TOWN OF BOONTON SCHOOL DISTRICT AUDITORS' MANAGEMENT REPORT ON ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS -FINANCIAL, COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE JUNE 30, 2023

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DIETER P. LERCH, CPA, RMA, PSA GARY J. VINCI, CPA, RMA, PSA JEFFREY C. BLISS, CPA, RMA, PSA PAUL J. LERCH, CPA, RMA, PSA JULIUS B. CONSONI, CPA, PSA ANDREW D. PARENTE, CPA, RMA, PSA ELIZABETH A. SHICK, CPA, RMA, PSA ROBERT W. HAAG, CPA, RMA, PSA DEBRA GOLLE, CPA MARK SACO, CPA ROBERT LERCH, CPA, PSA CHRISTOPHER VINCI, CPA, PSA CHRISTINA CUIFFO, CPA, PSA JOHN CUIFFO, CPA

Honorable President and Members of the Board of Education Town of Boonton School District Boonton, New Jersey

We have audited in accordance with auditing 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 Town of Boonton School District as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, and have issued our report thereon dated October 30, 2023.

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 & BLISS, LLP

Dieter P. Lerch

Public School Accountant PSA Number CS00756

Fair Lawn, New Jersey October 30, 2023

Scope of Audit

The audit covered the financial transactions of the Board Secretary/School Business Administrator and Superintendent of Schools, 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, "Schedule of Insurance", as presented in the District's Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (the "ACFR").

Official Bonds

Name	<u>Position</u>	Amount
Steven Gardberg	Board Secretary/School Business Administrator	\$250,000
Judith Favino	Treasurer of School Monies	\$250,000

There is a Public Employees' Faithful Performance Blanket Position Bond with Western Surety Company covering all other employees with multiple coverage of \$100,000.

P.L. 2020 c.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 included all health benefit plans offered by the District, was completed by the Chief School Administrator and was submitted timely.

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 per pupil costs in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-17.1(f)3.

Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting

Examination of Claims

An examination of claims paid during the period under review indicated that the required signatures, certifications and supporting documentation were obtained on the respective purchase orders and/or vouchers.

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 payroll taxes were deposited in the Payroll Agency Account.

Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting (Continued)

Payroll Account (Continued)

The District filed the required Certification (ECERT1) of Compliance with requirements for income tax compensation of certain administration with the NJ Department of Treasury by the March 15 due date.

All payrolls tested were certified by the Board President, Board Secretary/School Business Administrator and Chief School Administrator.

Salary withholdings were promptly remitted to the proper agencies, including health benefits withholdings.

Finding 2023-1 — Our audit indicated that employee pension withholdings with respect to retroactive salary payments from the prior year have not been remitted to the State.

Recommendation – Employee pension withholdings with respect to retroactive salary payments be remitted to the State of New Jersey Division of Pensions and Benefits.

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 selection specifically targeted administrative coding classifications to determine overall reliability and compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23-8.3.

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 and it was determined that no blanket purchase orders were included in the balance of the reserve 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.

Board Secretary's Records

The minutes maintained by the Board Secretary were in good condition.

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

The prescribed contractual order system was followed.

Acknowledgment of the Board's receipt of the Board Secretary's monthly financial reports was included in the minutes.

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. 18:17-9 and 18A:17-36.

Treasurer's Records

The Treasurer did perform cash reconciliations for all accounts required.

All cash receipts were promptly deposited.

Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting (Continued)

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 projects under Titles I, II, III and IV of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as amended.

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 Single Audit Section of the ACFR.

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.

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.

T.P.A.F. 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.

Non-Public State Aid

Project Completion Reports were finalized and transmitted to the department by the due date.

School Purchasing Programs

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) on \$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.

If the purchasing agent is qualified pursuant to subsection b of section 9 of P.L. 19761, c. 198 (C.40A:11-9), the Board of Education may establish that the bid threshold may be up to \$44,000. Such authorization may be granted for each contract or by a general delegation of the power to negotiate and award such contracts pursuant to this section. The Board has designated the Business Administrator as the qualified purchasing agent.

School Purchasing Programs (Continued)

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.

