SCHOOL DISTRICT OF BUENA REGIONAL

AUDITORS' MANAGEMENT REPORT ON ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS FINANCIAL, COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE JUNE 30, 2022

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

	Page Number
Independent Auditor's Report	1
Scope of Audit	2
Administrative Practices and Procedures	
Insurance	2
Official Bonds	2
Tuition Charges	2
Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting	
Examination of Claims	2
Payroll Account	2
Reserve for Encumbrances and Accounts Payable	2
Classification of Expenditures	3
Business Administrator / Board Secretary's Records	3
Treasurer's Records	3
Pupil Transportation	3
Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended	
by the Improving of America's Schools Act of 1994	3
Other Special Federal and /or State Projects	3 - 4
TPAF Reimbursement	4
TPAF Reimbursement to the State for Federal Salary Expenditures	4
School Purchasing Programs	
Contracts and Agreements Requiring Advertisement for Bids	4
School Food Service Fund	4 - 5
Student Body Activities Fund	5
Application for State School Aid	6
Facilities and Capital Assets	6
Follow up on Prior Year Findings	6
Suggestions to Management	N/A
Acknowledgment	6
Schedule of Meal Count Activity	7
Net Cash Resource Schedule	8
Schedule of Audited Enrollments	9-11
Excess Surplus Calculation	12-13
Recommendations	14



REPORT OF INDEPENDENT AUDITORS

Honorable President and Members of the Board of Education Buena Regional School District County of Atlantic, New Jersey

We have audited, in accordance with audit 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 Board of Education of the Buena Regional School District in the County of Atlantic for the year ended June 30, 2022, and have issued our report thereon dated March 6, 2023.

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 for the information of the Buena Regional Board of Education's management and the New Jersey Department of Education (cognizant audit agency), other state and federal awarding agencies and pass-through entities and is not intended and should not be used by anyone other than theses parties.

Ford, Scott & Associates, L.L.C. FORD, SCOTT & ASSOCIATES, L.L.C. CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

Michael S. Garcia

Michael S. Garcia Certified Public Accountant Licensed Public School Accountant No. 2080

March 6, 2023

ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS - FINANCIAL, COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE REPORTING

Scope of Audit

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

Fire insurance coverage was carried in the amounts as detailed on Exhibit J-20, Insurance Schedule contained in the district's <u>ACFR</u>.

Official Bonds

Name	Position	 Amount
Pasquale Yacovelli*	Board Secretary	
	Business Administrator	\$ 300,000.00

*Pasquale Yacovelli resigned effective 12/29/2022. Jean Grubb was appointed as Interim BA/BS effective 1/2/2023-1/31/2023 Donna Bertoldi-Phillips was appointed BA/BS effective 2/1/2023

Tuition Charges

A comparison of tentative tuition charges and actual certified tuition charges was made. 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: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 were approved by the Superintendent and were certified by the President of the Board and the Board Secretary/School Business Administrator.

Salary withholdings were promptly remitted to the proper agencies, including health premiums withholdings due to the general fund.

Reserve for Encumbrances, Liability for 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. No discrepancies were noted.

Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting - Continued

Classification of Expenditures

The coding of expenditures was tested for proper classification in accordance with *N.J.A.C.* 6:23-2.2(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 with *N.J.A.C.* 6:23-2.2(f) as result of the procedures performed, a transaction error rate of 0.00% was noted and no additional procedures were deemed necessary to test the propriety of expenditure classification.

- A. General Classification Findings
- B. Administrative Classification Findings

Board Secretary's Records

The Board Secretary's Records were in satisfactory condition.

Bids received were summarized in the minutes.

Acknowledgement of the Board's receipt of the Board Secretary's and the Treasurer's monthly financial reports were included in the minutes.

Budget appropriations were not greater than realized revenues and Board authorized use of surplus.

No budgetary line accounts were over-expended during the fiscal year and at June 30.

Purchase orders were charged to the appropriate line accounts in accordance with State prescribed Uniform Minimum Chart of Accounts (2R2), for New Jersey Public Schools.

Treasurer's Records

Not Applicable

Pupil Transportation

Our audit procedures included a test of on roll status reported in the 2021-2022 District Report of Transported Resident Students (DRTRS). The information that was included on the DRTRS was verified to the DRTRS Eligibility Summary Report. The results of our procedures are presented in the Schedule of Audited Enrollments.

