Auditor's Management Report

for the

Alexandria Township School District

in the

County of Hunterdon New Jersey

for the

Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

AUDITOR'S MANAGEMENT REPORT OF ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS-FINANCIAL AND COMPLIANCE

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Honorable President and Members of the Board of Education Alexandria Township School District County of Hunterdon Pittstown, New Jersey 08867

We have audited, in accordance with U.S. generally accepted auditing standards and <u>Government Auditing Standards</u> issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the basic financial statements of the Alexandria Township School District in the County of Hunterdon for the year ended June 30, 2023, and have issued our report dated December 5, 2023.

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

This report is intended solely for the information of the Alexandria Township School District, County of Hunterdon, New Jersey, the New Jersey Department of Education and federal and state audit awarding agencies and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

PUBLIC SCHOOL ACCOUNTANT NO. 948

December 5, 2023

SCOPE OF AUDIT

The audit covered the financial transactions of the Board Secretary/School Business Administrator and Treasurer of School Monies, the activities of the Alexandria Township School District, and the records of the various funds under the auspices of the Board of Education.

ADMINISTRATIVE PRACTICES AND PROCEDURES

Insurance (N.J.S.A. 18A:17-26, 18A: 17-32)

Insurance coverage was carried in the amounts as detailed in the District's ACFR (See Exhibit "J-20").

Official Bonds

NAME	POSITION	AMOUNT OF BONDS
Ellen Kluber	Treasurer of School Monies	\$250,000.00
Ronald Bolandi	Interim Board Secretary/Business Administrator	\$150,000.00

Adequacy of insurance coverage is the responsibility of the Board of Education.

Health Benefits-Chapter 44

Our audit procedures included an inquiry and subsequent review of health benefit data required per N.J.S.A. 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 data was submitted timely.

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/Business Administrator.

FINANCIAL PLANNING, ACCOUNTING AND REPORTING (CONTINUED)

Payroll Account (Continued)

Salary withholdings were promptly remitted to the proper agencies.

Payrolls were delivered to the treasurer of school moneys with a warrant made to his order for the full amount of each payroll.

Position Control Roster

The Position Control Roster was reviewed and compared to payroll records, employee benefit records and charges made to the general ledger to ensure proper and consistent financial reporting and that employee benefits are only offered to current employees.

Reserve for Encumbrances, Liability (Current) for Accounts Payable

A review of outstanding purchase orders was made as of June 30 for proper classification of orders as reserve for encumbrances and accounts payable.

Unemployment Compensation Insurance Trust Fund

The Board has adopted the direct reimbursement method and has established an Unemployment Compensation Insurance Trust Fund.

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 and single audit testing procedures. In addition to randomly selecting a test sample, our sample 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 and no additional procedures were deemed necessary to test the propriety of expenditure classification.

Board Secretary's Records

The records maintained by the Board Secretary were in satisfactory.

FINANCIAL PLANNING, ACCOUNTING AND REPORTING (CONTINUED)

Treasurer's Records

<u>2023-01 Finding:</u> Our examination revealed improper reconciliations being performed by the treasurer which did not match to the treasurer's report or board secretary's balances. However reconciliations were subsequently performed by business office staff which did match to the appropriate balances.

<u>2023-01 Recommendation:</u> That the treasurer properly prepare bank reconciliations each month.

Elementary and Secondary Education Act (E.S.E.A.) as amended by 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 projects under Title I and VI of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act as amended and reauthorized.

Other Special Federal and 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.

T.P.A.F. Reimbursement

Our audit procedures included a test of the biweekly reimbursement filed with the Department of Education for district employees who are members of the Teachers Pension and Annuity Fund. No exceptions were noted.

Our audit procedures also included a test of the reimbursement of the employer share of pensions, group life insurance, FICA and other benefits of the Teacher's Pension and Annuity Fund for TPAF members carrying out and paid from federally funded programs in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:66-90. The District filled out the required form and submitted it for audit. Our test included verification of eligible employees to be included. No reimbursement was due for the fiscal year 2023. 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 \$32,000.00, 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 therefor, 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 before the Legislature as section 15 of this bill) of section 9 of P.L. 1971 c. 198 (C.40A:11-9) the board of education may establish that the bid threshold may be up to \$44,000.00. 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 \$1,000.00. 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 every 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 subsection a. of N.J.S.A. 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 therefor, except as is provided otherwise in this chapter or specifically by any other law.

