# HAMILTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION <br> AUDITOR'S MANAGEMENT REPORT ON <br> ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS <br> -FINANCIAL, COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE 

June 30, 2022

# AUDITOR'S MANAGEMENT REPORT ON ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS FINANCIAL, COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE 

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# F ORD-SCOTT <br> CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS <br> 1535 HAVEN AVENUE • OCEAN CITY, NJ • 08226 PHONE 609.399.6333 - FAX 609.399.37IO <br> www.ford-scott.com 

## Report of Independent Auditors

Honorable President and
Members of the Board of Education
Hamilton Township School District
County of Atlantic, New Jersey
We have audited, in accordance with generally accepted audit standards and Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the basic financial statements of the Board of Education of the Hamilton Township School District in the County of Atlantic for the year ended June 30, 2022, and have issued our report thereon dated March 3, 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 solely for the information and use of the Hamilton Township Board of Education's management and the New Jersey Department of Education. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.

Very truly yours,
Fard. Scott \& Associates, L.L.C.
FORD, SCOTT \& ASSOCIATES, L.L.C. CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

Lean P. Costella<br>Leon P. Costello<br>Certified Public Accountant<br>Licensed Public School Accountant<br>No. 767

March 3, 2023
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## ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS - FINANCIAL COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE

## Scope of Audit

The audit covered the financial transactions of the Board Secretary/School Business Administrator and the Chief School 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, Insurance Schedule contained in the district's CAFR.

Official Bonds (N.J.S.A. 18A:17-26, 18A:17-32; 18A:13-13)
$\frac{\text { Name }}{\text { Anne-Marie Fala }} \quad \frac{\text { Position }}{\text { School Business Administrator }} \quad \frac{\text { Amount }}{\$ 300,000}$

## P.L. 2020, c. 44

Our audit procedures included an inquiry and subsequent review of health benefit data required per NJSA 18A:16-13.3 (Chapter 44) submitted for the year on audit. The Chapter 44 summary report was reviewed for reasonableness and timeliness.

The data submitted did include all health benefit plans offered by the school district.
The school district data certification was completed by the chief school administrator. The school district Chapter 44 was submitted timely.

## 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 a proper adjustment to the billings to sending districts for the decrease in per pupil costs in accordance with NJAC 6A:23A-17.1(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 deduction 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, the Board Secretary/School Business Administrator, and the Chief School Administrator.

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

Payrolls were delivered to the secretary of the board who then deposited with warrants in separate bank accounts for net payroll and withholdings.

## Employee Position Control Roster

No inconsistencies were noted between the Position Control Roster and the payroll records, employee benefit records, and the general ledger accounts to where wages are posted.

## Reserve for Encumbrances and 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 differences were noted.

## Classification of Expenditures

The coding of expenditures was tested for proper classification in accordance with NJAC 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 selection specifically targeted administrative coding classifications to determine overall reliability and compliance with NJAC 6A:23A-8.3. As a 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

None
B. Administrative Classification Findings

None

## Board Secretary's Records

The records of the Board Secretary were in satisfactory condition.

## Chief School Administrator's Records

The records of the Chief School Administrator were in satisfactory condition.

## 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 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. indicated 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 Schedule A and Schedule B located in the ACFR.

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 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 indicated no areas of noncompliance and/or questionable costs.

## 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.

## 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 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.

## 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 $b$ (pending C40A:11-9) 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 the section.
b. Commencing in the fifth year after the year in which P.L. 1999, c. 440 took 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 NJS 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. Any contract made pursuant to this section may be awarded for a period of 24 consecutive months, except that contracts for professional services pursuant to paragraph (1) of sub section a. of NJSA 18A:18A-5 may be awarded for a period not exceeding 12 consecutive months.
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.

The board of education may, by resolution approved by a majority of the board of education and subject to subsections b . and c . of this section, disqualify a bidder who would otherwise be determined to be the lowest responsible bidder, if the board of education finds that it has had prior negative experience with the bidder.

The bid thresholds in accordance with NJSA 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 NJSA 18A:34-3 is $\$ 20,200$ for 2021-22. The Board of Education has appointed a Qualified Purchasing Agent and increased the bid threshold to \$44,000.

The district 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 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.

Based on the results of my examination, I did not note individual payments, contracts, or agreements made for the performance of any work or goods or services, 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, 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.

## School Food Service

## Public Health Emergency

In accordance with the Governor's Declaration of Emergency pertaining to the public health emergency, all public, charter, and 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 eligible students during the period of school closures. Governor Murphy's emergency declaration ended June 4, 2021; however, the United States Department of Agriculture's federal waiver continued through June 30, 2022. Food Service Agencies operated under this federal waiver.