Our procedures also include a review of transportation related contracts and purchases. Based on our review, the District complied with the proper bidding procedures and award of contracts. The bid specifications for the purchase of buses were in compliance with applicable statutes. No exceptions were noted in our review of transportation related purchases of goods and services.

<u>Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (E.S.E.A.) / Improving America's Schools Act</u> (IASA) as reauthorized by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001.

The E.S.E.A. / N.C.L.B. financial exhibits are contained within the Special Revenue Section of the ACFR. This section of the ACFR documents the financial position pertaining to the projects under Titles I and VI of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act as amended and reauthorized.

The study of compliance for E.S.E.A. revealed no areas of noncompliance and/or questionable costs.

Other Special Federal and/or State Projects

The District's Special Projects were approved as listed on the Schedule A and Schedule B in the ACFR.

Our audit of the federal and state funds on a test basis indicated that obligations and expenditures were

Other Special Federal and/or State Projects - Continued

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 ACFR. This section of the ACFR documents the financial position pertaining to the aforementioned special projects.

The study of compliance for Special Federal and/or State Projects revealed no areas of noncompliance and/or questionable costs.

T.P.A.F. Reimbursement

Our audit procedures included a test of the biweekly 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.

TPAF Reimbursement to the State for Federal Salary Expenditures

The amount of the 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 60 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

Effective July 1, 2020 and thereafter the bid thresholds in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-2 and 18A:18A-3(a) is \$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 \$20,200.

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 Solicitor'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 goods or service, 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 my examination indicated that no individual payments, contracts, or agreements were made for the performance of any work or goods or service, 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-5:18A-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 selected as a major federal program.

The Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Fund Net Assets (ACFR 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 district 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. No exceptions noted.

The financial transactions and statistical records of the school food services were reviewed. The financial accounts, meal count records and eligibility applications were reviewed on a test-check basis. No exceptions noted.

Cash receipts and bank records were reviewed for timely deposit. No exceptions noted.

The school 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 were reviewed and audited. The FSMC contract includes an operating results provision which guarantees that the food service program will break even. The operating results provision has been met. All vendor discounts, rebates, and credits from vendors and/or the FSMC were tracked and credited to the Food Service Account and reconciled to supporting documentation at least annually.

Expenditures 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. No exceptions noted.

The cash disbursement records reflected expenditures for program related goods and services. The appropriate revenue and expenditure records were maintained in order to substantiate the non-profit status of the school food service. No exceptions noted.

The district recorded and maintained separate supporting documentation for additional costs (food, supplies, transportation, etc.) applicable to the implementation of the COVID-19 meal service under SSO program requirements. No exceptions noted.

The FSMC did not apply for and receive a loan in accordance with the Payroll Protection Plan and did not use the funds to pay for costs applicable to the Food Service Program. No exceptions noted.

Net cash resources did exceed three months' average expenditures. The district is currently working on a plan to spend the excess funds during the next fiscal year. No finding deemed necessary.

Time sheets were reviewed and labor costs verified. Payroll records were maintained on all School Food Service employees authorized by the board of education. No exceptions noted.

The number of meals claimed for reimbursement was compared to sales and meal count records. As part of the claims review process the Edit Check Worksheet was completed. Reimbursement claims were submitted and certified in a timely manner. No exceptions noted.

Applications for free and reduced price meals were reviewed for completeness and accuracy. The number of free and reduced price meals claimed was compared to the number of valid applications on file and/or to the list of directly certified students on file, times the number of operating days, on a school by school basis. The free and reduced price meal and free milk policy was reviewed for uniform administration throughout the school system. The required verification procedures for free and reduced price applications were completed and available for review. No exceptions noted.

USDA Food Distribution Program commodities were received and a separate inventory was maintained on a first-in, first-out basis. No exceptions were noted.

Exhibits reflecting Child Nutrition Program operations are included in the section entitled Proprietary Funds, Section B.

Student Body Activities

During our review of the student activity funds, we found no exceptions.

Application for State School Aid

Our audit procedures included a test of information reported in the October 15, 2021 Application for State School Aid (ASSA) for on-roll, private schools for the handicapped, and low income. We also performed a review of the districts procedures related to its completion. The information on the ASSA was compared to the district workpapers without exception. The information that was included on the workpapers was verified with several 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 has adequate written procedures for the recording of student enrollment data.

