BYRAM TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT
COUNTY OF SUSSEX
AUDITORS' MANAGEMENT REPORT ON
ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS –
FINANCIAL, COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE
FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

$\frac{\text{BYRAM TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT}}{\text{COUNTY OF SUSSEX}}$

<u>AUDITORS' MANAGEMENT REPORT ON ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS – FINANCIAL, COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE</u>

FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

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Mount Arlington, NJ Newton, NJ Bridgewater, NJ

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Independent Member BKR International

September 29, 2023

The Honorable President and Members of the Board of Education Byram Township School District County of Sussex, New Jersey

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the Board of Education of the Byram Township School District in the County of Sussex for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, and have issued our report thereon dated September 29, 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 letter does not affect our report dated September 29, 2023, on the financial statements of the Board.

We will review the status of the comments during our next audit engagement. We have already discussed these comments and suggestions with various management personnel, and we will be pleased to discuss them in further detail at your convenience, to perform any additional study of these matters, or to assist you in implementing the suggestions and recommendations, if any.

This report is intended for the information of the Byram Township School District's management and the New Jersey Department of Education. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.

NISIVOCCIA LLP

Andrew Kucinski

Licensed Public School Accountant #2684

Certified Public Accountant

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 Board of Education, the records of the various funds under the auspices of the Board of Education.

Administrative Practices and Procedures

Insurance

Multi-peril insurance coverage was carried in the amounts as detailed on Exhibit J-20, Insurance Schedule contained in the District's ACFR.

Officials in Office and Surety Bonds

Name	<u>Position</u>	Co	overage
Kathleen Kane	Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary (until 10/1/2022)	\$	250,000
Nancy DeRiso	Business Administrator/Board Secretary (from 10/1/2022)	Ψ	250,000

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 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 relatively timely.

The data certification date does reflect a submission date later than 60 days after the end of the enrollment period. The original data submission did not require significant revision due to errors or omissions on the part of the District.

Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting

Examination of Claims

An examination of claims paid on a test basis, during the period under review did not indicate any discrepancies with respect to signatures, certification or supporting documentation.

Payroll Account and Position Control Roster

The net salaries of 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. Salary withholdings were promptly remitted to the proper agencies, including health benefits withholding due to the General Fund.

All payrolls were approved by the Superintendent and were certified by the President of the Board, the Board Secretary/Business Administrator and the Superintendent. Payrolls were delivered to the Treasurer of School Monies with a warrant to her order for the full amount of the payroll.

(Continued)

Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting (Cont'd)

Payroll Account and Position Control Roster (Cont'd)

The required certification (E-CERT1) of compliance with requirements for income tax on compensation of administrators (superintendent, assistant superintendent, and business administrator) to the NJ Department of Treasury was filed in a timely manner.

Reserve for Encumbrances and Accounts Payable

A review of outstanding issued purchase orders was made on a test basis as of June 30, for proper classification of orders as reserve for encumbrances and accounts payable.

<u>Classification of Expenditures – General and Administrative</u>

The coding of expenditures was tested for proper classification in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-8.2 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, we reviewed administrative coding classifications to determine overall reliability and compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A-23A-16.2(f). As a result of the procedures performed, we found no errors and no additional procedures were deemed necessary to test the propriety of expenditure classification.

Board Secretary's Records

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of the Board, we considered the condition of the Board Secretary's records for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide specific assurance on the condition of the records. Based on these procedures, we have no comments except as noted herein.

Treasurer's Records

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of the Board, we considered the condition of the Treasurer's records for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide specific assurance on the condition of the records. Based on these procedures, we have no comments except as noted herein.

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 District's ACFR. This section of the ACFR documents the financial position pertaining to projects under Title I, Title II and Title IV of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act as amended and reauthorized.

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.

T.P.A.F. Reimbursement to the State for Federal Salary Expenditures

The T.P.A.F. Reimbursement to the State for Federal Salary Expenditures was remitted to the State of New Jersey prior to the required deadline of October 1, 2022. The reimbursement form was reviewed and no exceptions were noted.

(Continued)

Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting (Cont'd)

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.