Finding 2023-2 — Our audit indicated that a contract was awarded during the year of audit for a capital project which was funded in the subsequent year budget. Such contract was awarded prior to the approval of the subsequent budget.

Recommendation – Contracts be awarded only upon appropriations being formally approved and available for commitment of District funds.

School Food Service

SFA's 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 SFA's 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.

SFA's 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.

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.

The statement of revenues, expenses and changes in net position does separate program and non-program revenue and program and non-program costs 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; modification of existing contracts and applicable financial records to document the specific costs applicable to the emergency operations We also inquired if the FSMC received a loan in accordance with the Payroll Protection Plan and whether the funds were used to pay for costs applicable to the Food Service Programs. We also inquired if the PPP loan was subsequently forgiven and the FSMC refunded or credited the applicable amounts to the SFA.

School Food Service (Continued)

Finding 2023-3 – Our audit indicated that the net cash resources of the food service enterprise fund exceeded three month's average expenditures.

Recommendation - A course of action be developed to reduce the net cash resources of the food service enterprise fund below the maximum allowed by statute.

Student Body Activity

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

Cash receipts and disbursements records were maintained for student activity funds.

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 disabled, low-income and bilingual students. 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 with immaterial exceptions. The results of our procedures are presented in the Schedule of Audited Enrollments.

The district did maintain workpapers on the prescribed state forms or their equivalent.

The district has 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 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 included a review of transportation related contracts and purchases.

Facilities and Capital Assets

Our procedures included a review of the District's capital assets and related capital projects for consistency in the awarding of contracts for eligible facilities construction.

Miscellaneous

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).

Follow-up Prior Year Findings

There were no prior year findings.

Suggestion to Management

Excess balances in the net payroll and summer savings balances be reviewed and cleared of record.

TOWN OF BOONTON SCHOOL DISTRICT FOOD SERVICE FUND NUMBER OF MEALS SERVED AND (OVER)/UNDERCLAIM ENTERPRISE FUNDS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

Not Applicable

TOWN OF BOONTON SCHOOL DISTRICT FOOD SERVICE FUND NET CASH RESOURCE SCHEDULE ENTERPRISE FUNDS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

		 Food Service	
Net Cash Resources:			
ACFR * B-4 B-4	Current Assets Cash Intergovernmental Receivables Accounts Receivable	\$ 225,089 21,241 25,036	
B-4	Due from Other Funds	15,689	
ACFR B-4 B-4	Current Liabilities Less Accounts Payable Less Unearned Revenue	 (7,784) (8,934)	
	Net Cash Resources	\$ 270,337	(A)
Net Adj. Total Operating Expe	nse:		
B-5 B-5	Total Operating Expenses Less Depreciation	 754,009 (14,255)	
	Adj. Tot. Oper. Exp.	\$ 739,754	(B)
Average Monthly Operating E	xpense:		
	B / 10	\$ 73,975	(C)
Three times monthly Average	Operating Expense:		
	3 X C	\$ 221,926	(D)
TOTAL IN BOX A	\$ 270,337		,
LESS TOTAL IN BOX D	\$ 270,337 \$ (221,926) \$ 48.411		
NET	\$ 48,411		
Net Cash Resources Did Excee	d Three Months Expenditures.		