Facilities and Capital Assets

Our procedures included a review of the SDA grant agreement for consistency with recording SDA revenue, transfer of local funds and awarding of contracts for eligible facilities construction. No exceptions were noted.

Follow-up on Prior Year Findings

In accordance with government auditing standards, our procedures included a review of all prior year recommendations. There were no findings in the prior 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.

Ford, Scott & Associates, L.L.C. FORD, SCOTT & ASSOCIATES, L.L.C. CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

Michael S. Carcia

Michael S. Garcia Certified Public Accountant Licensed Public School Accountant No. 2080

March 6, 2023

SCHEDULE OF MEAL COUNT ACTIVITY BUENA REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT FOOD SERVICE FUND NUMBER OF MEALS SERVED AND (OVER)/UNDERCLAIM ENTERPRISE FUND FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

Summer Food Service						
(SFSP)	Breakfast	15,257	15,257	-	2.4150	\$ -
	Lunch	16,030	16,030	-	4.2500	-
Total		31,287	31,287	-		\$ -
Seamless Summer Option -	July 1, 2021 - De	ecember 31, 20	21			
(SSO)	Breakfast	39,379	39,379	-	2.4625	\$ -
	Lunch	72,746	72,746	-	4.3175	-
Total		112,125	112,125	-		\$ -
Seamless Summer Option -	January 1, 2022	- June 30, 2022	2			
(SSO)	Breakfast	60,165	60,165	-	2.6050	\$ -
	Lunch	123,676	123,676	-	4.5625	-
Total		183,841	183,841	-		\$ -
TOTAL NET OVERCLAIM						\$ -

NET CASH RESOURCE SCHEDULE BUENA REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT ENTERPRISE FUND – FOOD SERVICE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

Net cash resources did exceed three months of expenditures.

<u>Net Cash Resources:</u>			Food Service B - 4/5	
ACFR B-4 B-4 B-4	Current Assets Cash & Cash Equiv. Due from Other Funds Due from Other Gov'ts		\$ 362,744.58 576,296.40 112,486.44	
ACFR B-4 B-4 B-4	Current Liabilities Less Accounts Payable Less Due to Other Funds Less Unearned Revenue		 (103,805.01) - (7,599.31)	
	Net Cash Resources		\$ 940,123.10	(A)
<u>Net Adj. Total Operating</u>	<u>a Expense:</u>			
B-5 B-5	Tot. Operating Exp. Less Depreciation		 1,070,542.37 (50,833.00)	
	Adj. Tot. Oper. Exp.		\$ 1,019,709.37	(B)
Average Monthly Opera	ting Expense:			
	B / 10		\$ 101,970.94	(C)
Three times monthly Av	verage:			
	3 X C		\$ 305,912.81	(D)
TOTAL IN BOX A LESS TOTAL IN BOX D NET	\$ \$ \$	940,123.10 (305,912.81) 634,210.29		
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* Inventories are not to be included in total current assets.

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BUENA REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHEDULE OF AUDIFED ENRICHMENTS APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID SUMMARY ENROLLMENT AS OF OCTOBER 15, 2021

SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLMENTS

BUENA REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID SUMMARY ENROLLMENT AS OF OCTOBER 15, 2021

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SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLMENTS

BUENA REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID SUMMARY ENROLLMENT AS OF OCTOBER 15, 2021

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BUENA REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT EXCESS SURPLUS CALCULATION FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