The board of education may, by resolution approve by the 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 negative prior experience with the bidder."

Effective July 1, 2020 and thereafter, the bid thresholds in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-3(a) are \$44,000.00 (with a Qualified Purchasing Agent) \$32,000.00 (without a Qualified Purchasing Agent), respectively. The law regulating bidding for public school student transportation contracts under N.J.S.A. 18:39-3 is currently \$20,200.00.

SCHOOL PURCHASING PROGRAMS (CONTINUED)

Contracts and Agreements Requiring Advertisement for Bids (Continued)

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 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.

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 FUND

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.

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 free and reduced price meal eligible students during the emergency.

The financial transactions and statistical records of the School Food Services were maintained in satisfactory condition. The financial accounts, meal count records and eligibility applications were reviewed on a test-check basis. No exceptions were noted.

SCHOOL FOOD SERVICE FUND (CONTINUED)

Cash receipts and bank records were reviewed for timely deposit without exception. The number of meals claimed for reimbursement was verified against sales and meal count records. As part of the claims review process the edit check worksheet was completed. Reimbursement vouchers were properly computed and timely filed. Meals claimed agreed with the meal count records tested. No exceptions were noted.

Applications for free and reduced meals were reviewed for completeness and accuracy. The number of free and reduced meals claimed as served did not exceed the number of valid applications on file, times the number of operating days, on a school by school basis. The free and reduced meal policy is uniformly administered throughout the school system. The required verification procedures for free and reduced price applications were completed and available for review. No exceptions were noted.

Expenditures were separately recorded as food, labor and other costs. Vendor invoices were reviewed and costs verified. Inventory records on food and supply items were currently maintained and properly applied in determining the cost of food and supplies used. No exceptions were noted. Payroll records were maintained on all school food service employees. No exceptions were noted.

The cash disbursements records reflected expenditures for program related goods and services. Exhibits reflecting Child Nutrition Program operations are included in Exhibits B-4, B-5, and B-6 of the ACFR.

An examination of the fund's year end balances was made and the required Net Cash Resources calculation was performed, revealing the following:

2023-02 Finding: Our examination of the District's food service fund balances at year end revealed that the net cash resources exceeds three months average expenditures.

<u>2023-02 Recommendation</u>: That the District review procedures to ensure that net cash resources in the food service fund do not exceed three months average expenditures in compliance with 7CFR210:14.

National Food Distribution Commodities were received, and an inventory was maintained on a first-in, first-out basis.

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

The school district maintains the detailed revenue and expenditure information necessary in order to execute the USDA mandated Non-Program Food Revenue Tool at least annually.

STUDENT BODY ACTIVITIES

Student Activities Account

A cash receipts and disbursement record was maintained in satisfactory condition.

APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID

Our audit procedures included a test of information reported in the October 15, 2022 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 that was included on the workpapers was verified without exception. 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 procedures for the recording of student enrollment data.

PUPIL TRANSPORTATION

Our audit procedures included a test of on-roll status reported in the 2022-23 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. 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.

FACILITIES AND CAPITAL ASSETS

Our procedures included review of transfers of local funds from the general fund or from the capital reserve account, awarding of contracts for eligible facilities construction, and the District's capital assets ledger.

<u>2023-03 Finding:</u> Our examination revealed numerous items were omitted from the District's third-party capital assets ledger. Also, we observed certain purchases of items classified as capital assets were paid from operating budget lines.

<u>2023-03 Recommendation:</u> That the District submit all applicable additions to their contracted third-party to ensure the capital assets ledger is accurate and complete; and that all capital asset purchases be charged to appropriate budget line items.