As a result, School Food Authorities (SFAs) were required to provide meals in accordance with the regulations governing the National School Nutrition Seamless Summer Option (SSO). SFAs could also choose to participate in the National School Lunch Program utilizing standard counting and claiming practices.

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 NJSA 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.

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. No exceptions were 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. No exceptions were 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 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; modifications of existing contracts and applicable financial records to document the specific costs applicable to the emergency operations.

## Community Education Fund

During our review of the Community Education funds, the following items were noted.

## Finding 2022-001:

Not all cash receipts were promptly deposited (NJAC 6A:23A-16.12). Also, it was noted that the supporting documentation did not agree with the amount being deposited. The District implemented an on-line registration system during the 2022 fiscal year which improved the timeliness of deposits and provided support for the registrations. Based on this, a recommendation is not warranted.

## Student Body Activities

The Student Body Activity records are maintained in a satisfactory manner.

## Application for State School Aid

Our audit procedures included a test of information reported in the October 15, 2021 Application for State School Aid (A.S.S.A) for on-roll, 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.

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 written procedures appear to be adequate for the recording of student enrollment data.

## 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 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.

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

## Follow-up on Prior Years' Findings

In accordance with government auditing standards, our procedures included a review of all prior year recommendations including findings. Corrective action has been taken on all prior year findings.

## Acknowledgment

We received the complete cooperation of all the officials of the school district and I greatly appreciate the courtesies extended to the members of the audit team.

| 2022-2023 Application for State School Aid |  |  |  |  |  | Sample for Verification |  |  |  |  |  | Private Schools for Disabled |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Rep A. O Full | ted on <br> S.A. <br> Roll <br> Shared | Rep Work <br> Full | ted on papers Roll Shared | Errors |  |  | ple ed from papers Shared | Verified per Registers On Roll |  | Errors per Registers On Roll |  | Reported on A.S.S.A. as Private Schools | Reported on Workpapers | Errors | Sample for Verification | Sample <br> Verified | Sample Errors |
| 77 |  | 77 |  | - | - | 8 | - | 8 |  | - | - |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 141 |  | 141 |  | - | - | 14 | - | 14 |  | - | - |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | - | - | - | - | - |  | - | - |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 240 |  | 240 |  | - | - | 24 | - | 24 |  | - | - |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 236 |  | 236 |  | - | - | 24 | - | 24 |  | - | - |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 226 |  | 226 |  | - | - | 23 | - | 23 |  | - | - |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 233 |  | 233 |  | - | - | 24 | - | 24 |  | - | - |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 219 |  | 219 |  | - | - | 23 | - | 23 |  | - | - |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 259 |  | 259 |  | - | - | 26 | - | 26 |  | - | - |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 225 |  | 225 |  | - | - | 23 | - | 23 |  | - | - |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 273 |  | 273 |  | - | - | 28 | - | 28 |  | - | - |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 261 |  | 261 |  | - | - | 27 | - | 27 |  | - | - |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2,390 | - | 2,390 | - | - | - | 244 | - | 244 | - | - | - | - |  |  | - | - | - |
| 298 |  | 298 |  | - | - | 30 | - | 30 |  | - | - | 5 | 5 | - | 5 | 5 | - |
| 163 |  | 163 |  | - | - | 17 | - | 17 |  | - | - | 7 | 7 | - | 6 | 6 | - |
| 461 | - | 461 | - | - | - | 47 | - | 47 | - | - | - | 12 | 12 | - | 11 | 11 | - |
| 2,851 | - | 2,851 | - | - | - | 291 | - | 291 | - | - | - | 12 | 12 | - | 11 | 11 | - |
|  |  |  |  | 0.00\% | 0.00\% |  |  |  |  | 0.00\% | 0.00\% |  |  |  |  |  | 0.00\% |


| Full Day Preschool - 3 Years |
| :--- |
| Full Day Preschool -4 Years |
| Half Day Kindergarten |
| Full Day Kindergarten |
| One |
| Two |
| Three |
| Four |
| Five |
| Six |
| Seven |
| Eight |
| Subtotal |
| Special Ed - Elementary |
| Special Ed - Middle School |
| Subtotal |
| Totals |
| $\quad$ Percentage Error |




## HAMILTON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT <br> EXCESS SURPLUS CALCULATION <br> FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