TOWN OF BOONTON SCHOOL DISTRICT APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLMENTS OCTOBER 15, 2022

	2023/2024 Application for State School Aid				Sample for Verification				Private Schools for Disabled							
	Repo	rted on	Repo	rted on			Sa	mple	Verified per	•	Errors per		Reported on	Sample		
		.S.A.	Work	papers			Select	ed from	Register		Registers		A.S.S.A. as	for		
	On	Roll	On	Roll	Err	ors	Work	papers	On Roll		On Roll		Private	Verifi-	Sample	Sample
	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Schools	cation	Verified	Errors
Half Day Preschool - 3 years					_											
Full Day Preschool - 3 years	51	-	51	_	_	_	19		19		_	_				
Half Day Preschool - 4 years	J1	_	-		_	_	-		-		_	_				
Full Day Preschool - 4 years	64	_	64	_	_	_	19		19		_	_				
Half Day Kindergarten	-	_	-	_	_	_	-		15		_					
Full Day Kindergarten	99	_	99	_	_	_	99		99		_	_				
1st Grade	63	_	63	_	_		63		63		_	_				
2nd Grade	63	_	63	_	_	_	63		63		_	_				
3rd Grade	69	_	69	_	_	_	69		69		_	_				
4th Grade	60	_	60	_	_	_	60		60		_	_				
5th Grade	67	_	67		_		67		67		_	_				
6th Grade	69	_	69	_	_	-	69		69			_				
7th Grade	60	_	60		-	_	60		60			_				
8th Grade	57	_	57	_		-	57		57		-					
9th Grade	132	_	132	_	_	_	132		132		-	-				
10th Grade	135	_	135	_	_	_	135		135		-					
11th Grade	117	5	117	5		-	117	. 5	117	5	_		•			
12th Grade	107	7	108	7	(1)	_	107	7	108	7	(1)					
Subtotal	1,213	12	1,214	12	(1)		1,136	12	1,137	12	(1)		-	-		
					. ,						, ,					
Spec Ed - Elementary	98		98		-	-	38		38		-	-	3	3	3	-
Spec Ed - Middle School	47		47		-	-	47		. 47		-	-	6	5	5	-
Spec Ed - High School	116	3	116	3	-	~	116	7	116		<u>.</u>	-	8	7	6	1
Subtotal	261	3	261	3	-	-	201	7	201	7	-	-	17	15	14	1
			4		-1-7-1-											
Totals	1,474	15	1,475	15	(1)	·-	1,337	19	1,338	19	(1)		17	15	14	1
Percentage Error					-0.07%	0.00%					-0.07%	0.00%				6.67%

TOWN OF BOONTON SCHOOL DISTRICT APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLMENTS OCTOBER 15, 2022

		Low Income		Samp	le for Verification	on	L	EP Low Income		Sample	e for Verificatio	on
	Reported on A.S.S.A as Low Income	Reported on Workpapers as Low Income	Errors	Sample Selected from Workpapers	Verified to Application and Register	Sample Errors	Reported on A.S.S.A as Low Income	Reported on Workpapers as Low Income	Errors	Sample Selected from Workpapers		Sample Errors
Half Day Preschool (3 Yrs)			_			_						_
Full Day Preschool (3 Yrs)	11	11	_	1	1	-			-			-
Half Day Preschool (4 Yrs)	-	-	-	-	-	-			-			~
Full Day Preschool (4 Yrs)	24	24	-	3	3	-			-			-
Half Day Kindergarten	-	~ ~	-	-	-	-	4.4	12	-	9	9	•
Full Day Kindergarten	25 20	25 20	•	3 3	3 3	*	14 4	13 4	-	3	3	_
1st Grade 2nd Grade	20	20 24	-	3	3	<u>-</u>	9	6	3	4	4	
3rd Grade	20	20	-	3	3	-	11	8	3	6	6	-
4th Grade	27	27	-	4	4	-	9	8	1	6	6	-
5th Grade	17	17	-	2	2	-	3	2	1	2	2	-
6th Grade	23	23	-	3	3	-	3	2	1	2	2	•
7th Grade	16	16	-	2	2	•	5	4	1	3	3	=
8th Grade	23	23	-	3	3	-	4	4	- (4)	3	3	-
9th Grade	28 34	28 34	-	4 5	4 5	-	6	5 6	(1)	3	3 4	-
10th Grade 11th Grade	34	3 4 31	_	4	4	_	1	2	(1)	1	1	•
12th Grade	26	26	-	3	3	-	4	4		3	3	•
Subtotal	349	349		46	46		77	68	9	49	49	-
Spec Ed - Elementary	48	48		- 6		-	9	9		6	6	-
Spec Ed - Middle School	33	33	-	4		-	2	2	-	1	1	-
Spec Ed - High School	37	37		5			1 12	3	(2)	2		
Subtotal	118	118	-	15	15	-	12	14	(2)	9	9	-
						<u>.</u>				58	58	
Totals	467	467	-	61	61	·	89	82	7	36	36	
Percentage Erro	г	:	0.00%			0.00%		:	7.87%			0.00%
			Transp	ortation	<u></u>							
	Reported on DRTRS by DOE	Reported on DRTRS by District	Errors	Tested	Verified	Errors						
Regular - Public Schools	27	27		21	21	*						
Transported - Non-Public	-	-	-	-	-	-						
Regular - Spec.	9	9	•	7	7	-			-			
Special Needs - Public	23	23	-	17	17	-						
Totals	s <u>59</u>	59		45	45							