TESTING FOR LEAD OF ALL DRINKING WATER IN EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

Our procedures included examination and interviews regarding the district's compliance with N.J.A.C. 26-1.2 and 12.4 relating to the testing for lead in drinking water. 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). No exceptions were noted.

FOLLOW-UP ON PRIOR YEAR'S FINDINGS

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

It is recommended that:

1. Administrative Practices and Procedures

None

2. Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting

2023-01 Recommendation: That the treasurer properly prepare bank reconciliations each month.

3. School Purchasing Program

None

4. School Food Service

<u>2023-02 Recommendation</u>: That the District review procedures to ensure that net cash resources in the food service fund do not exceed three months average expenditures in compliance with 7CFR210:14.

5. Student Body Activities

None

6. Application for State School Aid

None

7. Pupil Transportation

None

8. Facilities and Capital Assets

2023-03 Recommendation: That the District submit all applicable additions to their contracted third-party to ensure the capital assets ledger is accurate and complete; and that all capital asset purchases be charged to appropriate budget line items.

9. Status of Prior Year's Findings/Recommendations

N/A

ALEXANDRIA TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT
SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLMENTS
APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID SUMMARY
ENROLLMENT AS OF OCTOBER 15, 2022

	2023-24	2023-24 Application for State School Aid	hool Aid		Sample for Verification		Priva	te School f	Private School for Handicapped	ped
	Reported	Reported on		Sample	Verified per	Errors per	Reported	Sample		
	on A.S.S.A.	Workpapers		Selected from	Registers	Registers	on A.S.S.A.	ō		
	as on Roll	on Roll	Errors	Workpapers	on Roli	on Roll	as Private	Verifi-	Sample	Sample
	Full Shared	Full Shared	Full Shared	Full Shared	Full Shared	Full Shared	Schools	cation	Verified	Errors
Half Day Pre-K 3yr										
Half Day Pre-K 4yr										
Full Day Pre-K 3yr	œ	œ		ৼ	4					
Full Day Pre-K 4yr	12	12		9	မာ					
Full Day Kindergarten	37	37		17	17					
One	35	35		16	16					
Two	46	46		21	21					
Three	34	31		14	4.					
Four	25	25		12	12					
Five	39	39		18	18					
Six	39	39		18	18					
Seven	52	52		24	24					
Eight .	46	46		21	21					
Subtotal	370	370		171	171					
SpEd Elementary	48	48		22	22			₹	-	
SpEd Middle School	30	30		41	14		~~	-	~	
Speed High School										
Subtotal	78	78	Afternative of the second seco	36	36		2	2	2	
Totals	448	448	* Commence of the Commence of	207	207	***************************************	2	2	2	
Percentage			and the second s			2277.49.51.11.11				O

ALEXANDRIA TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLMENTS APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID SUMMARY ENROLLMENT AS OF OCTOBER 15, 2022

	S.	Resident Low Income	92	San	Sample for Verification	uo	Resi	Resident LEP Low Income	me	Sam	Sample for Verification	ç
	Reported on	Reported on		Sample	Verified to		Reported on	Reported on		Sample	Verified to	
	A.S.S.A. as	Workpapers as		Selected	Application		A.S.S.A. as	Workpapers as		Selected	Application	
	Low	Low		from	and	Sample	LEP Low	LEP Low		from	and	Sample
	Ілсоте	Income	Errors	Workpapers	Register	Errors	Income	Income	Errors	Workpapers	Register	Errors
Full Day Pre-K 3yr	0	0	0	0	0	Q	0	0	0	0	0	0
Full Day Pre-K 4yr	0	0	0	Ó	0	0	٥	0	0	0	0	0
Full Day Kindergarten	មា	40	0	**	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
One	2	2	0	***	~	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Two	-	-	0	0	0	0	0	O	0	0	0	0
Three	က	e	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Four	٥	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Five	٥	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Six	0	0	0	-	•	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Seven	-	-	0	-	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Eight	-		0	-	•-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nine	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	o	0	0	0
Ten	0	Q	0	0	0	0	0	0	o	0	0	0
Eleven	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Twelve	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Subtotal	13	13	0	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SpEd Elementary	٤O	ιņ	0	8	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SpEd Middle School	8	2	0	•	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SpEd High School	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Subtotal	7.0	7.0	0	3	က	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	20.0	20.0	0	8	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Percentage Error			0.00%			0.00%		•	0.00%		_	0.00%
			Todacas	100								
	7	C Post Caro	1 at 18p	J. Called I								
	DRTRS by	DRTRS by										
	DOE	District	Errors	Tested	Verified	Errors						
			•				:					
Reg. Public Schools, coi. 1	259	529	0	121	121	0	A1-A5					
Transported - Non-Public, col.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	A6					
Non Public All col.3	ဖ	g	0	က	က	0	A7					
Reg Special Ed, Col.4	53	53	0	52	25	0	A8					
Special Ed Spec, col.6	11	=	0	5	5	0	B1-B3,B6-B8					
Totals	329	329	0	154	154	0						
Percentage Error			0.00%			0.00%						