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. of section 9 of P.L.1971, c. 198 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 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. 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 "

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 law"

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) 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 \$20,200 for 2022-2023.

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 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. General compliance was noted.

The results of our examination indicated that no individual payments, contracts, or agreements were made "for the performance of any work or the furnishing or hiring of any materials or supplies", 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.

(Continued)

School Purchasing Programs (Cont'd)

Contracts and Agreements Requiring Advertisement for Bids (Cont'd)

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

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 the 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.

U.S.D.A. Food Distribution Program commodities (food and/or commodities) were received and a single inventory was maintained on a first-in, first-out basis. No exceptions were noted.

Non-program foods were purchased, prepared or offered for sale. The Statement of Revenue, Expenses and Changes in Net Position in the ACFR Schedule B-5 does separate daily sales – non-reimbursable programs and cost of sales – reimbursable programs.

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 if the FSMC received a PPP loan.

Finding 2023-001:

Net cash resources of the Food Service Fund exceeded three months average expenditures by \$100,559. The District has attempted to bring net cash resources to the required level over the past few years, despite increasing prices according with State regulations. Therefore, a formal recommendation is not warranted.

Exhibits reflecting Child Nutrition Program operations are included in the section entitled "Proprietary Funds", Section G of the ACFR.

Student Body Activities

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of the Board, we considered the condition of the Student Activity records for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide specific assurance on the condition of the records.

(Continued)

Application for State School Aid

Our audit procedures included a test of enrollments and related services reported in the October 15, 2022 Application for State School Aid (A.S.S.A.) for on-roll, private schools for the handicapped, bilingual and low income. We also performed a review of the District procedures related to its completion. The information on the A.S.S.A. was compared to the District workpapers without exception. The information that was included on the workpapers was verified on a test basis with minor errors on resident low income students. 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 2022-2023 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.

Travel Expense and Reimbursement Policy

Travel regulations require each District to adopt a formal policy and procedure pertaining to travel and expense reimbursement for its employees and board members. The regulations require the District to establish maximum travel for the year and to ensure that the maximum is not exceeded. The regulations also require that all travel be approved prior by the Board of Education and Superintendent and that a brief report detailing the key issues addressed at the travel event must be submitted after the travel event has occurred.

Our review of the travel policies and records on a test basis revealed that the District is in general compliance with the travel regulations.

Testing for Lead of All Drinking Water in Educational Facilities

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

Management Suggestions

COVID-19 Federal Funding

It is likely that the District will undergo some review of its COVID-19 federal funding if only at a desk review level by state and/or federal agencies. We strongly suggest that the District ensures that these funds are utilized in accordance with the applicable federal requirements especially with respect to procurement. Additionally, we strongly suggest that the District ensures that these funds are accounted for in the state account numbers designated by the NJ Department of Education and that any applicable Board policies are current with respect to federal grant requirements.

Management Suggestions (Cont'd)

Reconciling Food Service Management Contractor's Operating Statement with District Records

It is suggested that the District reconcile the revenue and expenses per the Food Service Management Contractor's Operating Statement with the District's records on a monthly basis.

Status of Prior Year's Findings/Recommendations

There were no prior year recommendations.

BYRAM TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHEDULE OF MEAL COUNT ACTIVITY

FOOD SERVICE FUND

NUMBER OF MEALS SERVED AND (OVER)/UNDER CLAIM

ENTERPRISE FUND FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

SCHEDULE OF MEAL COUNT ACTIVITY ENTERPRISE FUND - FOOD SERVICE FUND

NUMBER OF MEALS SERVED AND (OVER)/UNDER CLAIM - FEDERAL

<u>Program</u>	Meals Claimed	<u>Meals</u> <u>Tested</u>	<u>Meals</u> <u>Verified</u>	Difference	<u>Rate</u>	Uı	ver)/ nder aim
Severe School Lunch: Seamless Summer Option:							
September - December 2021	29,342	8,470	8,470	-0-	4.32	\$	-0-
January - June 2022	49,427	17,517	17,517	-0-	4.56		-0-
Total Net Underclaim						\$	-0-