0.00%

0.00%

TOWN OF BOONTON SCHOOL DISTRICT APPLICATION FOR STATE SCHOOL AID (A.S.S.A.) SCHEDULE OF AUDITED ENROLLMENTS OCTOBER 15, 2022

	LE	P Not Low Income		Sample for Verification				
	Reported on A.S.S.A as Low Income	Reported on Workpapers as Low Income	Errors	Sample Selected from Workpapers	Verified to Register	Sample 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 1st Grade 2nd Grade 3rd Grade 4th Grade 5th Grade 6th Grade 7th Grade 9th Grade 10th Grade 11th Grade 12th Grade	4 2 5 3 2 1 2 2 2 1 - 2	4 2 3 3 2 1 2 1 1 2 1 3 6	- - - - 2 - - 1 1 (1) (1) (1) (1)	2 1 3 2 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	2 1 3 2 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 3	-		
Subtotal	29	31	(2)	18	18	-		
Spec Ed - Elementary Spec Ed - Middle School Spec Ed - High School Subtotal	2 2 2 4	2 2 - 4	- - - -	2 2 - 4	2 2 - - 4			
Totals	33	35	(2)	22	22			
Percentage Erro			-6.06%		:	0.00%		

TOWN OF BOONTON SCHOOL DISTRICT CALCULATION OF EXCESS SURPLUS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

2022-23 Total General Fund Expenditures per the ACFR (Exhibit C-1)	\$	38,407,569		
Increased by: Transfer to Special Revenue Fund - Preschool Program Transfer from Capital Reserve for Capital Projects		372,032		
Decreased by: On-Behalf TPAF Pension & Social Security		(7,421,742)		
Adjusted 2022-23 General Fund Expenditures			\$	31,357,859
2% of Adjustment 2022-23 General Fund Expenditures	\$	627,157		
Increased by: Allowable Adjustment	****	528,590		
Maximum Unassigned Fund Balance			<u>\$</u>	1,155,747
Total General Fund - Fund Balance at June 30, 2023 (Per ACFR Budgetary Comparison Schedule C-1)	\$	3,016,413		
Decreased by: Year End Encumbrances Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures Other Restricted Fund Balance - Unemployment Reserve Other Restricted Fund Balance - FFCRA/SEMI Other Restricted Fund Balance - Capital/Tuition Reserve		83,645 1,233,606 34,719 - 208,696		
Total Unassigned Fund Balance			\$	1,455,747
Restricted Fund Balance - Excess Surplus			\$	300,000
Detail of Allowable Adjustment:				
Extraordinary Aid Maintenance of Equity Aid			\$ 	65,340 463,250 528,590
			Ψ	220,270

TOWN OF BOONTON SCHOOL DISTRICT RECOMMENDATIONS

I. Administrative Practices and Procedures

There are none.

II. Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting

1. It is recommended that employee pension withholdings with respect to retroactive salary payments be remitted to the State of New Jersey Division of Pensions and Benefits.

III. School Purchasing Program

2. It is recommended that contracts be awarded only upon appropriations being formally approved and available for commitment of District funds.

IV. School Food Services

3. It is recommended that a course of action be developed to reduce the net cash resources of the food service enterprise fund below the maximum allowed by statute.

V. Student Body Activity

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. Status of Prior Years' Audit Findings/Recommendations

There were no prior year recommendations.

TOWN OF BOONTON SCHOOL DISTRICT RECOMMENDATIONS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We received the complete cooperation of all the officials of the school district and would like to thank the Business Office, Superintendent's Office and their staff for the courtesies extended to us.

Respectfully submitted, LERCH, VINCI BLISS, LLP

Dieter P. Lerch

Certified Public Accountant Public School Accountant