## REGULAR DISTRICT

## SECTION 1

## A. 4\% Calculation of Excess Surplus

2021-22 Total General Fund Expenditures per the ACFR, Ex. C-1
Increased by:
Transfer from Capital Outlay to Capital Projects Fund Transfer from Capital Reserve to Capital Projects Fund Transfer from General Fund to SRF for PreK-Regular Transfer from General Fund to SRF for PreK-Inclusion

Decreased By:
On-Behalf TPAF Pension \& Social Security
Assets Acquired Under Capital Leases
Adjusted 2021-22 General Fund Expenditures [(B)+(B1's)-(B2's)]

4\% of Adjusted 2021-22 General Fund Expenditures [(B3) times .04]
Enter Greater of (B4) or \$250,000
Increased by: Allowable Adjustment*
Maximum Unassigned/Undesignated-Unreserved Fund Balance [(B5)+(K)]

## SECTION 2

Total General Fund - Fund Balances @ 06/30/22
(Per ACFR Budgetary Comparison Schedule C-1)
Decreased by:
Year-end Encumbrances
Legally Restricted - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures
Legally Restricted - Excess Surplus - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures **
Other Restricted Fund Balances ****
Assigned Fund Balance - Unreserved - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures

Total Unassigned Fund Balance [(C)-(C1)-(C2)-(C3)-(C4)-(C5)]
\$ 57,362,223.66 (B)

$\qquad$ (B2a)
(B2b)
\$ 46,347,594.41
\$

| \$ | 1,853,903.78 |
| :---: | :---: |
| \$ | 495,462.00 |

\$ 2,349,365.78 (M)
\$ 12,368,313.77 (C)


| $\$ 2,947,680.06$ |
| :--- |
| $2,779,490.94$ |

\$ $\qquad$ (C5)
\$ 6,308,793.55
(U1)

## SECTION 3

Restricted Fund Balance - Excess Surplus *** [(U1)-(M)] IF NEGATIVE ENTER - 0 -
\$ $\qquad$ (E)

## HAMILTON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT EXCESS SURPLUS CALCULATION FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

## Recapitulation of Excess Surplus as of June 30, 2022:

Reserved Excess Surplus - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures ** Reserved Excess Surplus ***

| $\$$ | $2,947,680.06$ | (C3) |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| \$ | $3,959,427.77$ | $(\mathrm{E})$ |

## Total Excess Surplus [(C3) + (E)]

$\$ \xlongequal{6,907,107.83}$ (D)

* This adjustment line (as detailed below) is to be utilized when applicable for Impact Aid, Sale and Lease-back (Refer to the Audit Program Section II, Chapter 10), Extraordinary Aid, and Additional Nonpublic School Transportation Aid, Recognized current year School Bus Advertising Revenue, and Family Crisis Transportation Aid.


## Detail of Allowable Adjustments

Impact Aid
Sale \& Lease-back
Extraordinary Aid
Additional Nonpublic School Transportation Aid Current Year School Bus Advertising Revenue
Family Crisis Transportation Aid

Total Adjustments [(H)+(I)+(J1) + (J2)]

\$ $\quad 495,462.00(K)$
** This amount represents the June 30, 2022 Excess Surplus (C3 above) and must be included in the Audit Summary Worksheet Line 90031.
*** Amounts must agree to the June 30, 2022 ACFR and the sum of the two lines must agree to Audit Summary Worksheet Line 90030.
**** Amount for Other Restricted 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.

## HAMILTON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT <br> EXCESS SURPLUS CALCULATION FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

## Detail of Other Restricted Fund Balance

Statutory restrictions:
Approved unspent separate proposal
Sale/lease-back reserve
Capital reserve
Maintenance reserve
Emergency Reserve
Tuition reserve
School Bus Advertising 50\% Fuel Offset Reserve - CY
School Bus Advertising 50\% Fuel Offset Reserve - PY Impact Aid General Fund Reserve (Sec. 8002 and 8003) Impact Aid General Fund Reserve (Sec. 8007 and 8008) Other state/government mandated reserve
Reserve for unemployment fund
[Other Restricted Fund Balance not noted above] ****
Total Other Restricted Fund Balance
$\qquad$ (C4)

# AUDIT RECOMMENDATIONS SUMMARY 

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2022
HAMILTON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT

Recommendations:

1. Administrative Practices and Procedures

None
2. Financial Planning. Accounting and Reporting

None
3. School Purchasing Programs

None
4. School Food Service

None
5. Student Body Activities/Community Education

None
6. Application for State School Aid

None
7. Pupil Transportation

None
8. Facilities and Capital Assets

None
9. Miscellaneous

None
10. Status of Prior Year Audit Findings/Recommendations

Corrective action has been taken on all prior year recommendations.