ENTERPRISE FUND - FOOD SERVICE - NET CASH RESOURCES SCHEDULE

Net Cash Resources: CAFR **Current Assets** B-4 Cash and Cash Equivalents \$ 189,011 Due from Other Governments B-4 5,332 **CAFR Current Liabilities** G-1 Less Unearned Revenue (8,195)**Net Cash Resources** \$ 186,148 **(A) Net Adjusted Total Operating Expense:** G-2 \$ **Total Operating Expenses** 283,838 G-2 Less Depreciation (940)\$ Adjusted Total Operating Expenses 282,898 **(B) Average Monthly Operating Expense:** B/1028,290 **(C) Three times monthly Average:** 3 X C 84,870 **(D)** TOTAL IN BOX A \$ 186,148 **(A)** LESS TOTAL IN BOX D 84,870 **(D)** \$ NET 101,278 From above: A is greater than D, cash exceeds 3 X average monthly operating expenses. D is greater than A, cash does not exceed 3 X average monthly operating expenses.

^{*} Inventories are not to be included in total current assets.

	``	2023-2024	Application	2023-2024 Application for State School Aid	School Aid				Sample fc	Sample for Verification	ion	
	Reported on	ted on	Reported on	ted on			Sample	ple	Verified per	ed per	Errors per	ber .
	ASSA	SA	Work	Workpapers			Selected from	d from	Registers	sters	Registers	ters
	On Roll	Roll	On Roll	Roll	Errors	ors	Workpapers	apers	On Roll	Roll	on Roll	oll
	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared	Full	Shared
Half Day Preschool 3 Years Old	15		15				15		15			
Half Day Preschool 4 Years Old	12		12				12		12			
Full Day Kindergarten	78		78				78		78			
Grade One	61		61				61		61			
Grade Two	77		77				77		77			
Grade Three	64		64				64		64			
Grade Four	70		70				70		70			
Grade Five	75		75				75		75			
Grade Six	79		79				79		79			
Grade Seven	82		82				82		82			
Grade Eight	73		73				73		73			
Subtotal	989		989				989		989			
Special Education:												
Elementary School	88		88				6		6			
Middle School	59		59				9		9			
Subtotal	147		147				15		15			
Totals	833	-0-	833	-0-	-0-	0-	701	-0-	701	-0-	-0-	-0-
Percentage Error					0.00%	%00:0					0.00%	0.00%

		Private Schools f	or Handicapped	
	Reported			
	on ASSA	Sample		
	as Private	for	Sample	Sample
	Schools	Verification	Verified	Errors
Special Education:				
Elementary School	2	1	1	
Totals	2	1	1	-0-
Percentage Error				0.00%

			Resident L	ow Income		
	Reported	Reported on		Sample	Verified to	
	on ASSA	Workpapers		Selected	Application	
	as Low	as Low		from	and	Sample
	Income	Income	Errors	Workpapers	Register	Errors
Full Day Kindergarten	8	7	(1)	1	1	
Grade One	1	1				
Grade Two	4	4		1	1	
Grade Three	3	4	1	1	1	
Grade Four	4	4		1	1	
Grade Five	3	3		1	1	
Grade Six	8	6	(2)	1	1	
Grade Seven	3	5	2			
Grade Eight	4	4		1	1	
Subtotal	38	38		7	7	
Special Education:						
Elementary School	6	6		1	1	
Middle School	7	7		1	1	
Subtotal	13	13		2	2	
Totals	51	51	-0-	9	9	-0-
Percentage Error			0.00%		0.00%	0.00%

			Transpor	tation		
	Reported	Reported				
	on DRTRS	on DRTRS				
	by DOE	by District	Errors	Tested	Verified	Errors
Regular - Public Schools	512	512		15	15	
Regular - Special Education	54	54		5	5	
Transported - Non Public	4	4		1	1	
AIL - Non Public	30	30		2	2	
Special Needs - Public	62	62		3	3	
Special Needs - Private	1	1		1	1	
Totals	663	663	-0-	27	27	-0-
Percentage Error			0.00%			0.00%
				Reported	Re- calculated	
Average Mileage - Regular Inc	-			4.8	4.8	
Average Mileage - Regular Exc				4.8	4.8	
Average Mileage - Special Edu	cation with Spe	ecial Needs		5.8	5.8	