REGULAR DISTRICT

SECTION 1

A. <u>4% Calculation of Excess Surplus</u>

2021-22 Total General Fund Expenditures per the ACFR, Ex. C-1 Increased by:	\$ <u>41,493,612.47</u> (B)
Transfer from Capital Outlay to Capital Projects Fund	\$ - (B1a)
Transfer from Capital Reserve to Capital Projects Fund	\$(B1a) \$(B1b)
Transfer from General Fund to SRF for PreK-Regular	
-	
Transfer from General Fund to SRF for PreK-Inclusion	\$ (B1d)
Decreased By:	
On-Behalf TPAF Pension & Social Security	\$ 8,051,086.09 (B2a)
Assets Acquired Under Capital Leases	- (B2b)
Adjusted 2021-22 General Fund Expenditures [(B)+(B1's)-(B2's)]	\$ <u>33,442,526.38</u> (B3)
4% of Adjusted 2021-22 General Fund Expenditures [(B3) times .04]	\$1,337,701.06(B4)
Enter Greater of (B4) or \$250,000	\$ 1,337,701.06 (B5)
Increased by: Allowable Adjustment*	\$ <u>88,445.00</u> (K)
Maximum Unreserved/Undesignated Fund Balance [(B5)+(K)]	\$ <u>1,426,146.06</u> (M)
SECTION 2	
Total General Fund - Fund Balances @ 06/30/22	
(Per ACFR Budgetary Comparison Schedule C-1)	\$ <u>8,388,545.51</u> (C)
Decreased by:	
Year-end Encumbrances	\$ 836,133.90 (C1)
Legally Restricted - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures	\$ - (C2)
Legally Restricted - Excess Surplus - Designated for	· (* /
Subsequent Year's Expenditures **	\$ 1,696,654.61 (C3)
Other Restricted Fund Balances ****	\$ 989,972.47 (C4)
Assigned Fund Balance - Unreserved - Designated	¢ <u> </u>
for Subsequent Year's Expenditures	\$ <u>949,570.39</u> (C5)
Additional Assigned Fund Balance - Unreserved-	\$(03)
Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures	
-	¢ (CC)
July 1, 2022 - August 1, 2022	\$ (C6)
Total Unassigned Fund Balance [(C)-(C1)-(C2)-(C3)-(C4)-(C5)-(C6)]	\$ <u>3,916,214.14</u> (U1)
SECTION 3	
Restricted Fund Balance - Excess Surplus *** [(U1)-(M)] IF NEGATIVE ENTER - 0 -	\$ <u>2,490,068.08</u> (E)
Recapitulation of Excess Surplus as of June 30, 2022:	
Reserved Excess Surplus - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures **	\$ 1,696,654.61 (C3)
Reserved Excess Surplus ***	\$ 2,490,068.08 (E)
Total [(C3) + (E)]	\$ <u>4,186,722.69</u> (D)

BUENA REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT EXCESS SURPLUS CALCULATION FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

* This adjustment line (as detailed below) is to be utilized for Impact Aid (when applicable), Sale and Lease-back (Refer to the Audit Program Section II, Chapter 10), and Extraordinary Aid, and Additional Nonpublic School Transportation Aid if applicable (Refer to the Audit Program Section II, Chapter 10 for restrictions on the inclusion of Extraordinary Aid and Additional Nonpublic School Transportation Aid).

Detail of Allowable Adjustments

Impact Aid	\$ - (H)
Sale & Lease-back	\$ - (I)
Extraordinary Aid	\$ 69,305.00 (J1)
Additional Nonpublic School Transportation Aid	\$ 19,140.00 (J2)
Current Year School Bus Advertising Revenue Recognized	\$ - (J3)
Family Crisis Transportation Aid	\$ - (J4)
Total Adjustments [(H)+(I)+(J1)+(J2)+(J3)+(J4)]	\$ 88,445.00 (K)

- ** This amount represents the June 30, 2022 Excess Surplus (C3 above) and must be included in the Audit Summary Worksheet Line 10025.
- *** Amounts must agree to the June 30, 2022 ACFR and the sum of the two lines must agree to Audit Summary Worksheet Line 10024.
- **** 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.

Detail of Other Restricted Fund Balance

Statutory restrictions:		
Approved unspent separate proposal	\$ -	
Capital outlay for a district with a capital outlay cap waiver	\$ -	
Sale/lease-back reserve	\$ -	
Capital reserve	\$ 989,972.47	
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 reserve	\$ -	
Reserve for Unemployment Fund	\$ -	
[Other Restricted Fund Balance not noted above] ****	\$ -	
Total Other Restricted Fund Balance	\$ 989,972.47	(C4)

BUENA REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

AUDIT RECOMMENDATIONS SUMMARY

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2022

Recommendations:

1. Administrative Practices and Procedures

None

2. Financial Planning. Accounting and Reporting

None

- 3. <u>School Purchasing Programs</u> None
- 4. School Food Service

None

5. Student Body Activities

None

6. <u>Application for State School Aid</u>

None

7. Pupil Transportation

None

8. Facilities and Capital Assets

None

9. Miscellaneous

None

10. Status of Prior Year Audit Findings/Recommendations

There were no prior year findings.