	44	-	44	-	-	-	44	-	44	-	-	-				
Six	54	-	55	-	(1)	-	55	-	55	-	-	-				
Seven	50	-	50	-	-	-	50	-	50	-	-	-				
Eight	56	-	55	-	1	-	55	-	55	-	-	-				
Nine	-	-		-	-	-		-		-	-	-				
Ten	-	-	-	-	-	-		-		-	-	-				
Eleven	-	-	-	-		-	-	-		-	-	-				
Twelve	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
Post-Graduate	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
Adult H.S. (15+CR.)	_	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
Adult H.S. (1-14 CR.)											-					
Subtotal	- 448		445 -		3		445		445	<u> </u>	-					
Special Ed - Elementary	42		45		(3)		29		28		1					
Special Ed - Middle School	29		29				20		19		1					
Special Ed - High School	_	_	_	-		-	-	_	-	-	_	_	_	-	_	_
Subtotal	71		74		(3)	-	49		47		2					
Co. Voc Regular																
Co. Voc. Ft. Post Sec.	-		-	-	-	_	-	-	-	-	-	_	_	-	-	-
Totals	519		519		-		494		492	-	2	-		-	-	
Percentage Error					0.00%	0,00%					0,40%	0.00%				0.00%

## NORTHVALE SCHOOL DISTRICT <u>APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID SUMMARY</u> <u>ENROLLMENT AS OF OCTOBER 15, 2020</u>

	Resident Low Income			Sample for Verification			Resig	lent LEP Low Inco	me	Sample for Verification		
	Reported on	Reported on					Reported on	Reported on				
	A.S.S.A. as	Workpapers as		Sample	Verified to		A.S.S.A. as	Workpapers as		Sample	Verified to	
	Low	Low		Selected from	Application	Sample	LEP low	LEP low		Selected from	Test Score	Sample
	Income	Income	Errors	Workpapers	and Register	Errors	Income	Income	Errors	Workpapers	and Register	Errors
Half Day Preschool	-	_	-	_		_	_	-	_	-		
Full Day Preschool	-	-	_	-	-	-	-	_	_	-	-	-
Half Day Kindegarten	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		_	-	-
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	-			_								
0 :121 E1 .												
Special Ed - Elementary Special Ed - Middle	•	-	-	•	-	-	-	-	-	•	-	-
Special Ed - Middle Special Ed - High	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Subtotal												
Subtotal		-			<del>_</del>							
Co. Voc Regular												
Co. Voc. Ft. Post Sec.	-	-	-	-	-	_	-	_	_	_	-	-
Totals	-		-	-			-	-				
											<del></del>	
Percentage Error			0.00%			0.00%			0.00%			0.00%

	Transportation								
	Reported on DRTRS by DOE/county	Reported on DRTRS by District	Errors	Tested	Verified	Errors			
Reg Public Schools, col. 1	-	-	_	-	-	-			
Reg -SpEd, col. 4	-	-	-			-			
Transported - Non-Public, col. 3	1	1	-	1	1	-			
Special Ed Spec, col. 6	22	22		18	14	4			
Totals	23	23		19	15	4			

Percentage Error 21.05%

#### NORTHVALE SCHOOL DISTRICT

#### <u>APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID SUMMARY</u> <u>ENROLLMENT AS OF OCTOBER 15, 2020</u>

	Residen	t LEP NOT Low	Income	Sample for Verification			
	Reported on A.S.S.A. as NOT Low Income	Reported on Workpapers as NOT Low Income	Errors	Sample Selected from Workpapers	Verified to Application and Register	Sample Errors	
				1.0	<u> </u>		
Half Day Preschool	-	-	-	-	_	-	
Full Day Preschool	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Half Day Kindegarten	_	•	-	-	-	-	
Full Day Kindergarten	3	3	-	3	3	-	
One	11	11	-	11	11	-	
Two	3	3	-	3	3	-	
Three	4	4	-	4	4	-	
Four	2	2	-	2	2	-	
Five	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Six	1	1	-	1	1	-	
Seven	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Eight	1	1	-	1	1	-	
Nine	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Ten	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Eleven	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Twelve	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Post-Graduate	-		-	-	-	-	
Adult H.S. (15+CR.)	-	-	•	-	-	-	
Adult H.S. (1-14 CR.)							
Subtotal	25	25		25	25		
Special Ed - Elementary	2	1	1	1	1	_	
Special Ed - Middle	2	2	-	2	2	-	
Special Ed - High							
Subtotal	4	3	1	3	4		
Co. Voc Regular							
Co. Voc. Ft. Post Sec.			-				
Totals	29	28	1	28	29		
Percentage Error			<u>3.45%</u>			0.00%	

#### NORTHVALE BOARD OF EDUCATION CALCULATION OF EXCESS SURPLUS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021

#### SECTION 1 - Four Percent (4%) - Calculation of Excess surplus (2020-2021 expenditures of \$100 million or less)

2020-2021 Total General Fund Expenditures per the CAFR	\$ 12,700,028
Decreased by: On-Behalf TPAF Pension & Social Security	 (1,898,340)
Adjusted 2020-2021 General Fund Expenditures	\$ 10,801,688
4% of Adjusted 2020-2021 General Fund Expenditures	\$ 432,068
Enter Greater of 4% of Adjusted 2020-2021 General Fund Expenditures or \$250,000	\$ 432,068
Increased by: Allowable Adjustments	 77,135
Maximum Unassigned Fund Balance	\$ 509,203
SECTION 2	
Total General Fund - Fund Balance at June 30, 2021	\$ 3,341,806
Decreased by: Restricted Emergency Reserve	219,441
Maintenance Reserve Capital Reserve	406,652 1,252,729
Excess Surplus - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures Assigned	495,284
Year-End Encumbrances Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures	 13,250 315,361
Total Unassigned Fund Balance	\$ 639,089
SECTION 3	
Restricted Fund Balance - Excess Surplus	\$ 129,886
Recapitulation of Excess Surplus as of June 30, 2021	
Restricted Excess Surplus - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures Restricted Excess Surplus	\$ 495,284 129,886
	\$ 625,170
<u>Detail of Allowable Adjustments</u> Extraordinary Aid 2020-2021 (Unbudgeted)  Nonpublic Transportation Aid 2020-2021 (Unbudgeted)	\$ 77,093 42
Tronpuono Timbportunon ina 2020 2021 (Onouagona)	\$ 77,135

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### I. Administrative Practices and Procedures

There are none.

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

2021-001 – It is recommended that the General Fund modified budget appropriations be reconciled to the original budget and approved modifications on a monthly basis.

#### III. School Purchasing Program

There are none.

#### IV. Food Service Fund

There are none.

#### V. Student Body Activities

There are none.

#### VI. Application for State School Aid

There are none.

#### VII. Pupil Transportation

There are none.

#### VIII. Facilities and Capital Assets

There are none.

#### IX. <u>Miscellaneous</u>

There are none.

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

Corrective action was taken on all prior year recommendations.

#### **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

Gary W. Higgins

Public School Accountant Certified Public Accountant