BYRAM TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT EXCESS SURPLUS CALCULATION FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

EXCESS SURPLUS CALCULATION

Section 1 - REGULAR DISTRICT

2022/2023 Total General Fund Expenditures per the ACFR, Ex. C-1 Increased by: Transfer to Food Service Fund Transfer from Capital Outlay to Capital Projects Fund Transfer from Capital Reserve to Capital Projects Fund Decreased by: On-Behalf TPAF Pension and Social Security Assets Acquired Under Financed Purchases Agreenents	\$ 19,789,432 (B) \$ -0- (B1a) \$ -0- (B1b) \$ -0- (B1c) \$ 3,525,369 (B2a) \$ -0- (B2b)		
Adjusted 2022-2023 General Fund Expenditures [(B)+(B1's)-(B2's)]	\$ 16,264,063 (B3)		
2% of Adjusted 2022-2023 General Fund Expenditures [(B3) times .02] Enter Greater of (B4) or \$250,000 Increased by: Allowable Adjustment	\$ 325,281 (B4) \$ 325,281 (B5) \$ 262,361 (K)		
Maximum Unassigned Fund Balance [(B5)+(K)]		\$ 587,642	(M)
Section 2			
Total General Fund - Fund Balances @ 6/30/2023 (Per ACFR Budgetary Comparison Schedule C-1) Decreased by: Assigned for Year End Encumbrances Legally Restricted - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures Excess Surplus - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures Other Restricted Fund Balances	\$ 5,630,269 (C) \$ 159,914 (C1) \$ -0- (C2) \$ 500,000 (C3) \$ 2,899,713 (C4) \$ 983,000 (C5)		
Assigned - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditures	\$ 983,000 (C5)		
Total Unassigned Fund Balance [(C)-(C1)-(C2)-(C3)-(C4)-(C5)]		\$ 1,087,642	(U1)
Section 3			
Restricted Fund Balance-Excess Surplus [(U1)-(M)] IF NEGATIVE, ENTE	CR -0-	\$ 500,000	(E)
Recapitulation of Excess Surplus as of June 30, 2023			
Restricted Excess Surplus - Designated for Subsequent Year's Expenditur Restricted Excess Surplus [(E)]	res	\$ 500,000	(C3) (E)
Total [(C3)+(E)+(F)]		\$ 1,000,000	(D)

BYRAM TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT EXCESS SURPLUS CALCULATION FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

Detail of Allowable Adjustments

Impact Aid Sale and Lease Back Extraordinary Aid Additional Nonpublic School Transportation Aid	\$ \$ \$	-0- -0- 253,001 9,360	(H) (I) (J1) (J2)
Total Adjustments [(H)+(I)+(J1)+(J2)]	\$	262,361	(K)
Detail of Other Restricted Fund Balance			
Statutory Restrictions	\$	-0-	
Approved Unspent Separate Proposal	\$	-0-	
Capital Outlay for a District with a Capital Outlay SGLA	\$	-0-	
Sale/Lease-Back Reserve	\$	-0-	'
Capital Reserve	\$	2,001,610	•
Maintenance Reserve	\$	765,155	,
Emergency Reserve	\$	-0-	•
Tuition Reserve	\$	-0-	•
Unemployment Compensation	\$	132,948	
Other State/Governmental Mandated Reserve	\$	-0-	
Other Reserved Fund Balance not Noted Above	\$	-0-	•
Total Other Restricted Fund Balance	\$	2,899,713	(C4)

BYRAM TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

It is recommended that:

1.	Administrative Practices and Procedures
	None
2.	Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting
	None
3.	School Purchasing Program
	None
4.	School Food Service
	None
5.	Student Body Activities
	None.
6.	Application for State School Aid
	None
7.	<u>Pupil Transportation</u>
	None
8.	Facilities and Capital Assets
	None
9.	Miscellaneous
	None
10.	Status of Prior Year's Findings/Recommendations
	There were no prior year recommendations.