ALEXANDRIA TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLMENTS APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID SUMMARY ENROLLMENT AS OF OCTOBER 15, 2022

	Reside	ent LEP NOT Low I	ncome	Sar	mple for Verification	n
	Reported on	Reported on		Sample	Verified to	
	A.S.S.A. as	Workpapers as		Selected	Application	
	NOT Low	NOT Low		from	and	Sample
	Income	Income	Errors	Workpapers	Register	Errors
Full Day Pre-K 3yr	0	0	0	0	0	0
Full Day Pre-K 4yr	0	0	0	0	0	0
Full Day Kindergarten	1	1	0	1	1	0
One	1	1	0	1	1	0
Two	1	1	0	1	1	0
Three	1	1	0	1	1	0
Four	0	0	0	0	0	0
Five	0	0	0	0	0	0
Six	0	0	0	0	0	0
Seven	0	0	0	0	0	0
Eight	0	0	0	0	0	0
Subtotal	4	4	0	4	4	0
SpEd Elementary	0	0	0	0	0	0
SpEd Middle School	0	0	0	0	0	0
SpEd High School	0	0	0	0	0	0
Subtotal	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	4	4	0	4	4	0
Percentage Error			0.00%			0.00%

ALEXANDRIA TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHEDULE OF CALCULATION OF EXCESS SURPLUS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

SECTION 1

2% Calculation of Excess Surplus (2022-23 expenditures of \$100 mill	ion or less)	
2022 - 2023 Total General Fund Expenditures Decreased by:	12,638,899.10	
On-Behalf TPAF Pension & Social Security Adjusted 2022 - 2023 General Fund Expenditures	2,516,299.67	10,122,599.43
2% of Adjusted 2022 - 2023 General Fund Expenditures		202,451.99
Greater of line above or \$250,000.00		250,000.00
Increased by: Allowable Adjustment		260,293.00
Maximum Unreserved/Undesignated Fund Balance		510,293.00
SECTION 2		
Total General Fund Balances @ 6-30-23	3,802,541.45	
Decreased by: Year End Encumbrances	133,605.88	
Legally Restricted-Excess Surplus-Designated For Subsequent Year's Expenditures	250,000.00	
Assigned Fund Balance-Unreserved-Designated For Subsequent Year's Expenditures	375,650.00	
Other Restricted Fund Balances (Capital Reserve, Maintenance Reserve, Emergency Reserve, Unemployment)	2,210,762.06	
Total Unreserved/Undesignated Fund Balance for Excess Surplus Ca	lculation	832,523.51
SECTION 3		
Restricted Fund Balance-Excess Surplus		322,230.51
Recapitulation of excess surplus as of June 30, 2023		
Restricted Excess Surplus - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expen	ditures	250,000.00
Restricted Excess Surplus		322,230.51
Total		572,230.51
Detail of Allowable Adjustments		
Additional/Unbudgeted Extraordinary Aid		198,240.00
Additional/Unbudgeted Non-Public School Transportation Aid Supplemental Stabilization Aid		1,872.00 60,181.00
		260,293.00